

Caring for our children and vulnerable adults.

We are blessed to have **Clare Kennedy** as our Child and Vulnerable Adult Safety Officer in the parish. Her photo, explanation and contact details are on the church wall. **Lisa Harrison** becomes our Child Safety Officer if Clare is away at any time. Thank you to both of you.

With the increased number of ministries now needing to be compliant with safety policies, a new parish position was created this week. **Terry Tolhurst** becomes a parish administrative assistant several hours a week, to oversee the paperwork involved in Child and Vulnerable Adult Safety Compliance, and Work Health Safety. Terry began on Thursday. He has been a Records Manager during his life. His role is both administrative and pastoral. Thank you to **Bronwyn**, our parish secretary who has been keeping these records updated. **Vicki** has volunteered to help with photocopying safety handouts. Thank you Terry, Vicki and Bronwyn.

Last weekend I spoke at all Masses about the dangers of grooming in the church and Australian society. And how some potential abusers want to be noticed first, so that they can be trusted, and later gain access to children. They take time to groom people. It can be difficult for us to understand such a scary and terrible mindset. Yet it happens. We want to look after our children and vulnerable adults. We want them to be safe. We want to stop any loopholes where grooming abusers and potential abusers gain access.

Please check this new mandatory Brisbane Archdiocesan list for safety compliance in our parish ministries. And phone our parish office on 3261 3670 for assistance to help you with any paperwork needed. If you already have a blue Card and/or a National Police Check in your job or service, there is still a notification to be completed.

Let us not be paralyzed by negativity. If it seems confusing, ask Terry to explain how it would apply to your ministry. Our children and vulnerable adults need a safe quality of life. Thanking you for your patience.

This Ascension Day, we realize that Jesus trusted us to do the right thing.

The Holy Spirit is always there to guide us.

Fr Gerry

The following ministries now need a Volunteer Data Form, Blue Card and Police Check.

- Communion Minister
- Readers
- Leaders
- Altar Servers (over 18 years)
- Children's Liturgy and Kindy Liturgy Leaders
- Finance Council Members
- Gardeners
- Pastoral Council Members
- Sacramental Preparation Helpers
- Sacristans
- Youth Group Leaders
- Communion Ministers—Visitation to the Sick and Hospitals
- Transport Ministry
- Youth Coordinators

The following ministries now need a Volunteer Data Form and Police Check.

- Counters

The following ministries now need a Volunteer Data Form

- Hospitality group

Please note that blue card applications and Police Check forms require identification to be presented with them. A common example of this is a drivers license or medicare card **AND** birth certificate or Passport. For the police check, these copies need to be certified by a Justice of the Peace. Terry will be happy to assist you with having the identification certified.