

Liturgical Ministry Policy – Related to Known Sex Offenders

When a pastor/parish life director becomes aware of someone who is a registered sexual offender of children, or of someone with a history of sexual abuse of minors there is need to strike a balance between their desire to be reconciled to Christ within the Church community and the need to protect children and the community from a potential future offense.

For the protection of children and youth, any person with a substantiated history of a sex offense against a minor (18 years of age or younger) is prohibited from working in the diocese as an employee or volunteer.

Additionally, a person with such a history cannot serve in a public liturgical role within the Church, e.g. lector, extraordinary minister of Holy Communion or cantor, because people are likely to regard them as someone they can trust.