

## Little St Mary's, Cambridge

### Parish Safeguarding Officer's Report for AGM 2019

I've taken the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) after Fr Mark, who has been PSO since 1989. I will help the LSM clergy and the PCC on all safeguarding matters relating to children, young people and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding will become a standing item at each PCC meeting.

We are revising LSM policies and documentation in connection with the safeguarding of children and adults who may be vulnerable, as well as making sure that members of the PCC and volunteers take the necessary safeguarding training courses developed by the Diocese. The PSO is also responsible for the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) checks of the clergy and all volunteers.

In line with diocesan guidelines on safeguarding, we are going to display a formal statement of adoption of the House of Bishops' *Promoting a Safer Church: Safeguarding Policy Statement* in the church and on our website, as well as information on how to get help inside and outside the church with child and adult safeguarding issues.

In the next months, we'll write/update policies on safeguarding, including:

- updating our Hire Agreement in line with the new diocesan safeguarding guidelines;
- writing a policy for the photographing of children during LSM activities;
- writing/reviewing LSM's Statement on Domestic Violence;
- revising policies, risk assessment, and registration form for all activities that involve children or adults who may be vulnerable: Children's Group, Parent & Baby Group, Choristers, Visitors' Scheme, Boat-Bearers and Acolytes;
- ;making sure that all members of the PCC and all those responsible for activities that involve children or adults who may be vulnerable have done the appropriate safeguarding training courses and, regarding the later group, that their DBS checks are up to date.

The PSO will be happy to hear from any member of the congregation who has concerns or questions regarding safeguarding matters.

*Dr Patricia Pires Boulhosa*

16.04.2019