

The Archdiocese of Seattle has not yet formulated policy around certain uses of technology when working with minors. Below are some guidelines and safety criteria to keep in mind as you continue to provide outstanding pastoral care to the youth of our archdiocese during this challenging time.

Please take a moment to review the safety policies and guidelines linked below:

[Youth Ministry Services Guidelines](#)

[Safe Environment Policies](#)

[NFCYM Recommended Technology Guidelines](#)

Please remember to **obtain permission and include parents/guardians in all communications and online activity**. Parents and guardians must be able to access all conversations, videos, and online materials at any time.

Online Classes and Small Group Meetings

For those who are continuing their regular youth ministry programming or sacramental preparation online, please be sure to:

1. Record all online classes, large group presentations, and small group discussions, etc. (see recommended videoconferencing services below).
2. Archive all recordings for a minimum of two weeks. Any footage that contains content or conduct that may be deemed concerning or that may need to be reviewed or referenced by parish or chancery staff at a later date should not be deleted even after the two weeks have passed. (Updated 5/11/2020)
3. Ensure that at least one parish staff or Safe Environment certified adult is present in addition to the youth minister or volunteer in charge of youth programming for the duration of each online session.
4. Rotate through small group discussions if multiple groups are meeting concurrently online.
5. Provide a phone number or other form of instant contact between youth ministry leaders facilitating small group session and the youth minister or volunteer in charge of youth programming while groups are meeting online.

6. Apply the same criteria for materials, platform visuals, and dress code as in the parish/place of work.

Recommended Video Conferencing Services

1. Google Hangouts
2. Zoom
3. GoToMeeting
4. ezTalks Meetings
5. Webex

More information will be provided as criteria and guidelines are clarified.