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## Parish Safeguarding Champions 2022-2023

### Introducing the Parish Safeguarding Champion:

Each Parish Priest has been asked to nominate a Safeguarding Champion for the 2022-2023 year from their Parish. Each Parish Safeguarding Champion will be commissioned by Bishop Vincent during the Safe Parishes Week Luncheon on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June** at St Andrew's Hall, Breakfast Road, Marayong. It is for an initial 12-month appointment.

Parish Safeguarding Champions will be part of a Pilot Program in the Diocese to further develop our commitment to embed a safeguarding culture across the Diocese and to build capacity within volunteers in ministry.

### What is the role of a Parish Safeguarding Champion?

Safeguarding Champions -

- Help to build a Parish community that is safe for children and adults at risk
- Ensure children's best interests are put first in parish planning
- Communicate the Diocese's Commitment to Safeguarding to their Parish community
- Facilitate active communication of Safeguarding matters within the Parish
- Encourage Safeguarding Training for all volunteers in the Parish

### Who would make an effective Safeguarding Champion?

Does the parishioner...

- actively volunteer within the Parish?
- have 6 Points of Safeguarding Training? Have a willingness to complete 10 Points of Training? (See Parish Office for further information as courses will be arranged)
- possess a current Working With Children Check?
- demonstrate an interest and personal commitment to Safeguarding matters in the Diocese?
- Have strong interpersonal and communication skills?

### Why is this role important?

A Parish Safeguarding Champion will -

- Promote Safeguarding Principles across ministry teams
- Be a point of contact between the Office for Safeguarding and the Parish Office
- Encourage volunteers to engage with mandatory safeguarding training
- Provide regular communications for Parish Bulletin on Safeguarding News and Initiatives

**Expressions of interest in writing with subject: Parish Safeguarding Champion to Debbie Breytenbach, Parish Secretary at [springwood@parracatholic.org](mailto:springwood@parracatholic.org) by Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022**