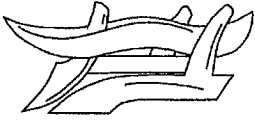


## ALCOHOL USE POLICY FOR OUR LADY OF VICTORY PARISH

All individuals, organizations or groups affiliated with Our Lady of Victory Parish must strictly comply with all governmental laws, ordinances and/or licensure requirements regarding the use and/or sale of alcoholic beverages when doing so on the premises of Our Lady of Victory Parish. It is recommended that alcoholic beverages not be sold, served or consumed at any event held on the premises of Our Lady of Victory Parish where the event is primarily organized for youth. All parish organizations and event coordinators must be familiar with this Alcohol Use Policy and are responsible to see that such is complied with during any event held on the premises of Our Lady of Victory Parish that they may sponsor. If alcoholic beverages are sold, served and/or consumed at an event held on the premises of Our Lady of Victory Parish, whether children under the legal age are present or not, the consumption of alcohol should be monitored by those organizing the event to ensure that the consumption of alcohol is not excessive and/or abused by any one individual or groups of individuals. Any violation of this policy should be brought to the attention of the pastor and may result in, among other things, the individual, parish organization or group sponsoring the event during which the violation occurred being barred from having other events on the premises of the parish in the future.

Approved by Pastoral Council on October 25, 2007

March 29, 2007



**Office of  
The Archbishop**

100 East Eighth Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

513-421-3131

Dear Father:

You may recall that, in response to some letters from the lay faithful that I received, the Ministry Committee of the Presbyteral Council was charged with reviewing the use of alcohol in the Archdiocese. After meeting with the Parish Business Managers and surveying the priests, the Ministry Committee offered a number of recommendations to the Presbyteral Council at a recent meeting.

I have decided to distribute these recommendations as an addendum to my letter of April 14, 1994 regarding alcoholic beverages at church events. I have enclosed a copy of that letter along with the Liquor Liability recommendations from the Archdiocesan Finance Office. The following guidelines on the use of alcohol should be incorporated into the policies of every parish and Archdiocesan entity:

- (a) Every parish and Archdiocesan entity must strictly comply with all government laws and licenses regarding the use and sale of alcoholic beverages.
- (b) Alcoholic beverages may not be permitted, i.e. neither sold, served, nor tolerated, at any event primarily organized for youth. A youth event is defined as any event which would not occur without the presence of youth. Thus, for example, alcoholic beverages should not be sold at a grade school or high school basketball game, but could be sold at a parish dinner.
- (c) Every parish and Archdiocesan entity using alcohol must have a comprehensive written policy on the use of alcohol. This policy should be reviewed by the Parish Pastoral Council on a regular basis.

I am grateful to all who provided study, insight and experience in this review of the use of alcohol in the Archdiocese. I am appreciative of your generous service to the Archdiocese and of your anticipated cooperation with these guidelines.

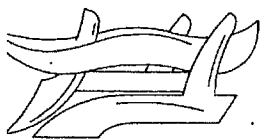
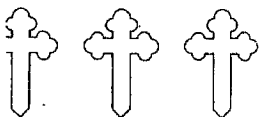
Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel E. Pilarczyk".

Most Reverend Daniel E. Pilarczyk  
Archbishop of Cincinnati

Liquor Liability  
Sale of or Distribution of Alcoholic Beverages

Archdiocese of Cincinnati



Department of  
Financial Services

100 East Eighth Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

313-421-3131

The law now allows that any person at home, any bartender at work or any server of alcoholic beverages that knowingly serves a person under the influence of alcohol can be sued if the intoxicated person causes bodily injury or property damage.

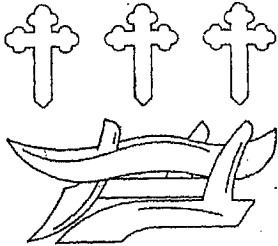
The self-insurance program of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati provides liquor liability coverage for all locations covered under the program.

The following recommendations are to be reviewed and put into effect when possible:

1. Post signs prohibiting anyone to bring alcoholic beverages on the premises. Violators should be asked to leave the premises.
2. Liquor or beer sales should be held only within a restricted, confined, roped in or fenced in area.
3. Post signs about the serving area on the legal age of drinking. The sign should also indicate we reserve the right to refuse to serve anyone.
4. The parish or school should not provide the services of a bartender for a private party. Bartenders or waitresses are covered only when serving alcoholic beverages sold by the parish or school during a sponsored festival or parish social. We do not cover private parties, wedding parties or anniversary parties.
5. Post signs offering transportation for over-indulged guests. These signs should be staffed by someone at all times in order to prevent an intoxicated person from wandering off that is in need of this service.

January 2002

Archdiocese of Cincinnati



Office of  
The Archbishop  
100 East Eighth Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  
513/421-3131

April 14, 1994

Dear Father,

I am writing this letter to the pastors of the Archdiocese at the request of our Archdiocesan Priests' Council. Its purpose is to share with you our concerns about the sale of alcoholic drinks, specifically beer, at church sponsored festivals and other functions.

While we acknowledge that there is nothing wrong with drinking beer in moderation, we are also aware that problems can arise -- problems of legal liability, problems of material or formal cooperation in the wrongdoing of another, problems of scandal arising from the image projected by church activity. Special concern exists when the event primarily involves young people (e.g., athletic events).

I am aware that, for some parishes, income from beer sales at festivals and other events is significant, while elsewhere it is not. But I do not think we want to make moral and policy judgments on the basis of economic advantage.

I would be very happy if all our parishes and institutions simply decided that there would be no selling of alcohol at all in the context of parish social or athletic activities. I do not intend, at this time, to issue any formal directive in this regard, but I invite each of you to give serious consideration to whether such a policy would be appropriate in your sphere of responsibility. I hope that you will incline in favor of such a policy rather than against it.

If a no-drinking policy is not appropriate in your situation, you will need to discover ways to deal with the possible negative results of providing drinks that I outlined above.

I have received lots of advice about what specific suggestions to offer you: have skilled bartenders, watch out for a rush just before closing time, do not use beer containers to serve other beverages, make people prove they are of age, restrict the area in which beer is to be consumed, tell the bartenders not to sell to somebody who has had too much to drink, try serving only non-alcoholic beer, etc., etc., etc.

Pastors  
RE: Beer Sales  
April 14, 1994  
Page 2

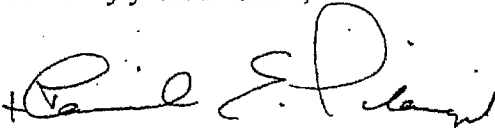
Rather than sending you a list of ideas that might cover every situation, however, I have decided simply to send out again the guidelines that our insurance administrator published some years ago (cf. enclosed Safety Bulletin) with the request that you give this matter some serious thought and bring it to your parish council or other advisory group for their reaction. The questions to be considered are:

1. Do we really have to sell beer at our parish functions? Is drinking a necessary element for any parish activity?
2. If so, how can we minimize potential negative results -- legal, physical, spiritual?

Finally, I need to emphasize that representatives of the Church are responsible for observing all the demands of civil law in this matter and that problems arising from refusal to observe civil law are not subject to archdiocesan insurance coverage.

Thanks to all of you for your service to the Church. Keep praying for vocations and for the Archbishop!

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Daniel E. Pilarczyk  
Archbishop of Cincinnati

lsc  
Enc.

cc: Elementary and High School Principals  
Directors of Diocesan Institutions  
Catholic Telegraph  
Ray George