

Safeguarding

COMMITMENT STATEMENT

The safety and wellbeing of all who engage with the Church is foremost in my mind and heart. Ensuring that every person—regardless of age or circumstance—feels safe, valued and respected is an essential part of our mission and witness.

On behalf of the Archdiocese of Hobart, I fully endorse the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards, which provide a rigorous and comprehensive framework to protect those who are vulnerable and to create environments free from abuse and harm. Our commitment to these standards is unwavering, reflecting zero-tolerance of any form of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

The Church acknowledges its past failures that have caused deep and lasting pain. I acknowledge this with sincere sorrow and remain grateful to those who have shown great courage in speaking up. Their voices continue to guide and strengthen our commitment to justice, healing and ongoing reform.

Within the Archdiocese, safeguarding is embedded across all levels of ministry and governance. We maintain robust policies and procedures that are regularly reviewed and updated to respond to emerging challenges and best practices. Safeguarding training and education are priorities, ensuring that clergy, religious and lay leaders are well equipped to identify risks and respond appropriately.

I encourage everyone who engages in the life of the Church, to create a culture of safety grounded in love, sustaining safe communities and an environment that listens and acts with integrity and compassion.

Ultimately, safeguarding is living the Gospel call to love one another, especially the most vulnerable. It is my hope and prayer that our Church will continue to be a place where trust is rebuilt, healing is found and all people can participate fully and freely in the life of faith.

+ *Anthony Ireland*

Most Rev. Anthony J. Ireland
Archbishop of Hobart



Archdiocese
of Hobart