

Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

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CODE OF ETHICS

For Church Personnel and Those Who Work With Children, Adolescents and Vulnerable Adults

Church personnel and those who work with children, adolescents and vulnerable adults will:

- Exhibit the highest Christian ethical standards and personal integrity, and will accept the responsibility to witness in all relationships the chastity appropriate to their state of life, whether celibate, married, or single;
- Conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with the discipline and teaching of the Catholic Church;
- Provide a safe environment where sexual boundaries will not be violated; an environment that is free from physical, psychological, written, or verbal intimidation or harassment;
- Avoid taking unfair advantage of another's sexual boundaries by using seductive speech, gestures, visual representations or physical contact that sexually abuses, exploits, or harasses another person, especially if that person is in a relationship of vulnerability or dependence;
- Refrain from physically, sexually or emotionally abusing or neglecting a minor or adult;
- Accept personal responsibility to protect minors and vulnerable adults from all forms of abuse by reporting abuse or neglect to the Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh and appropriate civil authorities.

Adapted from *Ethics in Pastoral Ministry* written by Richard M. Gula, S.S., Paulist Press, pp. 149-151, 1996