



ST. GABRIEL'S NOTES



24th September 2023

WORLD DAY FOR MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

A Prayer for People on the Move World Day for Migrants and Refugees

Jesus was always on the move, too, stirring up dust on the roads, swaying to the swells of the sea. I like to picture how far the wind has blown since then, across these thousands of years and millions of miles, carrying the dirt he tread upon all around the globe, whisking the waves he sailed in to every corner of the world.

Migrants and refugees who seek new work, new homes, carry with them, perhaps, a grain of sand that Jesus touched, a drop of water that held him aloft.

But they carry much more than that—

*One cannot gaze upon them without seeing millions of perfect permutations of the image of God. By land or by sea, every journey is a sacred one, holy the hush of feet across the desert, blessed the boats that traverse the oceans. Jesus, they say, had no home, no place to rest his head. May these precious ones find rest, find welcome, find mercy on our shores. **Amen.***

Safeguarding Sunday 24TH September 2023

A Message from Garry Kehoe,
Diocesan Training & Compliance Manager, Child Safeguarding & Protection Service:

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of the formation of the Diocesan Child Safeguarding & Protection Service and consequently the theme of the occasion is very much "reflection". We reflect on the journey that all of us have been on over the last twenty years, especially the victims of abuse in our Church. It is also a time to reflect on the ongoing commitment by all in our parishes to ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults. A lot has been achieved; however, this work is never done. The safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults in our diocese is central to the Gospel values that we embrace on a daily basis.

Every parish has specially trained Representatives to help you to understand that good safeguarding practice is not hard to implement. We can and should have children involved in our parish and it is possible to do so by proceeding with care, working in partnership with parents, and demonstrating through our words and actions, respect for our children and for all the vulnerable members of our parish community. Full details are available through the parish office.

Information Session

The Diocese is providing a Child & Vulnerable Adult Information Session
for the four parishes in our Parish Partnership,
on next Thursday 28th September

in St. John the Baptist Church, Clontarf Road, 7.30pm to 9.00pm.

All volunteers, irrespective of whether or not you work with children or vulnerable adults,
are asked to attend.