

Guidelines for Overnight Trips with Youth and Teens

The following guidelines are suggested to govern any and all overnight excursions sponsored by all Diocese of Lansing organizations.

Our children are the most important gifts God has entrusted to us. As a guiding principle for our interaction with youth our primary guideline is to avoid situation where an adult is alone with children and/or youth at Church activities.

In addition:

- Adult chaperones are not to be housed in the same room with minors except when the minor is the chaperone's own child.
- As an exception to the above, in a large dorm or gym situation, adults chaperones may be housed in the same room with minors provided that at least 2 adult chaperones are assigned to the room.
- There is to be no co-ed sleeping in any situation (dorms, gyms, hotel, tents etc.).
- Adjoining rooms must only be shared by minors of the same sex and same age.
- If possible, request that rooms be reserved in the same hallway or on the same floor of the hotel.
- Minors must always be under adult supervision, have access to an adult or a means of contacting an adult during church sponsored activities. (i.e. common meeting place and time, cell phones, pagers etc.)
- Minors must be informed of all safety rules and security measures.
- Parish or school has the right to add any additional rules or safety measures to this list as needed.
- The Diocese recommends a minimum of 1 adult chaperone for every 6 students on all overnight excursions.