



## **Form 13 - Images of children involved in Church-related activities**

The consent of parents / carers (and children of appropriate age) should be sought before any media images (photographs / videotape / film) are taken, in accordance with Form 10 Parental Consent. In the case of First Communion or Confirmation, where children are prepared in school, parental permission for any media images should be obtained by the school.

Photographs should only be taken by an authorised person who has a suitable reason related to the child, school or parish. In the case of First Communion and Confirmation ceremonies, parents should be informed, in advance, that photography is not permitted in the church until the ceremony is over.

The press should be informed of this policy beforehand. It is not illegal to take photographs at a public event, even if asked not to do so. If an event is private, then one can insist that the policy is followed.

Mobile phone cameras are easily used without the subject being aware. Their use should be discouraged; however, the spread of this technology does make this difficult.

A photograph should not allow an unauthorised person to identify a child or his / her whereabouts. If the full name of a child is used, there should be no photograph; if a photograph is being used, the full name should not be given.