



Sisters of Saint Joseph  
*of the Sacred Heart*

## Safeguarding News February 2024

Greetings all,

Welcome to your Safeguarding HeartBeat segment.

It seems a little surreal to be writing 'February 2024'. I hope you enjoyed a relaxing and refreshing Christmas and New Year season. The holidays are well and truly over!

### Safeguarding Audit Report

The Congregational Safeguarding Audit Report has been published and is now on the Australian Catholic Safeguarding (ACSL) website. Additionally, the wonderful audit results were also included in the 20 December 2023, CathNews publication, as you can see below:



Sisters of Saint Joseph  
*of the Sacred Heart*

Congregational Leader Sr Monica Cavanagh says safeguarding has a 'unique place' in the story of the Sisters of St Joseph (Supplied)

A safeguarding audit report of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart published by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd has found safeguarding practices are understood and embedded across the congregation's members and key activities.

The audit assessed the congregation's implementation of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS), a framework to promote the safety of children in Catholic organisations.

The Sisters of St Joseph received a compliance score of 100 per cent against the NCSS, with all relevant NCSS indicators either fully or substantially progressed at the time of audit.

*CathNews: 20 December 2023*

The audit report has also been uploaded to SPIRIT and the SOSJ public website.

Read more about the audit and access the audit report by clicking [here](#).

## Safer Internet Day

Given the increase in electronic scams and privacy breaches, it may be helpful to visit the eSafety website and learn what we can do to continue using our devices safely and protect our privacy. *Safer Internet Day* is an initiative sponsored by the eSafety Commissioner and was recognised this year on 6 February. The 2024 theme is: 'Connect. Reflect. Protect'.

You can learn more about Safer Internet Day by visiting the eSafety website [here](#).



## International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

In 1960, police opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration in South Africa against the pass laws.

As a result of this event, in 1966 the United Nations proclaimed 21 March as the *International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination* to be commemorated annually. The day is commemorated as a Human Rights Day and aims to remind people of racial discrimination's negative consequences. It encourages people to remember their obligations and determination to combat racial discrimination. I encourage you to consider what you may do to promote equality across backgrounds and cultures, within your community.



I invite you to contact me should you have any safeguarding questions or matters you would like to discuss. I can be contacted by phone, email, or the old-fashioned way – in person!

Take care,

Jane Lace  
Safeguarding Co-ordinator  
PH: +61 2 8912 2760  
[Jane.lace@sosj.org.au](mailto:Jane.lace@sosj.org.au)  
9 Mount Street, North Sydney  
(Usual workdays Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday)