



# Diocese of Alexandria

## Code of Pastoral Conduct

For Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Ministers, Administrators, Staff, & Volunteers

**This form is due by May 25, 2012 for Service Crew STAFF ONLY.**

### As a volunteer, I will:

- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity, and consideration.
- Avoid situations where I am alone with children and/or youth at Church activities.
- Use positive reinforcement rather than criticism or competition when working with children and/or youth.
- Refuse to accept expensive gifts from children and/or youth or their parents without prior written approval from the pastor or administrator.
- Refrain from giving expensive gifts to children and/or youth 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]. 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 and/or youth.

### As a volunteer, 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 and/or youth (i.e. no fevers or other contagious situations).
- Strike, spank, shake, or slap children and/or youth.
- Humiliate, ridicule, threaten, or degrade children and/or youth.
- Touch a child and/or youth in a sexual or other inappropriate manner.
- Use any discipline that frightens or humiliates children and/or youth.
- Use profanity in the presence of children and/or youth.

**Our children are the most important gifts God has entrusted to us. As a volunteer, I promise to strictly follow the rules and guidelines in this Volunteer's Code of Conduct as a condition of my providing services to the children and youth who attend the Steubenville South Youth Conference.**

**I understand that as a volunteer working with children and/or youth, 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 removal as a volunteer with children and/or youth. My signature below indicates that I have read and agree to adhere to all Steubenville South Volunteer Policies and the Volunteer Code of Conduct above. My signature also indicates that I have fulfilled or am working to fulfill all requirements by May 25, 2012 to serve as a Volunteer at the 2012 Steubenville South Conference.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Volunteer (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Volunteer's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

As a Pastor in the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_, I acknowledge that the above mentioned volunteer is in Compliance with our diocesan policy for safe environment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date