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ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

October 21, 2013

Dear Priests, Deacons and Faithful of the Archdiocese of St. Louis,

In April of 2011 I wrote to you presenting revised Archdiocesan Guidelines for the Use of Alcohol at parish functions. As promised at that time the Presbyteral Council reviewed those guidelines at their September, 2013 meeting.

After reviewing the guidelines and obtaining information from various pastors, #7 in the guidelines has been revised.

It now reads: (Alcohol is not to be served to anyone or brought in by someone, including adults, at any event directed primarily to and for minors. This includes elementary and high school events, CYC events, Scouting activities, etc.)

I have attached the Guidelines for the Use of Alcohol with the change in #7. Please note that it was approved by the Presbyteral Council on September 19, 2013 and it passed unanimously.

In promulgating it, the date that this goes into effect is November 1, 2013. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or your representative on the Presbyteral Council.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson
Archbishop of St. Louis

GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF BEVERAGE ALCOHOL

The following guidelines regarding serving beverage alcohol have been developed for all parishes, parish organizations, agencies, and entities of the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

1. All federal, state and local laws and ordinances must be observed. This includes regulations required for the sale of alcohol, prohibiting the distribution of alcohol to minors and not serving alcohol to intoxicated persons.
2. The group or organization sponsoring an activity or event at which alcoholic beverages are to be served must have permission from the pastor of the parish or the director of the agency that hosts the event or activity.
3. Alcoholic beverages and food containing alcohol must be clearly labeled or identified as such.
4. Alcoholic beverages that are designed to facilitate rapid alcohol consumption, including grain alcohol and shots, are prohibited.
5. Whenever alcohol is served, non-alcoholic alternatives must always be offered with equal accessibility.
6. The serving or use of alcoholic beverages at events should not be 'actively marketed' during the event.
7. Alcohol is not to be served to anyone or brought in by someone, including adults, at any event directed primarily to and for minors. This includes elementary and high school events, CYC events, Scouting activities, etc.
8. All adults should be mindful of their Christian responsibility to drink in moderation and to give a good example to our youth. "Clergy, employees and volunteers should never be involved with the illegal possession and/or illegal use of drugs and/or alcohol. They must never supply such substances to minors nor may they consume alcohol while functioning in an official capacity with minors. This includes those who are involved with children as coaches or managers of sports teams." (Code of Ethical Conduct for Clergy, Employees and Volunteers Working with Minors § 4.5)
9. Parish and agency leaders are responsible for ensuring these guidelines are made known and observed.

Approved by the Presbyteral Council on September 19, 2013

and

Promulgated by Archbishop Robert J. Carlson on November 1, 2013