 **Dominican Province of Ireland**

It is the policy of the Dominican Province of Ireland to do everything in our power to safeguard the welfare of children and young people to whom we minister and/or with whom we share our lives.

As a constituent member of the Catholic Church in Ireland, we recognize and uphold the dignity and rights of all children and young people. We are committed to ensuring their safety and wellbeing and we will work in partnership with parents/carers and/or guardians to do this.

We recognise each child and young person as a gift from God, and we value and encourage their participation in all activities that enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual and social development.

The Dominican Province of Ireland signed up to Safeguarding Children: Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland, produced by the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland, (NBSCCCI) in 2016. As Dominicans we are committed to upholding these seven Safeguarding Standards.

Each of us has an important role to play in creating and maintaining an environment in which children and young people can grow and flourish safely, whilst helped to achieve their potential.

The key principles and values which we want to promote and live out, when we implement these policies and procedures, are

* Children and young people must be cherished, kept safe and helped to achieve their potential.
* Recognizing that children and young people are an integral part of the life of our Church.
* When we are concerned for the safety and welfare of a child/young person, we know what to do and how to respond.

All Dominican personnel including, priests, brothers, staff and volunteers have a responsibility to ensure children and young people are respected and to safeguard them through promoting their welfare, health and development in a safe and caring environment that supports their best interests and prevents abuse.

We must never become complacent in our ministry with children and young people, and it remains a top priority for all of us involved in the work and life of the Irish Dominican Province.

**If you are concerned about the safety and welfare of children and young people, you can contact the Dominican Designated Liaison Person, (DLP), details as below.**

The DLP is responsible for receiving and managing concerns and complaints relating to safeguarding children and young people that involves Dominican church personnel.

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| **Dominican Designated Liaison Person/Coordinator of Safeguarding**  | **Name: Ms. Mary Tallon** **Mobile No: (089) 7087881****Email:****safeguardingoffice@dominicans.ie** |

**If you wish to report directly to the Statutory Authorities, please contact:**

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| T**usla, Child & Family Agency** | [**www.tusla.ie**](http://www.tusla.ie) |
| **An Garda Síochána** | **Free & Confidential Number:** **1800 555 222** |