

Moral Conduct for Charity & Mercy Grants

Please initial each section and sign the reverse side of this document as it pertains to your parish as well as all partnering organizations that would benefit from the Charity & Mercy Grant funding.

1) **Abortion:** The concept and activity of abortion is contrary to the Catholic Church's position on the dignity of the human person and the consistent life ethic from conception to natural death. Is your organization referring, counseling for, or administering abortions or abortion material? _____

2) **Birth Control:** The concept and activity of artificial birth control is contrary to the Catholic Church's position on the natural order and reproduction of life as God designs it. Is your organization referring, counseling for, or administering artificial birth control devices or materials? _____

3) **Marriage/Family Life:** Marriage between a man and woman is a highly respected and sanctified vocation in the Catholic Church, and family life is one of the most important components. The traditional family model or single head of household model should be supported at all times. Is your organization supporting, promoting or advocating for other forms of relationships such as cohabitation without the benefit of Christian marriage, bisexual or homosexual/lesbian lifestyles or same-sex marriages? _____

4) **Preferential Option for the Poor:** All economic life should be shaped by moral principles. A fundamental moral measure of any economy is how the poor and vulnerable are faring. The Catholic Church's position is that the needs of the poor and vulnerable in society should be addressed first, before any others. Does your organization give priority to the needs of the poor? _____

5) **Children:** Economic choices, activity and institutions should be judged by how they protect the life and dignity of the human person, support the family and serve the common good. The Catholic Church's position is that children, especially poor or unborn, are the most vulnerable group in today's society. Is your organization open to addressing the needs of any child in society, especially the poor or the unborn? _____

6) **Persons With Disabilities:** All people, no matter what their physical, mental, emotional and developmental abilities are, should be accepted and included. The Catholic Church's position is that the life and dignity of persons disabled should be respected and safeguarded. Is your organization open to supporting or meeting the needs of persons with disabilities? _____

7) **Death Penalty:** All life is precious and should be respected. In an age when life imprisonment without parole can be enforced, the death penalty is clearly an alternative that perpetuates the cycle of violence and death. Is your organization promoting or advocating for the death penalty? _____

For more information on Catholic Social Teaching, please consider the following resources:

- **Catholic Social Teaching**
<https://www.usccb.org/offices/justice-and-peace/catholic-social-teaching>
- **Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship:**
<https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/forming-consciences-for-faithful-citizenship-title.cfm>
- **Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church:**
https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/justpeace/documents/rc_pc_justpeace_doc_20_060526_compendio-dott-soc_en.html

By signing this document, I am stating that all partnering programs/organizations are in compliance with the Church's Moral and Ethical Teachings for the purpose of this ministry and those served by it.

Parish _____

Name of Applicant _____

Title of Applicant _____

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Pastor _____ Date _____

Charity and Mercy Grant Applications, accompanying documents, and correspondence are handled by the Catholic Charities Executive Director and Board of Directors.

Please refer to the contact information below:

**Catholic Charities of Central & Northern Missouri
1015 Edmonds Street
Jefferson City, MO 65109**

Phone: (573) 635-7719

Email: [lmain@ccnmo.org](mailto:main@ccnmo.org) / boardpresident@ccnmo.org