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POLICY & GUIDELINES

PILGRIMAGES

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF LONDON

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INTRODUCTION

The Bishop and Trustees are committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church. Every human being has a value and dignity which we, as Catholics, recognise as coming directly from God's creation. Therefore, our parishes and communities must be safe places of welcome where we support and protect one another. We must take particular care of those who may be vulnerable due to age, illness, disability, or current and past experiences in their lives, and respond compassionately to their needs to help keep them safe from harm. This is particularly relevant to enable the positive experience for those attending a pilgrimage. How we approach this is to follow the guidance and principles of the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA), promoting this approach in parish groups and encouraging appropriate training for all.

PURPOSE OF POLICY

As Christians, the most fundamental principle that governs our lives is that of loving and respecting our fellow human beings. Within that principle we are aware of the need for the safety and well-being of those who are most vulnerable in our society.

Much of the Church's work in this area is undertaken by willing, unpaid people of all ages who volunteer. It is vitally important that each one of us who has contact with vulnerable people is aware of best practice and procedural guidelines when providing support and care.

The welfare of the child, young person or vulnerable adult is the paramount consideration in all matters concerning their protection. All that follows in word or actions must respect that principle. There is a justifiable expectation by each individual that he/she will be treated with respect in a loving caring atmosphere.

The organisation of the pilgrimage involves aspects such as accommodation, transport, food, facilities, content of the programme, team structures and training of volunteers / Pilgrim Helpers. The combination of all of these factors is designed in the hope that all pilgrims have a positive experience. The need to have an agreed "Pilgrimage Safeguarding Policy" should be seen as yet another way of assisting this aspiration.

Through this policy, the Eparchy hopes:

- To create and maintain safe environments for Eparchial / Parish Pilgrimages.
- Inform volunteers, clerics, assisted pilgrims, and their families of the safeguarding principles for pilgrimages. Namely, its duty of care to pilgrims, staff, volunteers, leaders, clerics and religious and in particular, to assisted pilgrims; and that the welfare of assisted pilgrims and youth is paramount.

- Outline procedures for reporting, investigating, and dealing with any safeguarding concern raised during the pilgrimage to ensure a proportionate, timely, professional and ethical response is made to any individual who may be experiencing abuse.

The policies and guidelines contained in this document are designed to assist the organisation of the pilgrimage and to give confidence and guidance to all pilgrims.

SCOPE OF THE POLICY

This policy is addressed to all Church personnel / volunteers in the Eparchy who are involved with Eparchial and/or Parish Pilgrimages which involve overnight stays and or travel abroad especially those pilgrimages that are orientated towards youth or assisted pilgrims.

*Day Pilgrimages should follow the broad principles of this policy and have safeguarding arrangements that are proportionate to the risk identified. Furthermore, if a pilgrimage has no youth group or unaccompanied person under 18 years old or has no responsibility for taking vulnerable persons, best practice should be followed.

POLICY & GUIDELINES

EPARCHIAL POLICY STATEMENT

As Christians, perhaps the most fundamental principle that governs our lives is that of loving and respecting our fellow human beings. Within this principle, we are keenly aware of the need to ensure and promote the wellbeing of those in our society who are most vulnerable. The Eparchy takes seriously its responsibility to protect the wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults, and is committed to ensuring that pilgrimages organised by the Eparchy provide a safe and caring environment for them. It is vitally important that each of us who has contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults do all that we can to protect them from abuse and maltreatment, and to promote a safe environment for them. We are committed to establishing high standards of practice and each person on our pilgrimage has the right to expect that they will be treated with respect in a loving, caring atmosphere. Thus, the Eparchy:

- Seeks to serve the needs of all pilgrims and in doing so takes seriously the welfare of all who take part in an Eparchial or Parish Pilgrimage.
- Aims to ensure that all are welcomed into a safe, caring, Christian environment.
- Recognises that it is the responsibility of each one of its pilgrims to prevent all forms of abuse of any pilgrim and to report any abuse discovered or suspected.
- Recognises its responsibility to implement, maintain and regularly review procedures, which are designed to minimise the risk of abuse.
- Acknowledges its responsibility to respond appropriately to any report of abuse by or of any pilgrim.
- Is committed to supporting and training those who work with children, young people or adults at risk and to providing appropriate supervision.
- Recognises that this document will need to be reviewed annually, to keep in line with current legislation

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

Everyone has their own reason for going on a Pilgrimage. Individual wishes and preferences are respected. However, whilst no one should feel compelled to do more than they are capable of, Pilgrimages do have a code with which pilgrims are expected to comply. There are good reasons for this:

- No member of the pilgrimage should prejudice the spiritual benefit that others are searching for.
- We enable assisted pilgrims to take part in pilgrimages by supporting and caring for them by both physically (providing a helping hand) and spiritually by praying with them.
- Any behaviour that falls short of the standard expected is likely to lead to invitations being rescinded in the future. It is the duty of those entrusted with organising and running pilgrimages to take whatever action is deemed necessary to ensure that we behave in an appropriate manner.
- The Pilgrimage is under the obligation to comply with certain policies, including Health & Safety and the Safeguarding Policy. Eparchial policies and the Codes of Conduct will be enforced to protect the good name of the Eparchy and to ensure the enjoyment of all attending our pilgrimages.

CODE(S) OF CONDUCT

- PILGRIMS

At the heart of any pilgrimage is prayer and service to other pilgrims (of whom some sick and disabled). An Eparchial Pilgrimage gives an opportunity for people to travel, live, work, relax and pray together and to try to live out the values of the gospel in a way that they may not normally have. It is not a holiday in the usual sense of the word, but it is still a richly rewarding experience when entered into fully.

Those attending a Pilgrimage are expected to abide by the moral teachings and standards of the Catholic Church and the Eparchial values of trust, service, respect, integrity and compassion. By joining an Eparchial Pilgrimage, it is presumed that pilgrims understand that they must strive to be worthy successors of the traditions set by predecessors and ensure that their example of “love in action” is upheld at all times. In doing so, one will:

1. Accept the authority of those appointed to positions of responsibility (i.e. Pilgrimage Leader, Pilgrimage Designated Safeguarding Lead etc.,) and will be honest and open in their dealings with them.
2. Attend all meetings, be punctual, and participate in planned activities.
3. Neither by act nor omission, diminish the pilgrimage experience for others.
4. Accept responsibility for the security of personal belongings and valuables.
5. Behave in such a way so as to uphold the good name of the Eparchy.
6. Dress modestly and appropriately, respecting local culture, traditions and environment.

7. Accept and comply with the policies and codes of practice as stipulated by the Eparchy.

- VOLUNTEERS & PILGRIM HELPERS

Those attending a Pilgrimage are expected to abide by the moral teachings and standards of the Catholic Church and the Eparchial values of trust, service, respect, integrity and compassion. As a Volunteer or Pilgrim Helper, they are also expected to cooperate in creating a healthy and safe atmosphere, projecting an image of Christian consideration and sensitivity.

Registered Helpers are expected:

1. To be punctual and participate in all planned activities.
2. To arrive for duty able to carry out allocated tasks. If you are unable to carry out your duties for any reason, you must report to a Pilgrimage Team Leader.
3. To report any concerns, safety issues or emergencies immediately to the Pilgrimage Team Coordinator, a Pilgrimage Team Leader, or the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
4. To dress modestly and appropriately, respecting local culture, traditions and environment. Anyone attending for duty inappropriately dressed will be asked to change.
5. To be inclusive to all and encourage others to do the same, challenging and reporting inappropriate language or actions.
6. To follow safe travel procedures as directed.
7. To be sensitive when uploading any posts, photographs or information to any closed, open or private social media platforms. Registered Volunteers & Pilgrim Helpers are expected to follow the Eparchial Social Media Policy. In particular:
 - Express permission must be given by Pilgrims before they are photographed, and their consent given if the image is to be uploaded to social media. Pilgrims must understand how and where their images will be posted. Names of Pilgrims must not be used in social media posts.
 - Images taken must be used respectfully.
 - Express permission must be given from ALL involved in images or posts on social media, including those tagged in posts.
 - Comments regarding the Pilgrimage or anyone involved or attending the Pilgrimage on social media such as Facebook, WhatsApp, X (formerly Twitter), Snapchat, TikTok (closed, private or open forums), Instagram etc., must, at all times, be in line with Eparchial values.

As a pilgrimage volunteer, you MUST NOT:

1. Use language, or discuss topics which are inappropriate or may cause offence.
2. Share information relating to a young person, sick pilgrim or someone in the care of the Diocesan pilgrimage via the internet or social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter etc.
3. Obtain or publish photographs of any child, young person or adult at risk without their parent/carers permission or the permission of the guardian for any adult at risk.
4. Mistreat verbally, physically, emotionally, sexually or via social media/electronic platforms anyone while you are on or off duty as part of the Shrewsbury Diocesan Pilgrimage.
5. Neglect your duties in a way that may lead to the harm of another individual(s).
6. Possess or use illegal substances or carry weapons of any kind.
7. Buy alcohol for any under-18's or encourage the consumption of alcohol for any youth pilgrims.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- PILGRIMAGE LEADER

The Pilgrimage Leader is responsible for the day-to-day running of the business of the pilgrimage. It is their responsibility to manage all volunteers and pilgrim helpers, as well as the program of the pilgrimage.

- PILGRIMAGE DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD

The Pilgrimage Designated Safeguarding Lead (PDSL) is a person specifically appointed within a religious pilgrimage group to be the primary point of contact for any safeguarding concerns, allegations of abuse, or issues related to vulnerable individuals that may arise during the pilgrimage journey; essentially, they are responsible for overseeing and managing safeguarding matters throughout the trip, ensuring appropriate responses to any potential risks or incidents.

The PDSL is to be the main point of contact for any safeguarding concerns raised during the pilgrimage. The PDSL will act as a link person between the Pilgrimage Lead and the Eparchial Safeguarding Office. Their details should be included in the information given to pilgrims. The PDSL's main responsibilities include:

- Promote a culture in which safeguarding can be openly discussed and provide support for those raising concerns.
- Listen sensitively to all those reporting concerns
- Ensure that any information given is recorded and that the Eparchy is contacted to inform them of the concern or harm.
- If an individual is at immediate risk of serious harm, the PDSL will contact the local police. The Eparchy will also be informed.
- Safely store any documentation relating to incidents of harm, using body maps to record any injuries where appropriate.
- Report any incidents of abuse to the relevant parties.
- Advise and support others on the pilgrimage, in order for them to behave in accordance with the code of conduct so as to create a safe environment.

GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES

PILGRIMAGE PREPARATION

This guidance is largely based on the Practice Guidance published by CSSA. The full document can be found here: <https://catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/resources/practice-guidance/>

Firstly, the Pilgrimage must have the mandate of the Bishop. The Pilgrimage Leader should complete the **CASE 2 Form** and submit it to the Chancery Office (the form can be found in the Eparchial Safeguarding Resource Pack) and the Safeguarding Office.

If the pilgrimage being organised is a Youth Pilgrimage (without parental attendance), then all under 18's are required to have the additional forms i.e. **Parental Consent for Activity/Event** (CASE 4) and **Consent for Use of Video/Photographic material** completed by their parent/carers and submitted to the Pilgrimage Lead in advance of the Pilgrimage.

- RISK ASSESSMENT

The purpose of Risk Assessments is to ensure that no-one suffers any harm as a result of a Pilgrimage activity. Therefore, at any meetings prior to each pilgrimage, whereby leaders discuss and identify any potential risks, which may arise that would impact on the safety of those travelling should be dated and recorded with the actions to manage these risks.

The **Risk Assessment Form** (Appendix 1) should be completed and a copy submitted to the Safeguarding Office.

Additionally, at all times during the Pilgrimage the safety of all pilgrims will be continually reviewed and where required, an additional risk analysis will take place and be recorded by the Pilgrimage Leader(s).

- SAFE RECRUITMENT

Everyone must be alert to the possibility that any person may pose a risk of harm to children, young people or vulnerable adults. Organisations using staff, paid or volunteers, who have access to children, young people or vulnerable adults must guard against the potential for abuse, through a rigorous selection process, supervision, preparation and on-going awareness of the behaviour of those providing care and support.

For that reason, the Pilgrimage Leader must approve the participation of any person involved as a volunteer or pilgrim helper and such approval can only be given when the approved Eparchial procedures for Safer Recruitment have been followed.

All prospective applicants will need to complete a Volunteer Registration Form. The role of Pilgrimage Volunteer / Pilgrim Helper is subject to an Enhanced DBS check.

All applicants will agree to the Code of Conduct.

- SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

A Pilgrimage Volunteer / Pilgrim Helper must receive appropriate preparation and training including completing relevant courses on the CSSA LMS to understand the role to ensure they have:

- A good understanding of safeguarding policy, practice and guidelines
- The skills to offer appropriate support and / or supervision for group members needing it.
- The skills to pass this understanding on to others.

A Pilgrimage Volunteer / Pilgrim Helper will be issued with a safeguarding pamphlet outlining best practice guidelines and any action to be taken in the event of a disclosure.

DURING THE PILGRIMAGE

- BEST PRACTICE

During the pilgrimage it is important to remember to adhere to some basic rules.

- Make sure that the decided group identity (wristbands, badges, lanyards etc.) are worn by all participants.
- Volunteers and Pilgrim Helpers must operate in line with their roles and responsibilities. It is advisable that the Pilgrimage Leader meets with Volunteers & Pilgrim Helpers on a daily basis to hold briefings to ensure continuity of care and that issues are dealt with in a timely manner.
- Everyone should behave in accordance with The Code of Conducts.
- Any incident or concern must be reported to the PDSL or Pilgrimage Leader.

- DEALING WITH CONCERNS

The key principles to follow are **Listen – Record – Refer**. Take the following action if a person discloses an allegation or a concern to you: -

- The conversation is potentially a source of evidence. Respond by staying calm and listening.
- The listener should listen and not ask questions which lead or suggest an answer to the pilgrim.

- The allegation by the Pilgrim must be taken seriously. The Pilgrim should be reassured that they have done the right thing in reporting an incident.
- The listener must record the conversation as soon as possible. The record should reflect the conversation as accurately as possible, using the Pilgrim's own words, without the listener's own interpretation or views of the disclosure. Make sure the information written is factual. The record should be signed and dated, noting the time and location at which the conversation took place. The names of anyone else present should be included.
- Confidentiality cannot be guaranteed and should not be promised in respect of an allegation of abuse or inappropriate behaviour by or towards a pilgrim. This means that any details should not be openly discussed but may have to be acted upon by third parties.
- You should explain to the Pilgrim what you will do next, i.e. Inform the Pilgrimage Leader / Pilgrimage Designated Safeguarding Lead etc.
- It is not your responsibility to decide whether the allegation is true or not.

Things to remember:

- At this time the subject of the allegation must not be approached, questioned or informed. Any person subject of an allegation will have their rights protected in accordance with legal and Christian principles.
- The Pilgrimage Designated Safeguarding Lead must be notified at the first opportunity following the allegation(s) being made.
- On being notified of the allegation the Pilgrimage Designated Safeguarding Lead will discuss appropriate action with the Pilgrimage Leader.
- It may be deemed necessary to report an incident to the local authorities and/or the relevant authorities in the UK. The following policy should be followed.
 - If an incident of alleged abuse has occurred outside of the UK – foreign agencies must be informed. There is not usually jurisdiction for British Police to act.
 - If alleged abuse took place in the UK - inform UK agencies.
 - If alleged abuse occurred outside of the UK but also has taken place in the UK, inform UK agencies - who will liaise with foreign agencies.
 - An Eparchial Pilgrimage has no legal power to remove an alleged abuser but can only exclude him/her from any Pilgrimage activities and seek to manage the situation. Also there is a duty to inform the UK Police if the alleged abuser might present an ongoing risk in the UK. In this case the

Eparchial authorities can decide that the person shall have no further involvement with the pilgrimage or other work with the Eparchy.

- Any historical disclosures/allegations will be passed to the Eparchial Safeguarding Office as it is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased.

- A written record of any alleged incident involving a group member must be passed on to the Pilgrimage Designated Safeguarding Lead. This should apply irrespective of the age of person(s) concerned and whether or not abuse has occurred or is suspected at the time. Written observations may assist later enquiries. The referral form should be used for this purpose. Confidentiality is essential and disclosure to other parties will only be made by the Pilgrimage Designated Safeguarding Lead to prevent harm or risk to others.

- REPATRIATION

Circumstances for repatriation might include, but are not limited to:

- Repatriation as a result of conduct (Codes of Conduct can be found in the Eparchial Safeguarding Resource Pack);
- Repatriation as a result of deteriorating health which makes the return journey difficult;
- Repatriation as a result of death requiring links with the UK and/or Ukrainian Embassy; and repatriation of carers as a result of death or injury.

Repatriation as a result of conduct:

During the Pilgrimage, should any concerns arise from the behaviour of any pilgrim, this will initially be reported to the Pilgrimage Leader who will decide what sanction to apply.

This could involve repatriation and if this is decided, the pilgrim will return home at their own cost.

Repatriation as a result of deteriorating health:

This policy and protocol will only be used in circumstances where it is not possible for the sick Assisted Pilgrim to return to the UK via the mode of transport that they used on their outbound journey or the individual has been taken on Pilgrimage without travel insurance, or the travel insurance has an exclusion with regard to the repatriation.

Repatriation is considered when the clinical condition of the Assisted Pilgrim has deteriorated, and their known or assumed wish is to be in the UK in the case of their death. In a few cases, there is no immediate risk to the pilgrim's life, but they may have developed acute mental health or other needs, and it is felt that these can be most easily be met close to home.

Repatriation as a result of death or serious injury:

The Pilgrimage Leader will agree who will take responsibility for dealing with this situation, and then liaise with the relevant authorities, Tour Operator and Insurance company etc.

- MISSING PILGRIMS

If a child, young person, vulnerable adult, or assisted pilgrim goes missing, the PDSL and Pilgrim Leader will be notified immediately and a report made to the Police as a matter of urgency.

- RELATED POLICIES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following Eparchial policies and guidelines:

- Safeguarding Policy (found in the Eparchial Safeguarding Resource Pack)
- Privacy Policy
- Social Media & IT Policy
- Guidance on the Use of Images (found in the Eparchial Safeguarding Resource Pack)

For additional information, contact the Eparchial Safeguarding Office.

POST PILGRIMAGE

There will be a debriefing meeting as soon as possible led by the pilgrimage leader to use learning to influence policy and procedure in preparation for the next pilgrimage. The debrief should be attended by pilgrimage organisers of the various aspect of the pilgrimage, e.g. liturgy, leadership, safeguarding, health & safety, etc.

The following should form part of the review:

- Feedback forms from Pilgrimage Volunteers / Pilgrim Helpers and pilgrims.
- Review of any accident and / or incident forms.

The Pilgrim Leader will prepare an evaluation report following the debrief and submit it to the Chancery Office.

REVIEW

This policy and its procedures will be reviewed annually in accordance with changes in legislation and guidance on safeguarding or following any changes within the Eparchy's Pilgrimage's arrangements. Additionally, the policy and its procedures will be reviewed following any issues or concerns raised about safeguarding on the pilgrimage.

SAFEGUARDING

CHILD ABUSE

Child abuse involves the maltreatment of children - physically, emotionally, sexually or through neglect and can give major long-term effects on all aspects of a child's health, development and wellbeing. Here is a summary of the definitions of the different types of abuse a child may suffer, taken from Working Together to Safeguard Children (March 2015). Please familiarise yourself with these and be alert to signs and indicators that a child or a young person could be a victim of abuse and may turn to you, as someone they trust within the Church, for help.

Definitions:

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces illness in a child. Certain cultures also practice female genital mutilation which is a severe form of physical abuse and is a crime in the United Kingdom.

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child, such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate or valued only in so far as they meet the needs of another person. It may include suppressing a child's views, or exploiting, corrupting or radicalising them. It may involve interactions beyond a child's capability or overprotection and limiting the child's development, bullying a child or causing them to be frightened, in some cases by seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another individual. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. They may include physical contact or non-contact activities such as involving children looking at, or in the production of, sexual online images; talking about or watching sexual activities; encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for abuse. Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born it may involve a parent or carer failing to provide adequate food, clothing and shelter, failing to protect a child from harm or danger or failing to ensure access to medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

The immediate and longer-term impact of child abuse can include anxiety, depression, substance abuse, eating disorders and self-harm, offending and anti-social behaviour.

Maltreatment is likely to have a deep impact upon the child's self-image and self-esteem and difficulties may extend into adulthood—in forming or sustaining close relationships, establishing oneself in work or in developing the skills for effective parenthood. It is important to be aware that domestic abuse taking place within a child's home can also have a serious impact on children's safety and welfare and that **any concerns should always be reported.**

ADULT ABUSE

The Office of the Public Guardian states that abuse is a violation of an individual's human and civil rights by another person or persons. It may consist of a single act or repeated acts. It may occur when an adult at risk is persuaded to enter into a financial or sexual transaction to which they have not consented or cannot consent to. Abuse can occur in any relationship and may result in significant harm to, or exploitation of, the person subjected to it. Any type of abuse may be perpetrated against an adult at risk as a result of deliberate intent, negligence or ignorance.

Definitions:

Physical abuse includes hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, withholding or misuse of medication or aids and inappropriate restraint, confinement or enforced isolation.

Sexual abuse includes sexual acts where an adult has not consented, could not consent to or was coerced into. It may also include non-contact sexual activities, such as voyeurism, viewing or making pornography, indecent exposure and serious or persistent sexual teasing, innuendo or harassment.

Psychological and emotional abuse is included in all other forms of abuse and may involve insults, verbal abuse, shouting and swearing. It arises from a power imbalance in a relationship and the adult at risk is controlled and manipulated, leaving them feeling unworthy, unwanted, unhappy, anxious, insecure, fearful, humiliated and devalued.

Financial or material abuse includes theft, fraud, exploitation, pressure in connection with wills, property or inheritance or financial transactions, and the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits.

Discriminatory abuse is an abuser focussing upon an adult's disability (physical, mental health, learning or sensory impairment), race, gender, age, religion, cultural background, sexual orientation, political convictions, appearance, social situation, dependence upon drugs or alcohol.

Domestic abuse is defined as any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between those aged 16 and over who are, or who have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.

Institutional abuse can be understood as organisational practices or failings which may place the management or needs of a service above the needs and wishes of a service user. The term 'institution' includes the Church, hospitals, prisons, children's homes or schools, universities, nursing or care homes.

Spiritual abuse can be forcing one's religious beliefs onto a child or vulnerable person; telling someone that God hates them, preventing them from worship, using faith as a weapon

to control or terrorize a person for pleasure or gain, using religious teaching to justify abuse (e.g. wives submit to your husbands) or to compel forgiveness.

Neglect and acts of omission include ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, social care or educational services, and the withholding of the necessities of life, such as medication, adequate nutrition and heating.

We should also be mindful of the increase in modern slavery **trafficking, grooming and hate crime** which can be perpetrated against adults (or children). **Any concerns should always be referred or reported.**

USEFUL CONTACTS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

EPARCHIAL SAFEGUARDING OFFICE

Coordinator: Myroslava Matwijiwskyj
Address: Eparchial Safeguarding Office, 21-22 Binney Street, London W1K 5BQ
Telephone: 020 7629 1073
Mobile: 0759 589 6781
Email: safeguarding@ucc-gb.com
Website: www.ucc-gb.com/safeguarding

RESOURCES - CHARITIES/ORGANISATIONS

Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service (CSAS)	Telephone: 020 7901 1920 Website: www.csas.uk.net
NSPCC	Telephone: 0808 800 5000 Website: www.nspcc.org.uk
Child Line	Telephone: 0800 1111 Website: www.childline.org.uk
Stop It Now (charity for the prevention of child sexual abuse)	Telephone: 0808 1000 900 Website: www.stopitnow.org.uk
Action on Elder Abuse	Telephone: 0808 808 8141 Website: www.elderabuse.org.uk
Age UK	Telephone: 0800 169 6565 Website: www.ageuk.org.uk
National Domestic Violence (partnership between Refuge and Women's Aid)	Telephone: 0808 2000 247 Website: www.womensaid.org.uk
Mind (mental health charity)	Telephone: 0300 123 3393 Website: www.mind.org.uk
The Samaritans	Telephone: 116 123 Website: www.samaritans.org
Men's Advice Line	Telephone: 0808 801 0327 Website: www.mensadviceline.org.uk
Alcoholics Anonymous	Telephone: 0800 917 7650 Website: www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk
National Gambling Helpline	Telephone: 0808 8020 133 Website: www.gamcare.org.uk
BEAT (eating disorder charity)	Telephone: 0808 801 0677 Website: www.b-eat.co.uk

IN AN EMERGENCY CONTACT THE POLICE ON 999 OR 101 *(in the UK)*

RESOURCES – LOCAL

Please use this space to add your own local charities or organisations

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ADULT AT RISK	This term refers to any person aged 18 years old and over who is, or may be in need, of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness, and who is or may be unable to take care of themselves, or unable to protect themselves against significant harm or serious exploitation.
ASSISTED PILGRIMS	An assisted pilgrim Refers to a person participating in a pilgrimage who requires additional support due to physical limitations or health needs, meaning they need help with aspects of travel, personal care, and movement while on their journey, often receiving assistance from dedicated volunteers and/or medical professionals during the pilgrimage.
CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON	This is defined as any person under the age of 18.
CSSA	Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency
DBS	Disclosure and Barring Service
PILGRIMAGE DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD (PDSL)	The Pilgrimage Designated Safeguarding Lead is a person specifically appointed within a religious pilgrimage group to be the primary point of contact for any safeguarding concerns, allegations of abuse, or issues related to vulnerable individuals that may arise during the pilgrimage journey; essentially, they are responsible for overseeing and managing safeguarding matters throughout the

	trip, ensuring appropriate responses to any potential risks or incidents.
PILGRIM	A pilgrim (from the Latin peregrinus) is a traveller (literally one who has come from afar) who is on a journey to a holy place with the intention of deepening their spiritual connection with God through prayer, reflection, and experiencing the sacredness of the place they visit; essentially, it's a physical journey with a profound spiritual purpose
PILGRIMAGE	<p>Simply put, a pilgrimage is a spiritual journey.</p> <p>It can be made anywhere, by anyone, for just about any spiritual purpose. For Catholics, it means traveling to a destination — whether it's a holy site, outdoor space, or even near to home — to experience God in a unique way.</p> <p>The goal is always transformation. Anyone can travel to a location, but the pilgrim seeks to encounter something deeper. In that way, a pilgrimage is never truly finished, because hopefully you will come back changed, unable to return to old ways of living or thinking.</p> <p>It's also more intentional. A pilgrimage is far more than an itinerary which includes cathedrals and Christian historical sites. It's an intentional encounter with the story of God's work in the world. Pilgrims are there to pray, celebrate Mass, and reflect on the significance of these places — to fully enter these sacred places with their hearts, minds, and souls.</p> <p>Pope Benedict, in an address given at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in 2010, gave this summary of Catholic pilgrimage:</p> <p><i>“To go on pilgrimage is not simply to visit a place to admire its treasures of nature, art or history. To go on pilgrimage really means to step out of ourselves in order to encounter God where he has revealed himself, where his grace has shone with particular splendor and produced rich fruits of conversion and holiness among those who believe...”</i></p>

APPENDICES

Most of the forms needed can be found in the Eparchial Safeguarding Resource Pack which can be downloaded from the safeguarding section of the Eparchy's website:

<https://www.ucc-gb.com/safeguarding>

