



## Safe Environment Code of Conduct

Our children are the most important gifts God has entrusted to us. I promise to strictly follow the rules and guidelines in this Code of Conduct as a condition of my providing services to the children and youth at Saint Brigid of Kildare Parish.

### **I will:**

- Safeguard children and youth always entrusted to my care.
- Faithfully represent and practice the teachings of the Catholic Church with integrity in word and action.
- Treat everyone with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity, and consideration.
- Avoid situations where I am alone with children and/or youth, ensuring that two-deep ministry is a standard practice.
- 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 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. I understand that I have a moral obligation to report suspected abuse.
- Cooperate fully in any investigation of abuse of children and/or youth.
- Obey all traffic laws when driving children and youth and adhere to the Diocese of Columbus Volunteer Driver and Cell Phone Policy.
- Abide by the Saint Brigid of Kildare Social Media Guidelines, which I have been provided and have read. <https://stbrigidofkildare.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Digital-Media-Guidelines-3.13.24-Final.pdf>

### **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 working with children.
- Interact with or engage children and youth through personal social media.
- 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.
- Drive a vehicle not in compliance with regulations and/or inspections while driving children.