

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Diocesan: For the purposes of this policy, the word ‘diocesan’ is meant to include all entities operating under the auspices of the Diocese of Crookston, a diocesan corporation pursuant to Minnesota Statute 315.16.

Diocesan clergy: Clergy are the ordained ministers of the Catholic Church, including bishops, priests, transitional deacons, and permanent deacons.

Diocesan personnel include: lay persons employed by the Diocese and its institutions on a full time, part time, or seasonal basis, or on a regular basis as independent contractors; seminarians and those enrolled in the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program.

Diocesan volunteers: A volunteer is any person who performs a Church-related service of his/her own free will without monetary compensation, including but not limited to catechists, coaches, youth ministers, lectors, extraordinary ministers, ushers, etc.

Parish: For the purposes of this policy, the word ‘parish’ is meant to include all independent entities classified as non-profit parish corporations pursuant to Minnesota Statute 317A. Each parish corporation has its own Board of Directors and corporate officers pursuant to Minnesota law. In addition to the operation of a Catholic parish as defined above, a parish corporation may operate a parish school.

Parish personnel: lay persons employed by the parish and/or its school on a full time, part time, or seasonal basis, or on a regular basis as independent contractors.

Parish volunteer: A parish volunteer is any person who performs a Church-related service for the parish corporation of his/her own free will without monetary compensation, including but not limited to catechists, coaches, youth ministers, lectors, extraordinary ministers, ushers, etc.

Minor: The term ‘minor’ in these *Policies and Procedures for the Protection of Children and Young People* refers to a person under eighteen (18) years of age. The terms “child,” “youth,” and “young person” also refer to a person under eighteen (18) years of age, unless otherwise specifically noted.

Sexual Abuse of a Minor- Civil Law: *Current Minnesota Statutes* (2005 edition), 626.556 Subd. 2d. “Sexual abuse” means the subjection of a child by a person responsible for the child’s care, by a person who has a significant relationship to the child, as defined in section [609.341](#), or by a person in a position of authority, as defined in section [609.341](#), subdivision 10, to any act which constitutes a violation of section [609.342](#) (criminal sexual conduct in the first degree), [609.343](#) (criminal sexual conduct in the second degree), [609.344](#) (criminal sexual conduct in the third degree), [609.345](#) (criminal sexual conduct in the fourth degree), or [609.3451](#) (criminal sexual conduct in the fifth degree). Sexual abuse also includes any act which involves a minor

which constitutes a violation of prostitution offenses under sections [609.321](#) to [609.324](#) or [617.246](#). Sexual abuse includes threatened sexual abuse’.

Sexual Abuse of a Minor- Church Law: USCCB, *Essential Norms* Preamble: “For purposes of these Norms, sexual abuse shall include any offense by a cleric against the Sixth Commandment of the Decalogue with a minor as understood in *CIC*, c. 1395, §2, and *CCEO*, canon 1453, §1 (*Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, article 4 §1)...“If there is any doubt whether a specific act qualifies as an external, objectively grave violation, the writings of recognized moral theologians should be consulted, and the opinions of recognized experts should be appropriately obtained (*Canonical Delicts*, p. 6). Ultimately, it is the responsibility of the diocesan bishop/eparch, with the advice of a qualified review board, to determine the gravity of the alleged act.

For the purposes of this policy, sexual abuse of a minor also includes ‘indirect abuse... (e.g. showing pornography to minors; lewd indecent exposure in front of minors). Included also is the possession of, or downloading from the Internet of, pedophilic pornography’.

Complainant: The complainant is the person alleged to have been abused.

Complaint: A complaint is a formal accusation in written form, signed by the person making the complaint.

Dismissal from the clerical state: Dismissal from the clerical state is a penalty imposed upon a cleric that prohibits him from exercising sacred orders and from holding an ecclesiastical office. Judicial dismissal does not include dispensation from the obligation of celibacy.

Laicization: The term “laicization” refers to a voluntary petition submitted by a cleric to the Roman Pontiff for dispensation from the obligations arising from ordination. The granting of such a petition is a favor, not a penal action, and it includes dispensation from the obligation of celibacy.

Supervisor: A supervisor is a person to whom an individual is directly responsible, such as the pastor for parish employees and volunteers, the school principal for school employees and volunteers, or the program director for those who are employed by or volunteer in that program.