

## Diocese of Laredo Code of Conduct



Church Personnel and Volunteers of the Diocese of Laredo are expected to follow the Code of Conduct as outlined below.

As church personnel or volunteer, **I will:**

- Exhibit the highest Christian ethical standards and personal integrity.
- Conduct myself in a manner consistent with the discipline and teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Provide a professional work environment that is free from physical, psychological, written or verbal intimidation or harassment.
- Avoid taking unfair advantage of a counseling, supervisory or authoritative relationship for my own benefit.
- Report any suspected abuse or neglect of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or local law enforcement within 48 hours. (1-800-252-5400) *Failure to report suspected child abuse is a violation of Texas law.*
- Report suspicious or inappropriate behavior to my immediate supervisor, Vicar General or the Safe Environment Coordinator of the diocese. (956-727-2140)
- Accept my personal and moral responsibility to protect minors and vulnerable adults from all forms of abuse.
- Observe practices of modesty, prudence and appropriateness in attire, language and demeanor.

As church personnel or volunteer, **I will not:**

- Physically, sexually or emotionally abuse or neglect a minor or vulnerable adult.
- Acquire, possess or distribute child pornography.
- Use, possess or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs at any time while working/volunteering.
- Use profanity in the presence of others.
- Communicate with minors/youth via social media or other forms of communication without parental consent.

### Acknowledgement Statement:

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Code of Conduct of the Diocese of Laredo. I understand that any action inconsistent with the code or failure to take action mandated by this code may result in termination of employment, in losing the privilege of working with children/youth or termination of volunteer service in the Diocese of Laredo.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish/Department/School/Other

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date