

CODE OF CONDUCT

Our faithful are the most important gifts God has entrusted to us. I promise to strictly follow the rules and guidelines in this Code of Conduct as a condition of my providing services to the faithful of our Diocese.

I will:

- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity, and consideration.
- Avoid situations where I am alone with children/youth at Church activities
- Use positive reinforcement rather than criticism, competition, or comparison when working with children/youth or the elderly, disabled or homebound
- Refuse to accept expensive gifts from children/youth and their parents, or the elderly, disabled or homebound without prior written approval from the pastor or administrator
- Refrain from giving expensive gifts to children/youth or the elderly, disabled or homebound without prior written approval from the parents or guardian and the pastor or administrator
- Report suspected abuse to the pastor, administrator, or appropriate supervisor and the local Child Protection Services agency, or nursing care agency. I understand that failure to report suspected abuse to civil authorities is, according to the law, a misdemeanor.
- Cooperate fully in any investigation of abuse of children/youth or the elderly, disabled or homebound.

I will not:

- Smoke or use tobacco products in the presence of children and/or youth
- Use, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol at any time while volunteering
- Use, possess, or be under the influence of illegal drugs at any time
- Pose any health risk to children/youth or the elderly, disabled or homebound (i.e., no fevers or other contagious situations)
- Strike, spank, shake or slap children/youth or the elderly, disabled or homebound
- Humiliate, ridicule, threaten, or degrade children/youth or the elderly, disabled or homebound
- Touch a child/youth or the elderly, disabled or homebound in a sexual or other inappropriate manner
- Use any discipline that frightens or humiliates children/youth or elderly, disabled or homebound
- Use profanity in the presence of children/youth or elderly, disabled or homebound.

I understand that in working with children/youth or the elderly, disabled or homebound, I am subject to a thorough background check including criminal history. I understand that any action inconsistent with this Code of Conduct or failure to take action mandated by this Code of Conduct may result in my inability to work with children/youth or the elderly, disabled or homebound.

Printed Name

Signature

Date