



The Roman Catholic
DIOCESE OF LEGAZPI

The Chancery, Saint Gregory the Great Cathedral
P.O. Box 182, Legazpi City 4500 Philippines

DIOCESAN CIRCULAR Number 11, Series of 2025

To: All Clergy, Religious, and Lay Faithful
From: Office of the Diocesan Safeguarding Ministry
Re: Launching of the Diocesan Safeguarding Ministry and Safeguarding Policy

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Church is called to be a place where everyone—especially minors and those who are vulnerable—is safeguarded with dignity and care. Jesus himself reminds us: *“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me”* (Mt 18:5). Safeguarding is a fundamental expression of our faith.

To uphold this commitment, His Holiness Pope Francis established the **Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors** in 2014. In our Diocese, we have already taken steps toward this mission. In 2022, through the **Bicol Consortium and Development Initiatives (BCDI)** and in partnership with **Social Action Center (SAC) Legazpi, DKA-Austria, Kindermissionswerk, and Missio München**, we launched the project **“Building a Child-Friendly Church for Healthy and Empowered Children in Bicol,”** implemented in five parishes:

- Saint Padre Pio Parish and Diocesan Shrine, Rawis, Legazpi City
- Saint Roche Parish, Taysan, Legazpi City
- Saint Joseph the Worker Parish, Banquerohan, Legazpi City
- Our Lady of Salvation Parish, Anislag, Daraga, Albay
- Saint John the Baptist Parish, Camalig, Albay

Building on these efforts, we are pleased to announce the **launching of the Diocesan Safeguarding Ministry and the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy** on **March 19, 2025**, the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, **5:30 p.m.**, at **Saint Gregory the Great Cathedral, Legazpi City**.


This ministry, led by **Rev. Fr. Argie Salvador G. Nuarin** (Director) and **Ms. Higinia “Gie” Banzuela** (Diocesan Coordinator), will work closely with our parishes to ensure that safeguarding is central to our pastoral life.

I invite all clergy, religious, parish safeguarding teams, and lay leaders to take part in this important moment. Together, let us build parishes where every child and vulnerable person feels safe and supported. May Saint Joseph, guardian of the Holy Family, intercede for us in this mission.

In the PEACE that binds us all,


+ JOEL Z. BAYLON, D.D.
Bishop of Legazpi

By mandate of His Excellency,
The Bishop of Legazpi:


Fr. Gem Norries S. Penetrante, T.O.Carm.
Chancellor

Please keep on file
12 March 2025