

Safeguarding Newsletter



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**SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONES
RESPONSIBILITY**

Here's what has happened in the last month and what's to come!

The Safeguarding office has had a busy April. This year the office has to date provided 65 hours of onsite parish support and presented of training.

Support does not only occur when we are face to face in parishes. On a day-to-day basis the Safeguarding team assist the Diocese, and its agencies and entities to continually improve safe practices, connecting our work with the National Safeguarding Standards.

In the months ahead there is a focus on supporting each parish to complete the **annual** Self-Assessment to the Safeguarding Standards. We will be in contact shortly to arrange our visit, in the meantime please feel free to contact our office to arrange your assessment timetable.

The April newsletter from Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd, reminds us of National Catholic Safeguarding Standard 9 that *"calls organisations to regularly review and strengthen their safeguarding systems to ensure they remain effective, responsive and fit for purpose"*.

Scan the QR Code to
access ACSL
Newsletters



We wish you all a safe month ahead.

Safeguarding team.



Office of the
Children's Guardian

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Sector News

Support Services
& Awareness

Professional
Learning
Opportunities

Safeguarding
Office Contacts



Sector - Latest News



Scan the QR Code for access ACSL News and Media



New ACSL Complaints Line

From 1 April 2026, ACSL will operate a dedicated complaints phone line to make it easier for anyone to raise safeguarding concerns or complaints. You can contact the team confidentially on 1800 ACS LTD (1800 227 583).

This line supports National Catholic Safeguarding Standard 6 – Effective Complaints Management by providing a clear, accessible and responsive pathway for concerns to be raised. It ensures that complaints are received and managed in line with best practice principles, helping to promote transparency, accountability and trust.

This line is monitored by our Professional Standards and Complaints team during business hours, providing a safe, secure and accessible way for individuals to speak directly with us about concerns or matters requiring attention.



Office of the Children's Guardian

Working with Children Check consultations now complete

Beginning in November 2025, the Office of the children's Guardian sought community feedback to ensure the Working with Children Check remains clear and fair. To read the full news article scan the code to access the Office of the Children's Guardian webpage.

Scan the QR Code to access web page



NAPCAN PREVENT CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

EVERY CONVERSATION MATTERS
SHIFTING CONVERSATION TO ACTION

Three stick figures are drawn around the text: one on the left, one in the middle with arms raised, and one on the right.

Support Services & Awareness

May 2026

Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month,

Observed throughout the month of May the month focuses on raising awareness, promoting support services, and encouraging community action to prevent domestic violence

6th May

Domestic and Family Violence Remembrance Day.

A day to honour and remember those who have lost their lives due to family and domestic violence

There's no excuse for domestic violence.



Call the NSW Domestic Violence Line on

1800 65 64 63

(free call)

We're here for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



The NSW Domestic Violence Line can link you to supports in your local area. This can include:

- counselling
- emergency accommodation
- legal support services
- medical services

They can also give you information about how to obtain an Apprehended Violence Order (AVO).



Interpreters are available.

If you are hearing impaired: National Relay Service 133 677.

If you are in immediate danger, please call the Police on 000.

1800RESPECT
NATIONAL DOMESTIC FAMILY AND
SEXUAL VIOLENCE COUNSELLING SERVICE



Lifeline



Full Stop Australia



kids helpline



MensLine Australia



Prayer to End Domestic Violence

Loving God,

We thank you for inviting us to end domestic violence in our community.

We ask for your wisdom, courage, and guidance.

We pray for a society where all people are safe in their homes and close relationships, where each person is respected, in their equality and dignity.

We pray for all those affected by violence, that they may find safety and healing.

We ask for the courage to confront the causes of domestic violence, including the prevalence of violence in our society, any abuses of power.

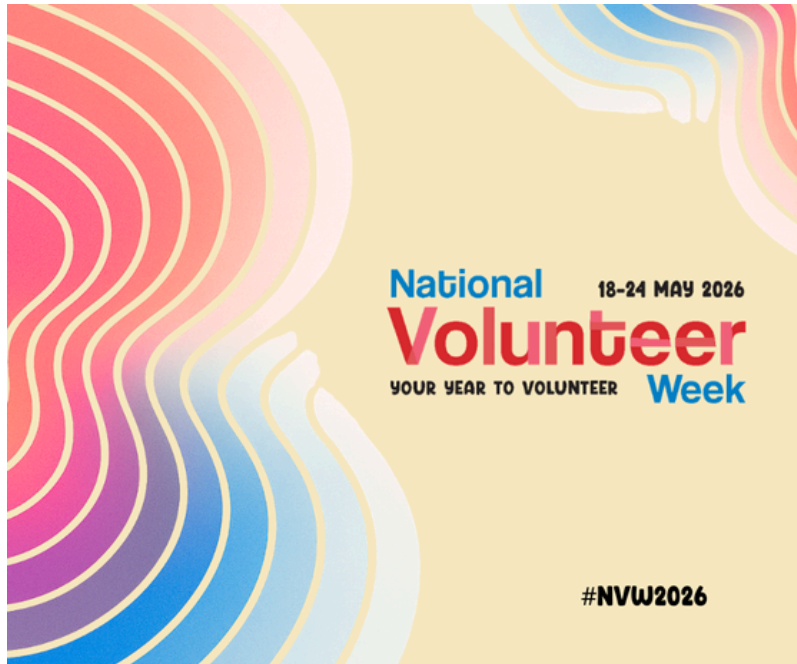
We long for the time you have promised, when violence is banished, women and men are open to being loved and loving others, children are protected, and the work and wealth of our world is justly shared.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adapted from Catholic Social Services Victoria Domestic Violence Parish Kit

Support Services & Awareness

18 May - 24 May
National Volunteer Week



The theme for this year is **'Your Year To Volunteer'**, which aims to honor the contributions of volunteers and encourage more people to get involved.

26th May
National Sorry Day



27 May - 3 June
National Reconciliation Week



RECONCILIATION
AUSTRALIA

Scan the QR Code to access web page



Professional Learning Opportunities



To register and or view
scan the QR Codes below



The 2026 Australian Elder Abuse Conference is a national gathering of people who care deeply about creating a safer, more just future for older Australians. It's a space where bold conversations are welcomed, living experiences are honoured and collaborative solutions are forged. This conference provides the platform for many voices to be heard. Together, we'll challenge harmful norms, explore new ideas, and push for real, lasting change. Over three dynamic days, delegates will connect across sectors, share knowledge and confront the complex realities of abuse and ageism. From powerful stories to innovative responses, our agenda is shaped by those at the forefront doing the work, and those with lived and living experience. This is a call to action. To listen. To stand up. To speak out. Not just for today, but for the generations to come.



Diocesan Safeguarding Training

Contact the Safeguarding Office to schedule your training sessions for 2026.



Are your employees, church personnel, volunteers, & or parishioners in need of safeguarding training or refresher training (3 yearly)

Safeguarding
Awareness

Mandatory Reporting
& Reportable Conduct

Integrity in Our
Common Mission

Thank you for reading!

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