



RELIGIOUS OF
THE SACRED
HEART OF MARY

**New Safeguarding Children Policy and Standards for the
Catholic Church in Ireland - launched in June 2024:**

Dear Sisters,

As Safeguarding Representative in Ireland for NEA, I am updating you on this new policy. This new policy replaces the 2016 Document and can be accessed on the website of **The National Safeguarding Board.**

You can copy this for your information, it is not being produced as a “hard copy” so that changes can be inserted as necessary without having to reproduce the full document.

As a congregation we produced our own **Child Protection Policy in 2010**

and a revised version in 2015. Each community received a copy of this

document at the time. We are no longer obliged to update this document as we do not now have a direct ministry with children. We are however, required to familiarize ourselves with the contents of the new document revised by the **National Safeguarding Board** and approved by the **Irish Episcopal Conference in June 2024**. The Document highlights the role of the Catholic Church as **A SAFE AND WELCOMING CHURCH.**

Access to the website:

National Safeguarding Board: Click on Policy & Guidance and then go to Policy Document - then click on word **here** in that paragraph to read/download the full policy.

Ellen O’Leary

Safeguarding Representative for Ireland.(NEA).