

## ANNEX – DECLARATION OF ADHERENCE

As a member of the clergy, I commit to strict compliance with the rules and guidelines set forth in this Code of Conduct, both in my personal life and in the exercise of my ministry, particularly in relation to minors and vulnerable persons within my parish. I also acknowledge the inherent dignity of every person and commit to respecting it.

As a member of the clergy, I undertake to:

1. Treat all persons with respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, dignity, and consideration;
2. Avoid situations where I am alone in a closed space with a minor or vulnerable person;
3. Refuse to accept gifts exceeding \$100 from minors or vulnerable persons, or their parents or guardians;
4. Refrain from offering gifts to minors or vulnerable persons, except modestly valued devotional items;
5. Report any suspicion of abuse to the Ordinary (i.e. the diocesan bishop or his delegated authority);
6. Fully cooperate with any investigation of allegations of abuse.
7. Complete the ***Focus on Victims (VVA)*** training;
8. Undergo a criminal background check.

As a member of the clergy, I **undertake not to:**

1. Be under the influence of alcohol at any time while exercising my ministry;

2. Use, possess, or be under the influence of legal recreational drugs or illegal substances at any time;
3. Engage in romantic or sexual relationships with anyone;
4. Be alone in a private dwelling or accommodation with a minor or vulnerable person in the context of my ministry;
5. Hit, shake, push, or slap any person;
6. Humiliate, ridicule, threaten, or demean any person;
7. Engage in sexual contact with any person. All physical contact must be non-sexual and appropriate;
8. Use coarse, vulgar, or offensive language.

I understand that this Code of Conduct applies to all members of the clergy serving and ministering in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Montreal.

I have read this Code of Conduct and commit to fully comply with it.

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

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

Name of Clergy Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Role/Position: \_\_\_\_\_