



Holy Cross Parish, Belfast

Safeguarding of Children Policy

Safeguarding Policy Holy Cross Parish Ardoyne Belfast.

Updated October 2017

The Safeguarding Committee at Holy Cross Parish, Ardoyne in association with the **Parish Clergy** is committed to ensuring the highest level of protection for all children who engage with our Parish in any way.

The team is headed by **Sister Kathleen Savage**, along with **Brenda Taggart, Lena Quigley, Wilma Lynch** and **Kathryn Duggan**. This team works very closely with **Fr. Eugene Mc Carthy, (CP, P.P.Rector)**.

The Safeguarding Committee has the responsibility for ensuring that the Holy Cross Childcare Policy is implemented and adhered to by all adults working with children.

Our role is first and foremost to see that Holy Cross Parish Ardoyne is a safe place for children.

To this end, we arrange training to ensure that all those working with children in our Parish understand and accept our **Child Protection Policy and the Down & Connor Safeguarding Policies, Procedures and Guidelines**.

The Parish Policy that children are kept safe at all times requires children be accompanied by an adult over the age of 16 when availing of toilet facilities in the Church, and the taking of Photographs of children in the church is prohibited.

We have implemented the **Access N.I.** Clearance procedure to ensure all adults in contact with children are appropriately vetted.

To reach a member of the team, please call **028 90748231**.

Contact details for the Designated Persons for the Down and Connor Diocese are as follows.

(Director of the Child safeguarding and Protection Service) is **Mrs. Barbara Mc Dermott**.

Designated Officers: **Mrs. Barbara Mc Dermott & Mr. Andy Thomson (Child Protection Officers)**

Both can be contacted at **02890492797** or

Good Shepherd Centre **511 Ormeau Road, BT7 3 GS.**