

**6th September 2009**

During the past year there has been ongoing Safeguarding Children Awareness programmes held in parishes throughout the Diocese. These have been extremely successful and to date most volunteers and parish staff has attended a session and have been vetted where necessary. I would like to thank all those who attended and for their continued dedication to parish ministry.

It is statutory that parish staff and all who are involved in parish ministry must attend an awareness session.

A small number of people have yet to attend a session and this leaves our parishes in a very exposed position and regrettably unless they attend a session before 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 they will no longer be able to serve in church ministry.

Our deanery representatives will be holding sessions in all parishes to accommodate anyone who has been unable to attend.

Please contact your Parish Priest for further information.

**DROMORE DIOCESE**

## CHILD PROTECTION AWARENESS AND VETTING PROCEDURES FOR

### PARISH WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Recently there was an announcement in the parish bulletin about 'Child Protection Awareness' meetings for all parish volunteers and staff. These meetings are being organised in each parish in our diocese to provide suitable training for all who volunteer a service. **There will be a further FINAL training session in the near future and we would ask anyone who has not yet completed the course to let us know a.s.a.p. so that we can ensure a place is kept for you.**

*Examples: Priests of the parish, Parish staff, Eucharistic Ministers, sacristans, altar servers' coordinators, Leaders and helpers of children's liturgy and youth ministry, Choir directors, website administrators and photographers and any group or individual who uses parish facilities for any activity with anybody under 18 years of age.*

Even if you have attended a course of this kind for another organisation, **YOU MUST STILL ATTEND THE DIOCESAN SESSION.**

At the session, each person will be given a form which must be completed and returned to the Parish Office. All forms are then forwarded to the Diocesan Adviser who will collate the information for a central Database. They are then forwarded to the appropriate agency for **Vetting Purposes**

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Vetting applications normally cost £35 per person, but it is free for all those who attend the Diocesan Course.

**Forms are only issued individually to those ATTENDING the sessions .**

