

**Message from Provincial Br Donatus Forkan, O.H.
The Hospitaller Order of Saint John of God**

This past week has seen the sentencing of a Member of this Order, Brother Aidan Clohessy following two trials that convicted him of nineteen counts of indecent assault against six former students of St Augustine's School. On behalf of the Hospitaller Order of Saint John of God, I apologise to anyone who has experienced hurt in our services in the past. As a community, we unequivocally condemn any action that harms or diminishes others. These recent times have reflected pain for so many and brought emotional turmoil for all affected. We think especially of those who came forward to report hurt that they had experienced, we acknowledge their bravery and courage, and we think of their families and loved ones.

We are committed to safeguarding all who come to us. This is intrinsic to our values and mission. Our policies require reporting and co-operation with authorities, and we support those seeking redress and healing, be it through counselling or other means.

If you have safeguarding concerns or know of anyone who does, I urge you to come forward to report and seek support.

- **An Garda Sióchána** (free, confidential 24/7 Child Sexual Abuse Reporting Line)
❖ 1800 555 222 or email GNPSB_SCMU@garda.ie
- **TUSLA** - www.tusla.ie/children-first
- **Towards Healing** – Freephone – 1800 303 416 / 0800 096 3315 (Northern Ireland) / 085 802 2859 (Hearing Impaired) / email info@towardshealing.ie



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