

## VOLUNTEERS CODE OF CONDUCT FORM

Our children are the most important gifts God has entrusted to us. As a volunteer, I promise to strictly follow the rules and guidelines of this Volunteer's Code of Conduct as a condition of my providing services to the children and youth of St. Mary's School, and the Catholic Diocese of Peoria.

### 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 activities.
- Use positive reinforcement rather than criticism, competition, or comparison when working with children and/or youth.
- Refuse to accept expensive gifts from 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 Department of Children and Family Services. 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.
- Comply with all policies of the Catholic Diocese of Peoria including *Virtus* and Protecting God's Children and Safe Environment Program.

### 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.

I understand that as a volunteer working with children and/or youth, I am subject to a thorough background check including criminal history and fingerprinting. I understand that any action consistent 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.

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Volunteer's Printed Name

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Volunteer's Signature

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Dated:

1/23/2009