



**DIOCESE OF
QU'APPELLE**

**SAFE CHURCH
INITIATIVE**

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.
1 Corinthians 4:2

Why bother with Safe Church?

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? James 2:15-16

This discussion guide and accompanying video are designed to encourage you to revisit the Safe church initiative and renew your discipleship commitment to care for property and people. The Lord has blessed your parish with property and people for worship, ministry and outreach in your community. Our prayer is that parishes commit to caring for these blessings, not just because the Diocese feels it's important and/or its part of due diligence but because they want to do it, as an extension of their commitment to be disciples of Christ.

We are called to be good stewards of our resources and to care for our fellow disciples in Christ. That is the goal of the Safe Church initiative. Your willingness to spend time and energy ensuring that property and people are well cared for means you are being faithful to that call. The Safe Church officer's role is to ensure that you have all the resources and information that you need to implement helpful practices in your parish life.

Implementing practices that keep people and property safe can be inconvenient, can seem like overkill, can sometimes feel like a waste of time and energy. We believe care of our property and people to be essential. This tool is designed to help you facilitate a discussion among your leadership and help you to review your policies and procedures in caring for people and property.

Discussion questions

1. What does the word Stewardship mean to you? What does being a good steward of our gifts from the Lord look like in your parish?
2. Read Mark 12:29-31 aloud. What words or phrases stand out to you? Have another person read the passage a second time. What do you hear Jesus saying to you/us? Have someone else read it one more time. What do you hear Jesus calling you/us to do?
3. Discuss what it means to be a neighbour. Who is our neighbour in this place? (our fellow parishioners, our community members, strangers on our block, the future faithful?)
4. We have been given an opportunity to care for the property and people in our parish. Is this important to us as a group? Why or why not?
5. What challenges does caring for people and property pose to us as a parish? How do we grapple with those challenges?

Take a moment to ask the Lord to be a part of the process of caring for our people and property. Lift up to Him in prayer any specific challenges that you face.