

BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF SCOTLAND

Diocese of Dunkeld

Safeguarding Standards of Conduct

FOR CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS



We require all clergy & religious to observe the highest standards of conduct in their pastoral ministry

Clergy and religious are privileged in the trust they receive, as well as in the access they are given into people's lives, – often when people are most vulnerable, such as at times of bereavement.

With this immense privilege comes the responsibility to conduct their ministry sensitively and carefully by:

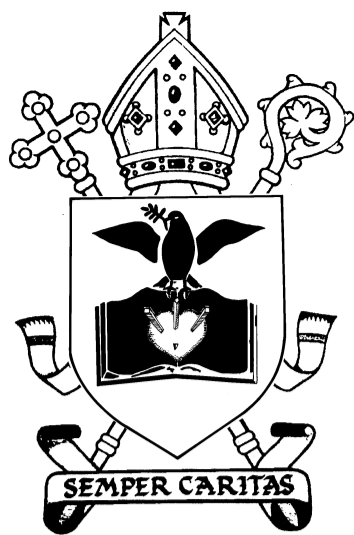
- respecting the dignity of each person as someone made in the image and likeness of God
- protecting and safeguarding the sacred value of human life
- communicating carefully.

Respect for human dignity can be shown by clergy and religious in the following ways:

- treating all people with respect
- upholding the dignity, safety and wellbeing of all children and vulnerable adults
- being conscious of the status entrusted to clergy and religious and refraining from abuse of any such authority
- recognising the imbalance of 'power' in relationships with others, particularly with children and vulnerable adults
- maintaining boundaries (physical, sexual, emotional and psychological) appropriate to relationships with others in the exercise of pastoral ministry
- avoiding in words and actions any suggestion that emotional or sexual intimacy is being sought or initiated
- avoiding any perception that affection is being coerced
- avoiding any manifestation of personal favouritism
- not using alcohol or drugs while on duty supervising children or vulnerable adults.

IN GOD'S IMAGE v2

Instruction on Safeguarding in the Catholic Church in Scotland



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FOR CHURCH EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS

We require all Church employees and volunteers to observe the highest standards of conduct in their work

In ensuring that they comply with the safeguarding standards of the Catholic Church in Scotland, Church employees and volunteers who interact with children and vulnerable adults must:

- treat all people with respect
- protect the safety of all children and vulnerable adults
- respect and protect emotional and physical boundaries
- recognise that physical contact may be misinterpreted
- recognise that language is open to misinterpretation and take appropriate care with its use
- respect the rights of others to personal privacy
- meet with a child or vulnerable only in an open and observable environment
- be confident in sharing concerns appropriately
- be confident in both challenging and reporting abusive behaviour
- ensure that children and vulnerable adults know who to speak to, if they have a safeguarding concern

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