



■ POLICY

□ GUIDELINE

**YOUTH PROTECTION**

**CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COORDINATORS OF YOUTH MINISTRY**

1. Ecclesial & Theological

- a) Coordinators of youth ministry work collaboratively with the pastor (and/or other supervisors) and associates in ministry.
- b) Coordinators of youth ministry faithfully represent and practice the teachings of the Catholic Church with integrity in word and action.
- c) Coordinators of youth ministry are competent and receive education and training commensurate with their role(s) and responsibilities (§ 231, Code of Canon Law).
- d) Coordinators of youth ministry respect the diversity of spiritualities in the faith community and will not make their own personal form of spirituality normative.

2. Inclusion

- a) Coordinators of youth ministry recognize the dignity of each person and refrain from behaviors or words that are disrespectful of anyone or any group.
- b) Coordinators of youth ministry serve all people without regard to gender, national origin, age, marital status, socioeconomic status, or political beliefs.
- c) Coordinators of youth ministry act to ensure all persons have access to the resources, services and opportunities they require with particular regard for persons with special needs or disabilities.

3. Accountability

- a) Coordinators of youth ministry are accountable to the pastor or other duly appointed representative, under the authority of the diocesan bishop.
- b) Coordinators of youth ministry are called to serve the faith community, carrying out their ministry "...conscientiously, zealously, and diligently" (§ 231, Code of Canon Law.)
- c) Coordinators of youth ministry exercise responsible stewardship of resources while holding themselves to the highest standards of integrity regarding fiscal matters placed in their trust.



## **200.40 (cont'd)**

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#### 4. Confidentiality

- a) Coordinators of youth ministry respect confidentiality, yet are not held to confidentiality in the same way as ordained ministers and licensed, certified counselors.
- b) Coordinators of youth ministry adhere to civil and ecclesial law concerning the reporting of neglect, abuse or when physical harm could come to the person or to a third party.
- c) Coordinators of youth ministry support the rights and roles of parents while ministering to the needs and concerns of adolescents.

#### 5. Conduct

- a) Coordinators of youth ministry are aware they have considerable personal power because of their ministerial position. Therefore, they will sustain respectful ministerial relationships, avoiding manipulation and other abuses of power.
- b) Physical, sexual, or romantic relationships between a coordinator of youth ministry and an adolescent are unethical and are prohibited.
- c) Coordinators of youth ministry model healthy and positive behaviors with adolescents.
- d) Procuring, providing, or using alcohol and/or controlled substances for or with adolescents is unethical and is prohibited.

#### 6. Referrals and Intervention

- a) Coordinators of youth ministry are aware of the signs of physical, sexual, and psychological abuse and neglect.
- b) Coordinators of youth ministry are aware of their limitations with respect to paraprofessional counseling and make appropriate referrals.
- c) Coordinators of youth ministry adhere to civil and ecclesial law, policy and procedure for reporting abuse, suspected abuse or neglect.



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#### 7. Parish/Diocesan Policies

a) Coordinators of youth ministry are aware of and comply with all applicable parish, organizational and/or diocesan policies with special attention to sexual misconduct, safety, transportation, parental permission, and medical emergency policies.

I have read and understand the above code of ethics and commit to uphold this code in my ministry.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_