

Executive Summary for Clergy and Men in Formation

As a **Cleric** or **Man in Formation**, I promise to strictly follow the rules and guidelines in this Code of Conduct. Clerics and Men in Formation who are committed to a celibate lifestyle are called to be an example of celibate chastity in all relationships at all times. I promise to conduct myself transparently and professionally both in person and while using any form of technology.

As a Clergy Member or Man in Formation, I will:

- At all times avoid even the appearance of impropriety in person and while using technology.
- Avoid situations where I am alone with a minor or Vulnerable Adult at church activities.
- Be transparent and avoid the appearance of impropriety when giving and receiving gifts.
- Report any suspected abuse or risk of harm involving a minor or Vulnerable Adult outside of confession, including child pornography, to the Pastor, Administrator, or appropriate supervisor, the police, the D.C.F. Careline and to the Victim Assistance Coordinator of the Diocese of Bridgeport within twelve (12) hours of becoming aware of the information whether the abuse is alleged to have occurred recently or in the past.
- Cooperate fully in any investigation involving abuse of children, youth or in any investigation of Adult-to-Adult misconduct.
- Uphold the standards of the USCCB Charter and the Safe Environment Policies of the Diocese of Bridgeport.

As a Clergy member or Man in Formation, I will not:

- Be under the influence of alcohol at any time while ministering to minors.
- Use, possess, or be under the influence of illegal drugs at any time.
- Strike, spank, shove, shake, push, or slap others.
- Humiliate, ridicule, threaten, or degrade others.
- Touch a minor and/or youth in a sexual or other inappropriate manner.
- Use any discipline that frightens or humiliates minors.
- Use profanity in the presence of minors.
- Visit pornographic websites or participate in interactive websites for the purpose of initiating sexual contacts, live or virtual.

I have read the Safe Environment Handbook and I am aware of the sections of the Handbook which apply to my specific ministry, including but not limited to, The Code of Conduct for Clergy and Men in Formation; Guidelines for Trips, Events and Electronic Communication involving Minors and the sections on Mandatory Reporting. I agree to conduct myself accordingly.

Printed Name: _____ **Signature/Date:** _____

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