



NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION SURVIVORS OF ABUSE 12 NOVEMBER 2025

One year after the Government apology to survivors of abuse in care, New Zealand will observe a National Day of Reflection. This day is dedicated to remembering survivors and honoring their courage, reflecting on the harm caused and its lasting impact, and raising awareness to ensure these experiences are never forgotten.

How You Can Participate?

- Attend a local event: Public gatherings will be held in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and other regions.
- Observe a moment of silence at 11:30am, coinciding with the time of last year's apology.
- Share survivor voices: Amplify stories and resources on social media using hashtags like #DayOfReflectionNZ.
- Support survivor organizations: Donate or volunteer with groups that host healing events and advocacy initiatives.
- Compose a Prayer of Intercession for Sunday Mass.



A Message of Empathy and Commitment

This day is not symbolic—it is a call to action. Survivors have carried the weight of silence for decades. By pausing, listening, and learning, we honor their resilience and commit to a future where care means safety, dignity, and respect.



Safeguarding in the Light of Advent

Advent is a season of waiting, hope, and preparation—a time when we anticipate the coming of Christ, who brings light into darkness and peace into troubled hearts. As we are about to journey through these weeks, we are reminded that the message of Advent is deeply rooted in care, protection, and love for one another.

Safeguarding reflects these same values. At its heart, safeguarding is about creating spaces where every person—especially the vulnerable—can experience safety, dignity, and belonging. Just as Advent calls us to prepare a way for the Lord, safeguarding calls us to prepare environments where harm is prevented and trust is nurtured.

- **Hope:** We offer hope when we take action to protect those at risk, showing that their lives matter and their voices are heard.
- **Peace:** True peace comes when people feel safe—physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Safeguarding helps build that peace in our communities.
- **Joy:** Joy flourishes in spaces free from fear. By being vigilant and compassionate, we allow joy to thrive during this season.
- **Love:** Love is the foundation of safeguarding. It is expressed in our commitment to care for the vulnerable, to notice when something is wrong, and to respond with courage and kindness.

As we light the candles of Advent, let each flame remind us of our responsibility to shine light into places of darkness—through vigilance, compassion, and action. In doing so, we embody the coming of Christ, who said, “Let the little children come to me” and who calls us to protect and cherish all people.

Prayer

God of hope and light,

As we prepare for the coming of Your Son, help us to be watchful and caring.

Open our eyes to see those who are vulnerable, our ears to hear their cries, and our hearts to respond with love and courage.

May our communities be places of safety, peace, and joy, reflecting Your kingdom here on earth.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Catholic Diocese of Auckland
Te Taumata o te Hāhi Katorika

KEY VALUES FOR SAFEGUARDING AND RESHAPING



DIGNITY

Every person is created in the Image of God and deserves respect, care and protection.



RESPONSIBILITY

Each member of our faith community shares the duty to protect and uphold safeguarding



TRANSPARENCY

We commit to openness and accountability in all safeguarding practices and decision-making.



COMPASSION

Responding with empathy and understanding to those who are vulnerable or in need.



TRUST

Building confidence through consistent actions that prioritize safety and well-being.



INTEGRITY

Acting with honesty and aligning our practices with Gospel values and diocesan



COLLABORATION

Working together across parishes, schools, and ministries to create a unified culture of care



Reshaping

Diocese of Auckland



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Safeguarding Review: Strong Progress and Future Focus

The National Office for Professional Standards (NOPS) review was successfully completed during the week of 28-31 October. Over the course of the week, five parishes were visited, and reviewers engaged with a selection of staff and ethnic chaplaincies, offering a valuable opportunity for reflection and feedback.

At the Interim Feedback Reporting meeting, it was encouraging to hear that there is a strong understanding of the Five Safeguarding Standards across our Diocese. This reflects the ongoing commitment of our communities to creating safe environments for all.

Reviewers highlighted several areas of strength:

- Our 'lifecycle' process was acknowledged for its clarity and effectiveness.
- The range of safeguarding resources available on our website was noted as comprehensive and accessible.
- Parishes were commended for including safeguarding clauses in hire agreements, demonstrating proactive integration of safeguarding into everyday operations.
- All actions from the previous review were confirmed as either completed or ongoing, showing a strong follow-through on recommendations.

Importantly, the reviewers also reflected on the diversity within the Catholic Diocese of Auckland (CDA), acknowledging it as both a "gift and a challenge". Looking ahead, they encouraged us to consider how safeguarding can continue to evolve as a shared responsibility—one that is embraced collectively across all roles and communities.

This review marks a positive milestone in our safeguarding journey, and we remain committed to continuous improvement and collaboration.

A huge thank you to Clergy, Parish and Diocesan Staff, Safeguarding contacts and volunteers who made themselves available for this important process, from the parishes of St Joseph's Takapuna, St Luke's Flat Bush, Sacred Heart Dargaville, St Joseph's Grey Lynn and St Paul's Massey-Ranui.



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SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS TWILIGHT RETREAT

Tuesday 25 November 2025

Pompallier Diocesan Centre

30 New Street,
St Marys Bay



**RSVP MONDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2025
FOR CATERING PURPOSES**

5.30pm	Light Supper and Mix and Mingle
6.00pm	Liturgy
6.30pm	Bishop Steve
6.45pm	Parish Contribution
	What's worked and what hasn't
7.15pm	Safeguarding workshops 2026
	SCCANZ update
7.30pm	Open forum
7.55pm	Presentations
8.00pm	Final Prayer and Farewell

**A TIME TO PAUSE, TO REFLECT, TO SHARE, TO REFRESH
I HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US.**



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Safeguarding WORD SCRAMBLE



Children

Healing

Jesus

Vulnerable

Trust

seirdnaugfga

eohp

ismhase

lirnecdh

rtuts

avlunbrele

healgin

eussj

nctiroepto

ovle

Messiah

Protection

Hope

Safeguarding

Love