

SAFE MINISTRY MATTERS - 20th June 08

For distribution to clergy, Safe Ministry Coordinators, children, families and youth leaders, Safe Ministry Seminar Facilitators, newsletter editors

“As you serve him..... “

There are so many ways we serve our Lord. It's been a privilege for me to serve him as Diocesan Safe Ministry Officer and Diocesan Children's and Families Worker for many years now. I will miss having contact with you all as this era draws to a close. Anne Foot, who is already the new Director of Professional Standards, will take over the complete brief and will also now be responsible for training, accreditation, Parish Safe Ministry Coordinators and Safe Ministry matters relating to children.

Safe Ministry Officers have contact with hundreds of people around the Diocese. We get to see you in your own locations in the good times and the not so good. We get to know what a wonderful big family we are part of. I will miss this part of the work.

I encourage you to stay diligent in this foundational part of our life and ministry together; keeping people of all ages safe, especially our most vulnerable.

“I pray that your love will keep on growing and that you will fully know and understand how to make the right choices. Then you will still be pure and innocent when Christ returns. And until that day, Jesus Christ will keep you busy doing good deeds that bring glory and praise to God.”

CEV Philippians 1: 9-11

Helen Phillips

Diocesan Safe Ministry Officer

ACCREDITATION RENEWAL

People who were accredited in 2005, or before, must now have their accreditation renewed during 2008. This can be done by attending the first two and a half hours of first time seminars. During this time the focus will be on Faithfulness in Service. Following recommendations from a range of parishes, Renewal Forms are now given out and explained at seminars as are forms for First Time Accreditation. Please make this known among your people and encourage your people to attend to have their accreditation renewed.

UPCOMING SEMINAR DATES

North West Coast First time or renewal of accreditation.

Date: Saturday 28 June

Time: 10.00 a.m. -12.30 p.m. Renewal
10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. First Time

Venue: St Stephen's Church or hall

Address: 94 Emmett St Smithton

Seminar Facilitator: North West Team – Joan, Aileen and Sue

Lunch: BYO lunch, drinks provided

RSVP: Aileen Fitzgerald Ph 6431 2780

Anne will release further seminar dates.

SAFE MINISTRY CONFIRMATION OF ACCREDITATION LETTERS

I noticed recently a copy of a letter of accreditation which still mentioned the old *Code of Practice for the Protection of Children*. Please adjust your letters to name *Faithfulness in Service*. These letters are forwarded by Safe Ministry Coordinators.

OLD FORMS

All forms should now be current: either those handed out at Safe Ministry Seminars or downloaded from the Website. Please discard old copies of forms including those dated 2005.

NEW COORDINATORS

A couple of parishes need to appoint new Safe Ministry Coordinators. Could you please finalise this and let Lesley Metcalfe at the Diocesan Office know names and all contact details so that our email lists are completely up to date.

RECENT SEMINARS

Attendance and engagement at four recent seminars has been quite outstanding. A small parish like Ouse gathered about 15 in the Rose Cottage lounge room recently while nearly 50 gathered at St David's, Riverside. If this is any indication, ministry is alive and well in the Diocese.

SAFE MINISTRY FOR LOCUMS

An updated process for the Safe Ministry of Locums has been completed and will be placed on the website shortly. Please refer to this when arranging locums in your parish.