



# Healing and Reconciliation Group



## Our Purpose

The Healing & Reconciliation group, is a sub group of the Northampton Safeguarding Advisory Board and wishes to reach out to those who have been impacted through abuse by members of our Church in order to provide a voice for victims and survivors.

## We Aim To...

Promote and facilitate healing and reconciliation.

Provide a safe environment for those seeking comfort and healing from spiritual, emotional and other forms of abuse.

Raise greater awareness of abuse and increase understanding of its impact.

## Projects So Far

### A Time To Listen

Opportunities have been offered for anyone affected by abuse to speak with our Bishop in a safe and non judgemental environment.



### Towards Healing & Reconciliation

The group helped to plan and deliver a Mass dedicated to victims and survivors of any form of abuse, their families, supporters and those affected.



### National Days Of Prayer

We have promoted and participated in these days, which have included the input of survivors.



### Healing Garden

Designed and built as a place of sanctuary for survivors of abuse and all those in need of healing.



The Healing Garden, created in the grounds of Northampton Cathedral, NN2 6AG is an ongoing project and open to all.



# Join Us On Our Journey

We would very much welcome people with lived experience of abuse to consider joining us in our endeavour.

We value your insight and would like to be able to listen, hear and act upon your advice to help improve our response to those who have been hurt by abuse.

We will be sensitive to those we speak with and not presume to know what they can offer.



The Healing Garden at Northampton Cathedral



Safe Spaces is a free and independent support service, operated by First Light, providing a confidential, and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England or the Catholic Church in England and Wales. If you have been affected, however long ago, Safe Spaces can provide you with support.

## Ways to make contact

0300 303 1056  
safespaces@firstlight.org.uk  
safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk

“ There is a need and duty for us to listen to those who have been hurt by abuse and are suffering. It is humbling for me as the Bishop to listen to victims and survivors. We know the devastation which abuse has on someone's life.

*Bishop David Oakley*

## Contact Us

If you think that you might be able to help us in our work, whether as a group member or less formally as an advisor, then please contact our friendly team.

✉ [safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org)  
🌐 [www.northamptondiocese.org/safeguarding](http://www.northamptondiocese.org/safeguarding)

☎ 01604 723514

📍 Bishop's House, Marriott Street, Northampton, NN2 6AW



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.