



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PARISH - NARRE WARREN

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

SAFEGUARING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish has a zero tolerance of abuse towards children / vulnerable adults and is committed to creating and maintaining a safe organisation. Protecting, preventing and responding to abuse is embedded in the everyday thinking and practice of all clergy, staff, parishioners, volunteers and contractors.

We are committed to a safe and nurturing culture for all people in our Church. Our commitment is drawn from the heart of the Gospel where inherent in the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ is love, justice and the sanctity of each human person.

At **Our Lady Help of Christians Parish**, we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults as a central and fundamental responsibility.

OUR OBJECTIVE OF SAFE AND HAPPY PARISHIONERS

We want our parishioners to be safe, happy and empowered. The Catholic Diocese of Sale has a universal expectation for the protection of children and vulnerable adults.

It is resolutely committed to ensuring that all those engaged in the Church promote the inherent dignity of children and vulnerable adults and their fundamental right to be respected and nurtured in a safe environment. This is particularly so for the most vulnerable, including Aboriginal people, those from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and people with a disability.

The Catholic Church has a moral, legal and mission-driven responsibility to create nurturing environments where all people are respected, their voices are heard and where they are safe and feel safe.

OUR ZERO TOLERANCE APPROACH TO ABUSE AND ALLEGATIONS

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish has a zero tolerance of all forms of abuse and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated seriously and reported in line with our legal obligations, our moral obligations and our Church policies.

Creating child-safe environments is a dynamic process that involves active participation and responsibility which is embedded in the everyday thinking and practice of all clergy, employees, parishioners, volunteers and contractors. It is marked by collaboration, vigilance and proactive approaches across policies, procedures and practices.

OUR COMMITMENT TO PREVENTING ABUSE

We are committed to preventing abuse and identifying risks early and then reducing or removing them. Every person involved in the Catholic Church has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.