

Archdiocese of Mobile

Code of Ethics

(Participants read aloud)

For Church Personnel and Those Who Work with Minors

Church personnel, and those who work with minors 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 teachings of the Catholic Church;
- Provide a safe environments 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;
- Refrain from physically, sexually or emotionally abusing or neglecting a minor;
- Accept their personal responsibility to protect minors from all forms of abuse by reporting any suspected abuse or neglect to the appropriate civil authorities and Archdiocesan authorities.

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