ARCH Angels Code of Conduct

Introduction

The ARCH Angels Code of Conduct was prepared with love and respect for all ARCH Angel families past, present and future. Our <u>Mission Statement</u> commits us to "helping families grow in holiness, so that they may become witnesses of love and life in their families, parishes and the world."

We have three main goals established to fulfill this mission:

- A. Seek a deeper learning and living out of the Catholic faith by promoting the Catechism, sacred Tradition, saintly devotion, family prayer and a robust sacramental life;
- B. Establish an intimate community of families with a passionate love for Christ, consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary in union with St. Joseph and loyal to the Pope and the Magisterium of the Church; and
- C. Provide personal support through a network of dedicated parents offering encouragement, Catholic homeschooling resources and practical advice in a relaxed, trusting environment.

Our words and our actions - especially when gathered as a community - must reflect our Mission Statement and Goals. When they do not, we make it harder to attain the fruits of homeschooling for ourselves and fellow members. We ask all new and returning ARCH Angel families to consider prayerfully what is being requested of you in this Code of Conduct.

Code of Conduct

The Christian moral life is one that seeks to cultivate and practice virtue. "A virtue is an habitual and firm disposition to do the good. It allows the person not only to perform good acts, but to give the best of himself" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1803). The following code was derived based on the Four Cardinal Virtues of Prudence, Temperance, Fortitude and Justice.

Actions and omissions

I will treat myself and others with charity and respect.

I will not bully (behavior that frightens, humiliates, belittles or degrades). I will not harass (subject to aggressive pressure or intimidation). I will not ostracize (exclude or cause someone to be excluded unjustly). I will not ignore signs that someone else is being bullied, harassed or ostracized. I will not ignore someone who is in spiritual, emotional or physical danger. I will not act with malice. I will not engage in activities related to the occult.

I will respect purity and chastity.

I will not engage in public displays of affection or similar conduct considered by the Magisterium of the Catholic Church to be inappropriate for my age and state in life.

I will dress modestly in keeping with my dignity.

I will not wear inappropriate or immodest clothing that could lead myself or others to sin. I will not wear clothing with images or words that cause scandal (attitude or behavior which leads another to sin) or that are objectively offensive.

Words

I will speak charitably.

I will not gossip. I will not engage in detraction (disclosing another person's faults and failings without an objectively valid reason). I will not engage in calumny (lying about someone to harm their reputation or to cause others to form false judgements about them). I will not engage in derision (making fun of someone to the point of offense). I will not express scom (feeling that someone is worthless).

I will speak appropriately.

I will not use foul language. I will not start or participate in impure conversations. I will not cause scandal to younger children by engaging in conversations or humor that are inappropriate for the ages and maturity level of those listening.

I will speak respectfully.

I will not address peers or superiors with disrespect. I will not speak with malice (ill will).

Attitude

I will have a proper disposition at all faith-based events such as the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. I will let my words and actions be illuminated by faith.

I will not have an irreverent or indifferent attitude at faith-based events. I will not distract others through my actions or words. I will not cause scandal to younger children through my example.

Technology, gaming, media and social media

I will practice custody of the senses.

I will not consume, share or produce content that is objectively sinful like pornography. I will not encourage or exhort anyone to do this either.

I will use mobile devices, gaming, media and social media platforms responsibly. I will respect ARCH Angel community standards on technology use. For parents only: I will make a reasonable effort to ensure my children use the Internet and social media responsibly.

I will not use technology to infringe on someone else's rights. I will not encourage or exhort anyone to do this either. I will not use "finsta" accounts (fake social media accounts used to publish content without parents knowing). I will not cause scandal through my use of technology.

I will be respectful and charitable on all official ARCH Angel media platforms including the website forum and WhatsApp groups.

I will not make antagonistic posts. I will not make off-topic posts. I will not express my views in ways that violate our Mission, Goals or Code of Conduct.

Fraternal correction

We are confident that everyone will make a sincere effort to abide by the Code of Conduct. It is prudent, though, to acknowledge that violations of the Code will happen. We address these instances through the practice of fraternal correction.

Fraternal correction calls someone's attention to their behavior expressed as words, actions or omissions that runs counter to our Mission Statement, Goals and Code of Conduct. Sacred scripture and the saints discuss at length our obligation as Christians to provide fraternal correction when it is <u>needed</u>, with <u>love</u> and with appropriate <u>discretion</u>.

It should be handled as follows:

A. Parents have the highest obligation to provide fraternal correction to their own children as soon as possible during or immediately after the inappropriate behavior.

- B. If the child's parents are not present, then another parent should correct the child and subsequently <u>must</u> inform the child's parents of what transpired as soon as possible.
- C. If parents witness another adult behaving inappropriately, they should offer fraternal correction to the person.
- D. It is expected that members will use fraternal correction to resolve problems amongst themselves. If they cannot and the behavior persists or if someone refuses to accept a fraternal correction, then a member of the Board should be notified.

When giving fraternal correction please do so directly, charitably, privately and refrain from making moral judgements. When receiving fraternal correction please be open to the correction and receive it with the spirit of charity with which it is being given and avoid feeling unduly offended or judged.

The Board will treat with due seriousness all cases of persistent, inappropriate behavior by children or adults; uncharitable giving of fraternal correction; and uncharitable reception of fraternal correction.

Conclusion and acknowledgement

Remember that as faithful Catholics we want our children to be Saints; we want an ordered family life centered on the one, true faith; and ultimately, we want to be united with our Lord in Heaven.

Please sign below to acknowledge that you have read the Code of Conduct, discussed it with your children and will make every effort as a family to abide by it. **Parents and children aged thirteen and over should sign.**

Signature	Name	Date
Signature	Name	Date
Signature	Name	Date