

# CHILD SAFETY - OVERVIEW

At our Parish we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish. Our commitment is drawn from the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and sanctity of each human person. For our parish to be a child safe parish, we have established a child safety committee and this committee has attended meetings given by Catholic Archdiocese to inform themselves on how best to make our parish child safe. A child safe policy has been established and is available for all parishioners to view on the parish website. We have a Code of Conduct Statement with an acknowledgement that is required to be signed by all parishioners involved in any activity at the parish. We have set procedures and methods of reporting in case of any suspected child abuse. We have also established a risk management checklist for all ministry groups to review at every meeting. Child safety is a very serious matter and should be included in all parish discussions and meetings on how best to minimise any child's risk in feeling safe at all times. Child Safety is a partnership we will all need to be involved in.

We are committed to a safe and nurturing culture for all children in our Church

## Victorian Child Safety Standards

In conjunction with the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne and the Victorian Child Safe Standards, the Catholic Parish of Epping-Epping North has complied with the guideline recommendations.

## Important Information for Ministry Volunteers

To assist in the on-going compliance of our Parish, volunteers are required to read, sign and return a CHILD SAFETY CODE OF CONDUCT [Safeguarding Children and Young People]. Copies of this document are available in the foyer of church for you to read and sign.... You can also download a copy from the home page In addition to this it is important that you provide a copy of your current Working With Children Check for Parish files via email, post or in person. When applying for the WWCC please state you will be volunteering at St Peter's Parish Epping.