

## I. WELCOME

Dear Students,

Whether it is your first year, your final year, or somewhere in between, on behalf of the entire Student Life staff I welcome you to Christendom College. It is our prayer that this next year together will be a time of growth in wisdom, knowledge, holiness, and fraternity for the entire Christendom community. Each new year brings an opportunity for us to recommit to our personal aims and aspirations, as well as our common pledge to Restore All Things in Christ. As your Student Life staff, we promise to provide you with the opportunities, challenges, resources, and support you need to reach your goals and become the man or woman God has made you to be. In turn, we hope that you will bring your best self to this academic year, putting forth your best effort as a student, committing to serving your community, and seeking to grow in God's grace.

In the pages of this handbook, you will find information to help you engage with life at Christendom. You will also find the regulations that we believe foster a healthy and strong community. These regulations are meant to help you, the members of the community, to live the Christian life described by St. Paul in the third chapter of his letter to the Colossians:

*"Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth...When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly to you: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry...Now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another..."*

*"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all things put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful...and whatever you do, in words or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."*

Again, welcome to Christendom College's 2022-2023 academic year. Remember, your faculty, staff, and chaplains are always here to help along your journey to become a saint. It is a blessing to have you here with us.

God bless,

Miss Amanda E. Graf

Vice President of Student Affairs

## II. CHRISTENDOM COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Christendom College is a Catholic, coeducational college institutionally committed to the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church.

The College provides a Catholic liberal arts education, including an integrated core curriculum grounded in natural and revealed truth, the purpose of which at both the undergraduate and graduate levels is to form the whole person for a life spent in the pursuit of truth and wisdom. Intrinsic to such an education is the formation of moral character and the fostering of the spiritual life. This education prepares students for their role as faithful, informed, and articulate members of Christ's Church and society.

The particular mission of Christendom College, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels, is "to restore all things in Christ," by forming men and women to contribute to the Christian renovation of the temporal order. This mission gives Christendom College its name.

## III. STUDENT CONDUCT PROCEDURES

*"My best friend is the man who, in wishing me well, wishes it for my sake." Aristotle*

### COMMUNITY STANDARDS

Every community requires rules to establish order and provide for the well-being of all those in the community. At Christendom College, such rules have an even nobler purpose, since we are trying to create a specifically Christian community focused on the development of each student in their mind, body, and soul for the pursuit of Wisdom and Truth. The College seeks to inspire you to learn and live the Gospel by fulfilling the two greatest commandments: to love the Lord with all your heart and soul and mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself.

Education, and the rules related to it, aim to foster virtue by helping our students grow to be independent, responsible, and faithful men and women. The rules of a college serve its educational mission. These rules and the habits they encourage facilitate the purpose for which each student is here: to study natural and revealed truth, and to cultivate a lifelong love of God, of the things of the Church, and an appreciation of and enjoyment in things of the intellect.

It would be inconsistent to seek high and serious things in class and the chapel and live outside of these with unruly appetites. As a minimum, Christians do not lie, cheat, or steal; they strive to keep their tongues from evil, and their lips from speaking guile — in other words, they do not engage in gossip, backbiting, detraction. They practice mercy by forgiving one another when offense has been given. They do not harbor ill-will but confront one another or a problem by fraternal correction with gentleness and truth. They practice all the virtues especially Faith, Hope and Charity, and enjoy all things in moderation. Rules do not replace mutual trust, respect, and charity. However, rules, which are clearly stated help to establish boundaries, foster good habits, and lay a framework for social order for the betterment of the common good. In the last analysis, these rules, and the discipline they encourage make possible the joy of living in a Christian community.

When these rules are violated, the College has the right to dismiss a student at any time. Also, since misconduct off campus harms the reputation of the College, interferes with the community of learning, and shows that a student is not serious about his or her studies, the College considers such behavior as subject to disciplinary action.

Student Life staff may notify a student's family (especially if a student is in his or her first year) of serious or frequent alcohol violations or other significant policy infractions. This is not meant to be a form of punishment, but rather to ensure that the student has the appropriate support and accountability during his or her transition to the more independent lifestyle demanded of a college student.

The Administration of the College determines how these rules are applied in each case and imposes sanctions for violations of the rules.

### DISCIPLINARY POLICY

The rules for student behavior as stated in this Handbook are meant to provide for the common good of the College community and for the well-being of each of its members. Some rules directly reflect our moral norms. Other rules exist to facilitate our common life and are necessary for

the personal safety and security of individuals, individual and College property, and in general for the proper operation of the College. The rules are not intended to be merely external “fences” to student behavior; rather, all students at the College have a common stake in understanding and in personally appropriating these rules. Violations of law or other improper conduct, which adversely affect the College community’s pursuit of its proper educational function, will result in disciplinary sanctions.

By signing his or her registration card at the beginning of each academic year, a student attests to the fact that he or she is responsible for reading and knowing all College policies as published in the Christendom College Student Handbook and Academic Bulletin, or those otherwise set forth by the College. As a Catholic college, Christendom’s mission is manifest in its policies, norms, and structures of community life. A student agrees to voluntarily abide by these policies, norms, and structures as a member of the Christendom community who is participating in its educational apostolate. Students should understand that any serious or repeated violations of these norms, policies, or structures may be taken as a sign of their desire to separate themselves from the College community and could result in restrictions or sanctions, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the College.

Students have a responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with Catholic moral teaching, in particular the Church’s teaching on human sexuality. Lewd, indecent, and obscene behavior is addressed in Section IV of this Handbook under the Sexual Misconduct Policy. Intrinsically disordered behavior or expression (see Catechism of the Catholic Church § 2331-2400) can be subject to intervention and further action by the College (disciplinary or otherwise, up to and including expulsion). The advocacy of such conduct or expression will also be subject to action by the College (disciplinary or otherwise, up to and including expulsion). This document from the USCCB provides context for the College’s application of this policy: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage/promotion-and-defense-of-marriage/upload/Gender-Ideology-Select-Teaching-Resources.pdf>.

**Actions which gravely disrupt the community will normally entail serious disciplinary action, such as suspension or expulsion. The following are examples of such acts, but not an exhaustive list:**

- **Any act of physical or emotional violence or harm caused to another**
- **Any disrespect for or failure to follow the directives of college officials**
- **The use or possession of drugs or drug paraphernalia, whether on or off campus**
- **Any theft, unauthorized possession of, or damage to property**
- **Unapproved or unauthorized entry into the residence halls of the opposite sex**
- **Actions that cause grave scandal or seriously disrupt the normal functioning of the community**
- **False testimony, collusion, or covering up violations to avoid responsibility**
- **Any act of discrimination, retaliation, or intimidation against a community member**

### **DISCIPLINARY CONDUCT PROCESS**

This section describes the general process under the student conduct code for enforcing the college’s rules, regulations, procedures, policies, and standards of conduct.

#### **1. Report or Formal Complaint**

Any student, faculty, or staff member of Christendom College may file a report or complaint concerning a possible violation(s) of the Student Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct is in the Christendom College Student Handbook, Sect. IV. Reports or complaints must be made in writing and should be submitted to the Student Life Office as soon as practicable following the discovery of the alleged violation(s). These complaints can be in the form of an email, hard copy report, or oral testimony. A violation of the Code of Conduct may also constitute a violation of city, state, or federal law and vice versa. If so, simultaneous prosecutions may result. The student(s) should be aware that student status does not insulate them from awareness of and compliance with other laws.

#### **2. Conduct Meeting**

A student(s) who has allegedly violated the Student Code of Conduct will be required to meet with the Vice President of Student Affairs, Dean of Students, or Director of Residence Life at the staff member’s request. The student will be notified of their meeting via his or her Christendom College e-mail account.

When a conducted meeting is initiated, student(s) may be questioned regarding the incident under consideration. A student(s) will be asked to provide his/her own explanation of the alleged violation. The student(s) will have the opportunity to indicate what, if anything, the student is responsible for violating. Failure of the accused student(s) to respond to the initiation of charges shall in no way prevent the College from issuing a sanction in the absence of the accused student(s) or in the failure to respond to the accusations. A student may be required to remain off campus for a period due to the nature of the alleged violation until the investigation has been completed for the sake of the academic environment, community, and individual.

#### **3. Sanctioning**

Upon the conclusion of conduct meeting, the student(s) will be notified of the Office of Student Life staff member’s decision, and, if applicable, any sanctions imposed. The sanction must be completed within the time frame as it is assigned. Failure to fulfill the sanction may result in additional consequences or sanctions.

*Disciplinary Sanction Committee:* At the discretion of the Vice President of Student Affairs, a committee consisting of College faculty and/or staff may be convened to determine an appropriate sanction after the Disciplinary Conduct Process has found a student in violation of the Student Code of Conduct. This committee will be responsible for deciding upon a sanction of appropriate severity and duration for the particular violation that has occurred. This committee *does not* determine if the Code of Conduct has been violated, but only determines the appropriate sanction once Student Life staff has found a student responsible for violating a College policy.

#### **4. Appeal**

At the conclusion of the Disciplinary Conduct Process, a student found to be in violation of the Student Code of Conduct will be duly sanctioned. If upon completion of the Process, a student is sanctioned with suspension or expulsion and feels that a) the Disciplinary Conduct Process was not correctly applied or exercised or b) new information concerning the violation is brought to light, the student may appeal his or her suspension or expulsion. Appeals may not be submitted for any other reason than those stated above and only when a student has been suspended or expelled. Appeals should be e-mailed to the Executive Vice President and a copy e-mailed to the Vice President of Student Affairs. To be considered, appeals must be emailed within five business days from when the student was sanctioned.

## DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

The following sanctions, depending upon the severity of the offense and the student's disciplinary record, may be imposed upon students, subject to the College's disciplinary procedures:

### 1. Disciplinary Warning

The student is notified either orally or in writing that one's behavior has been unacceptable and further misconduct will result in additional disciplinary action which will consider this misconduct and reprimand.

### 2. Fines

The student is required to pay the Student Life Office a specified amount within two weeks. If the fine has not been paid by the end of the two weeks, a late fee up to \$25 will be added to the original fine. If another two weeks pass and the fine has still not been paid by the student, he or she will incur an additional late fee of the same amount as the first and the total balance will be billed to the student through the Business Office.

### 3. Service Hours/Work Crew

For certain student conduct violations, Service Hours or Work Crew may be assigned to make restitution to the community. If a student receives Service Hours, they may be completed as specifically directed by the Office of Student Life (in which case the student will be specifically notified), or they may be completed through various opportunities arranged by the College. The length of duty will be determined according to the offense. When Service Hours are assigned, they must be completed in a satisfactory manner and attendance is required. Missing Service Hours or Work Crew without notification or failure to complete them will result in a significant fine and reassignment of tasks. If a student is assigned Work Crew, he or she must participate in a specific opportunity to make restitution to the College community, typically through cleaning a portion of the campus. Failure to attend the specific Work Crew assigned will result in additional sanctions. All assignments must come through the Dean of Students, the Director of Residence Life, or the Residence Director for them to be valid.

### 4. Restitution

Restitution refers to payment for lost, damaged, or otherwise negatively altered College property or resources due to the behavior and/or direct action of a student or his or her guest. In addition to the actual cost of restoration or repairs, the College reserves the right to also charge for lost labor, time, or other immaterial losses incurred because of the student's action.

### 5. Order of No-Contact

There may be times when a student is ordered to not have contact with another student or member of the community. This could be due to an ongoing conduct investigation involving both parties, a report of unwelcome behavior, or other reasons deemed necessary by Student Life staff. "Contact" includes contacting an individual in person, via phone or Internet or social media, or through a third-party. As Christendom is a small campus, students with a no-contact order are not expected to take extreme measures to avoid crossing paths in public, but they should be mindful to not violate the spirit of the no-contact order. Violating an order of no-contact is a serious offense in and of itself and could result in further sanctions up to and including suspension or expulsion.

### 6. Early Curfew

Instead of the normal campus curfew during the academic year, a student may have an earlier curfew enforced as a result of violations to the conduct policy. Those students without curfew may have curfew enforced or early curfew as well despite being exempt from curfew under normal circumstances.

### 7. Disciplinary Probation

A period of review and observation during which a student has been officially notified by the College that his/her conduct, although not serious enough to warrant Suspension, was very inappropriate. Further violations of College rules, standards, or policies (even after the expiration of a particular probationary period) could result in more severe sanctions.

### 8. Loss of Rome

The junior-year semester in Rome is a privilege extended to all students who have shown they have the character and maturity to live abroad in a major European city and represent their family, college, and faith well. Serious policy violations on the Front Royal campus may result in the revocation of a student's ability to apply to or attend the Rome semester.

### 9. Campus Restriction

Campus Restriction is the loss of all College privileges, with the sole exception of attending classes. A student on Campus Restriction may not reside in the residence halls, attend College-sponsored events, or make use of College resources, such as dining services. If a student receives the sanction of Campus Restriction on disciplinary grounds, the student forfeits all payments made for the semester for room and board. Off-campus students are prevented from coming on to campus except to attend class.

### 10. Temporary Suspension

Full Campus Suspension indicates that the student's "good standing" status with the College is in jeopardy and that further violations may result in Suspension or Expulsion. The student is prohibited from attending class or entering the College campus for a specified time. The student is responsible for making up any missed work. No professor should feel obligated to assist the student in making up the missed work since the student merited this sanction.

### 11. Deferred Suspension

Deferred Suspension indicates that the sanction of Suspension has been found to be warranted given a student's violation of the Student Code of Conduct or a pattern of violations and disrespect toward the College community, but that Suspension has been deferred based on certain criteria. The student is allowed to continue classes, reside on campus, attend College-sponsored events, and make use of College resources. If a student on Deferred Suspension is then found in another instance to have violated a policy in the Student Code of Conduct, he or she automatically enacts his or her Suspension.

### 12. Suspension

Suspension is the separation from the College involving denial of all student privileges for a semester or more. Conditions for readmission may include, but are not limited to, disciplinary probation for a specified length of time; requirement to live off campus; and written statement from an accredited mental health professional or medical doctor verifying the capability of the student to function successfully at the College. Readmission is at the sole discretion of the College and is not guaranteed. Students separated from the College by Suspension may not enter College premises, College-related premises, or College-related events without securing prior approval from the Dean of Students. If a student is suspended on disciplinary grounds, the student may forfeit all payments made for the semester during which one is suspended and loses all credit for that

semester, receiving a mark of "W" on that semester's transcript to indicate the student was withdrawn from all classes.

A student who is suspended may have to leave campus immediately. Where the circumstances permit enough time, the Vice President of Student Affairs or Dean of Students may contact the parent(s) or guardian(s) of a student.

### **13. Expulsion**

Expulsion occurs when a student is separated from the College and may not apply for readmission at any point in the future. In cases where the potential sanction might include an expulsion, a student may request to have the case heard by a Disciplinary Committee. The decision to use a Disciplinary Committee resides solely with the Vice President of Student Affairs. Proceeding with the Disciplinary Committee should not be construed as limiting or delaying the college's right to take immediate action against any student if such action is deemed appropriate by the college. If a student is expelled on disciplinary grounds, the student may forfeit all payments made for the semester during which one is expelled and loses all credit for that semester, receiving a mark of "W" on that semester's transcript to indicate the student was withdrawn from all classes.

A student who is expelled may have to leave campus immediately. Where the circumstances permit enough time, the Vice President of Student Affairs or Dean of Students may contact the parent(s) or guardian(s) of a student.

### **14. Other**

Other similar sanctions such as referral to professional counseling, decreased housing priority, or restriction of specific privileges may be also imposed by the Vice President of Student Affairs, Dean of Students, Director of Residence Life, or the Disciplinary Committee, whichever has jurisdiction.

## **GENERAL CONDUCT INFORMATION**

### **1. Arrest Policy**

When the Office of Student Life is informed of the arrest of a student(s), the College will send an e-mail to the student(s) requiring that he/she meet with the Dean of Students or Director of Residence Life. During this conduct meeting, the facts involved in the student's arrest, the student's obligation to keep the College informed of the progress of the criminal charge(s), and the student's obligation to advise the College of the final disposition of the criminal charge(s) will be discussed with the student. The College reserves the right to take action regarding a student's behavior at any point in time, regardless of the status of legal proceedings.

### **2. Disciplinary Records**

Records of disciplinary actions and decisions are kept on file by the Dean of Students. These records are expurgated five years after the student's graduation from the College except for expulsion, which remains on permanent record. However, disciplinary sanctions, including expulsion, will not be noted on the student's academic record. A student is allowed to review his or her disciplinary file, with advance permission (a minimum of 60 hours) from the Dean of Students. If a student requests to review his or her disciplinary file, the Dean will review the file and delete all references to the names of other students, so that their privacy will be protected.

### **3. Required Medical Withdrawal**

Upon rare occasions, students may experience mental health situations that require professional attention. Students are encouraged to make use of the counseling resources available on campus. Information about accessing mental health resources will be sent to all students at the beginning of each semester.

In the event of behavior that may stem from serious medical/mental health illness or situations and that renders the student unable to effectively pursue studies at the College; that presents a danger to the student or other persons; or that seriously distracts other students or disrupts the orderly functioning of the College, the student may be required to receive an evaluation by a qualified mental health professional (which consists of consenting to an evaluation, consenting to share the results of the evaluation with the College, and allowing College staff to communicate with the mental health provider regarding the results of the evaluation) to continue as a student at the College and/or may be required to withdraw from the College.

Regarding a required withdrawal, a student's mental or physical condition is never the sole basis for a required withdrawal. However, the student may be required by the College to withdraw when health problems of a physical or psychological nature result in behavior that substantially interferes with a student's academic performance or the educational endeavors of other students or poses a significant threat to the student's safety or safety of others. In these instances, a written statement from an accredited mental health professional or medical doctor verifying the capability of the student to function successfully at the College is required for consideration of readmission. Readmission is at the sole discretion of the College's Admissions Committee and is not guaranteed.

### **4. Resident Assistants**

The Resident Assistants, as student leaders, are primarily responsible for facilitating community and enhancing the social, educational, spiritual, intellectual, physical, vocational, and cultural development of each of their residents. As a part of facilitating a strong community the RA articulates for students the philosophy and policies of Student Life, Residence Life, and the College. As a practice of these principles of positive personal formation, the RAs are responsible for assisting in the areas of student behavior and personal conduct. The RAs receive special training and follow certain procedures for the enforcement of rules, operating under the supervision of the Director of Residence Life.

### **5. Retaliation**

Integrity and honesty are essential components of Christian character, and all students are expected to develop these virtues within themselves and honor them in others. Christendom prohibits a student from retaliating against anyone who has made a good-faith complaint or a report of a concern or policy violation against that student. Retaliation can include, but is not limited to, intimidation, threats, or acts of physical or emotional harm. If a student is found to have retaliated against another student, faculty member, staff member, or other member of the College community whom he or she believes to have made a complaint, reported a policy violation, or assisted in the disciplinary conduct process concerning that student, serious disciplinary action, up to suspension or expulsion, will be taken.

### **6. Self-Reporting Policy**

The College recognizes that every person faces unique struggles, some of which can be significant during the college years. An addiction to alcohol, drugs, pornography, or other objectively disordered behavior is a serious matter. The College seeks to offer those resources we have at our disposal to aid our students who find themselves struggling with these issues to assist in the health, formation, and development of the human person. At times, a student's addiction can bring him or her into violation of the Student Code of Conduct. While the Code of Conduct is strongly enforced, and students are duly sanctioned when they commit a violation, the College recognizes that there are times when the Code of Conduct may be seen by students as a barrier to reaching out for help with a serious problem. For this reason, a student who self-reports to Student Life a possible addiction, though this may include violations of the Code of Conduct, will be directed toward recovery resources and may be exempt

from the appropriate sanction for their violations. Self-reporting is a serious matter and is not to be used as a means of avoiding a sanction or avoiding responsibility for one's actions. A student must use the self-reporting policy proactively and cannot self-report after he or she has been confronted with or reported for a violation of the Code of Conduct. A student who self-reports a problem must be willing to seek professional counseling and comply with the recommendations set forth by the counselor under the supervision of the Office of Student Life.

These kinds of struggles may exist in different areas of a person's life whether it be emotional, spiritual, physical, or mental. Based in Catholic Tradition we believe that the foundation to combatting these struggles is a strong and vibrant spiritual life especially with frequent use of the sacraments and reading of Sacred Scripture. The Chaplaincy serves to assist in this as well as other issues that students may be struggling with. Professional assistance may be necessary to overcome serious struggles, especially those in personal areas.

#### **7. Suspected Violations or Safety/Security Concerns**

The College reserves the right to enter rooms in the residence halls, campus buildings, or any area of campus if there is a suspected policy violation or safety/security concern. Additionally, College officials (which includes Resident Assistants, and the Campus Security Officer) have the right to search a student's room, backpack, or vehicle on campus if there is a suspected policy violation or safety/security concern. Students are required to comply with all requests from a College official to enter and search their room or search their belongings or vehicle.

## **IV. STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

*"Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought." St. John Paul II*

### **STUDENT LIFE POLICIES**

#### **1. Alcoholic Beverage Policy**

Catholicism embraces the moderate consumption of alcoholic beverages as a good of human culture. Based in this, Christendom acknowledges alcoholic beverages as something which can be enjoyed in their proper place through the development of the cardinal virtue of Temperance by those mature enough and of legal age. The College offers opportunities for those of age to enjoy alcoholic beverages in the proper setting. Outside of these areas, alcohol beverages may not be used or possessed on campus without authorization. Any case of misuse of alcoholic beverages, whether on or off campus, will be subject to serious disciplinary action by the College. First-time violations of the alcoholic beverage policy will normally entail a sanction given by the College such as work crew or fine. Repeat violations will normally entail a more severe sanction from the College and/or disciplinary probation. The College strongly disapproves of off-campus use of alcoholic beverages by those under legal age, and of abuse of alcoholic beverages by anyone of any age because it violates both the moral and civil law.

The following actions violate the alcoholic beverage policy and thus will be subject to some form of disciplinary action:

- Any possession of alcoholic beverages on campus or at a campus event (including athletic events) other than what is provided by the College to of-age students at certain events.
- Intoxication, intoxicated behavior
- Possession of bulk container(s), e.g., kegs, of alcoholic beverages.
- Possessing or displaying empty alcoholic beverage containers (e.g., cans, bottles, cardboard boxes, etc.) on campus, including in residence hall rooms, backpacks, vehicles, etc. Possession of empty alcoholic beverage containers will be treated the same as possessing full alcoholic beverage containers, even if the alcohol was consumed off campus.
- Providing alcoholic beverages to underage persons.
- Violating state, local, and federal law applicable to alcoholic beverages. Please note that in the Commonwealth of Virginia there is a minimum fine for all DUI convictions, starting with a \$250 penalty for the first offense. A first-time offender will also have his/her license suspended for a year. Anyone under 21 who is caught in possession of alcohol, driving under the influence, or obtaining alcohol through a deceptive means (such as a fake ID card) are guilty of a Class One misdemeanor and can face up to a \$2,500 fine, 50 hours of community service, suspension of a license for up to one year, or one year in jail. Any person driving under the influence with a person 17 years of age or younger is in the car, faces a \$500 fine and five days in jail.
- Any items, activities, or drinking games which encourage the rapid consumption of alcoholic beverages or promote the abuse of alcoholic beverages.

N.B. If activities that are like drinking games but do not involve alcoholic beverages (e.g., "water pong") are played in the residence halls, the door to the room must be open.

All Student Life events that involve alcoholic beverages must be cleared by the Vice President of Student Affairs (or designee) for compliance with College guidelines and Virginia laws. At certain school-sponsored events, a limited number of alcoholic beverages may be served to students of legal age. Alcoholic beverages will not be served to underage students.

#### **2. Animals/Pets**

Students may not keep any type of pet at any time anywhere on campus, whether housed in a residence hall or kept outdoors.

#### **3. Arrival and Departure Times**

Students are required to adhere to all published break arrival and departure times and arrange travel to coincide with these published times. Only under very unusual circumstances, and only with the permission of Student Life, will new students be allowed to arrive late for their orientation. Normally a new student who misses the first week of classes will not be allowed to register for that semester's courses. Moreover, students or their parents/guardian should be certain to make travel arrangements that coincide with the student's finals as announced in the Academic Calendar.

#### **4. College Identification Card**

College Identification cards are issued to new students at the beginning of the school year from the Library. After two years of enrollment, students are eligible to receive a new College ID Card. Students will need their College ID card to use as a library card, to receive meals in St. Lawrence Commons, be checked in at events, and to access residence halls and other buildings on campus. To maintain campus safety and security, students must observe the following directions pertaining to the use of an ID cards. Failure to follow these directions may result in disciplinary sanction.

- A student must report a lost ID card to Library staff immediately so that it can be deactivated. The replacement fee is \$10. If there is documented evidence (e.g., an incident report or police report) that the card was stolen the replacement fee is \$10.

- After his or her first two years, a student may ask once for a new student ID at no charge.
- Under no circumstances may a student loan their ID card to anyone (including another student) for any reason. A student found to be in possession of another student's identification card to enter a residence hall that is not his or her own, check out Library materials, or obtain meals from the Commons for which he or she did not pay will face disciplinary sanction.
- Use of the physical ID card is required. An image of the ID barcode, whether on an app or by other means, is unacceptable as way to obtain meals in the Commons or to check out Library materials. The physical ID with the owner's photograph must be presented to obtain these services.

#### **5. Banned Locations**

A banned location is any area, residence, or establishment that has been officially deemed as such by the Vice President of Student Affairs or Dean of Students. Locations are banned to ensure the safety of students and to support the local community when issues arise with student behavior off campus. Students are forbidden from visiting or being present in these locations for any reason. If a student is heard to have been present at a banned location, he or she may face serious disciplinary action from the Office of Student Life that may include suspension. Banned areas include "Hickson's Loop" (except for jogging or walking) and the median between Interstate 66. Students will be informed via email if an additional area has been banned.

#### **6. Conduct Toward College Officials**

Students engaged in the pursuit of a liberal arts education at Christendom College are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the dignity of their educational pursuit by showing proper respect to those in positions of authority. Students must comply with any and all requests from College officials. If a student disagrees with the request that was made by a College official, he or she should comply with the request and then subsequently present the matter to the Office of Student Life or file an official grievance. Refusal to comply with directions, lying, shouting, swearing, or acts of physical aggression are some examples of disrespect for a College official when exhibited toward a faculty member, staff member, the Campus Security Officer, or an RA when he or she is actively performing their designated duties.

#### **7. Construction Site**

Students are not permitted to enter a construction site on campus at any time for any reason without the expressed permission of the Vice President of Operations or the Project Director. Even with this permission, students may only enter the site to perform assigned duties. Students found to be in the construction site, using construction equipment/supplies, or in any way vandalizing or tampering with the construction site or project will receive a serious sanction up to and including suspension or expulsion.

#### **8. Dances/Music**

Christendom College prizes its mission to "Restore All Things in Christ," a mission that seeks to form every aspect of one's life to the standard of Christ. Christendom enjoys a unique opportunity to rebuild a sense of Christian culture. In taking a proper understanding of leisure and entertainment, the College presents a diverse spread of activities for the enjoyment of its student body and College community. These activities include dance, music, art, athletics, community meals, and others. The College seeks to build a culture of dance founded upon the Christian understanding of the relationship between men and women. Within the area of music, we recognize and affirm that there is an abundance of goodness in multiple forms, styles, and genres. Christendom chooses to glean that which would best contribute to healthy and balanced entertainment for its students. The College avoids music that would directly depreciate a proper understanding of leisure and entertainment and/or contradicts the basic morality to which a Christian is called. In understanding the responsibility for the proper formation of its student body, great care is taken in choosing the styles, genres, and playlists of music that foster participation at College events.

All students are expected to make prudential choices regarding the music they listen to privately. Music that is played on campus outside of College events must still meet the standards of a Christian community. Music with profanity, derogatory language, or other offensive material may not be played publicly on campus.

#### **9. Dress Code**

Properly dignified and modest attire at Christendom College is not only a trait of a Christian people, it is essential to College morale and respect for oneself and others. Since your primary vocation here is to be a student, it follows that your attire, whether in class or relaxing, should equal the dignity of that pursuit.

Collegiate study is professional work; therefore, a Professional Dress Code is in force for all classes, Community Masses (i.e., Masses at 11:30 a.m. M-F), and lunch on class days. Even if a student does not have a class on a particular class day, he or she is required to be in dress code during lunch M-F. Students may be asked to change or may receive a fine if their attire at class, Mass, or lunch does not comply with the code. Sunday dress code is in place for both Sunday Masses, Sunday Brunch, and Mass on Holy Days of Obligation.

The Resident Assistants, under the supervision of Residence Life, assist with maintaining the College standards of dress and attire. To help define "modest dress" and "professional dress," some guidelines are listed below, and Residence Life will present additional guidance at the beginning of each year.

#### **Modesty & General College Dress Code for All Students:**

- All students are always required to dress modestly while on campus.
- Shorts should be no more than 4 inches above the wearer's knee.
- Clothing should not be excessively form-fitting and shirts should not be low cut in the back or front, or so short as to bare the midriff. Halter tops or spaghetti straps are not permitted. All visible straps of a dress or shirt must be at least one inch wide at the top of the shoulder.
- Pants should not be too tight; leggings, tights, or yoga pants (unless worn with an appropriate-length dress or skirt) are not dress code.
- All students must wear shirts and shorts when walking to and from the river to swim. Women's swimsuits must be modest and not expose the midriff.
- Shirts and footwear are required in all buildings. Cleated shoes may not be worn in any buildings.
- Apparel may not include derogatory, profane, or immoral images, slogans, or graphics or content that defames or degrades the Christendom community or any of its members.
- Hats are not to be worn inside any building or classroom at any times. The only exceptions to this are within the residence halls, the Gym, the Student Center, and Kilian's Café.
- Pajamas should only be worn in the residence halls. Pajamas are not permitted in the Commons, Chapel, Library, Gym, Student Center, or other buildings besides the residence halls.
- Athletic attire must comply with the above modesty guidelines, especially when it is worn outside of practice or competition but still on

campus (e.g., the Commons, Chapel, or other public areas of campus). Shorts for both men and women should not be more than four inches above the knee. Shirts should not expose the torso or midriff.

#### **Professional Dress Code for All Students:**

- Professional dress should be, at a minimum, respectful, clean, and appropriate for the work of a student.
- Sweatshirts, hooded sweaters or jackets, and similar garments are not permitted as professional dress. Quarter-zip pullovers are allowed.
- Athletic t-shirts, sweatshirts, or jackets of any sort are not permitted as professional dress.
- Cargo-type pants, pants with back patch pockets, stretch-style pants/leggings, or joggers are not considered professional dress. Stretch-style dress tights or similar are permitted so long as they are worn with an appropriate skirt/dress.
- Flip-flops, Birkenstock, fishermen, and sporty style sandals, clogs, tennis shoes, canvas shoes, hiking/work/combat boots and similar are not appropriate for professional dress. Only dress shoes are permitted. Cowboy or Western-style boots may be worn with pants if they are clean and well-maintained.
- The wearing of jewelry that requires puncturing of any visible part of the body other than the ear is not considered professional or Sunday dress code and therefore not to be worn during class, Mass, or lunch. Additionally, the wearing of earrings by male students is not permitted for professional dress.
- Students who's on-campus employment mandates that they be out of professional dress code during lunch can get their meals to-go from the Commons without being in professional dress code.
- Dress code for student employees varies by department and is determined by a student's supervisor. Modesty dress code is always in effect.
- Denim or chambray clothes and denim outerwear are not permitted as professional dress code.

#### **Professional Dress Code for Men:**

The Professional Dress Code requires dress pants, dress shirt, tie, dress socks, and dress shoes. Here are some guidelines to clarify the above dress code:

- All shirt tails must be tucked in.
- Cargo-type pants, joggers, or pants with back patch pockets are not considered professional dress.
- Ties must be worn properly, i.e., not pulled away from the neck or shirt unbuttoned.
- Dress socks must be worn. White socks are not considered professional dress.
- A belt or suspenders is required.

#### **Professional Dress Code for Women:**

The Professional Dress Code requires a business dress, or a dress skirt/dress pants and dress blouse and dress shoes. Here are some guidelines to clarify the above dress code:

- The neck of all dresses/blouses must not be lower than three fingers from the collar bone.
- The hemline of all skirts or dresses are to be no higher than the top of the wearer's knee cap.
- If a skirt/dress has a slit in the front or side, the slit shall not be more than one inch above the knee cap. If the slit is in the back, it shall be no higher than three inches, measured from the crease of the knee.
- Sleeveless professional shirts are allowed, but tank tops are not. The back of a shirt should fully cover the wearer's shoulder blades.
- Casual v-neck or crew-neck t-shirts are not considered professional dress.

#### **Sunday Dress Code**

For both the 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass and Brunch as well as for other select events such as Major Speaker all students must wear Sunday Dress Code attire. Sunday Dress Code specifically requires that students wear the best possible of the above out of propriety and respect for events in which Sunday Dress is required.

- Sunday dress code for men includes a jacket or suit and a tie.
- Sunday dress code for women requires a dress or dress skirt. Pants are not considered "Sunday Dress Code" for women.

#### **Dress Code at Formals**

Dress code at formals requires a minimum of Sunday dress code for men and women. Guidelines for the dress code at formal events (e.g., Christmas formal, Spring formal, etc.) will be distributed to students before the event.

#### **Final Guidance**

The specifications for dress code set out in this section are meant as guidelines and not as exhaustive rules. Note that the code calls for "dignified attire" and "professional dress." Simple adherence to the letter of the law or pushing the limits of what is acceptable may result in a judgment of the administration that what seems technically correct does not in fact comply with the spirit of the rules. One's dress should reflect the distinction and dignity of one's gender, lending to an understanding and appreciation of the creation of men and women in the image of God. Again, the RAs, under the authority of the Vice President of Student Affairs and the Director of Residence Life, will be the judges of whether an outfit is acceptable dress code on whatever occasion. If you have any questions about this dress code, please contact the Dean of Students or Director of Residence Life.

#### **10. Drugs**

The Catholic Church teaches that the use of recreational drugs is objectively immoral. Based on this teaching, and in addition to other arguments related to students' wellbeing and the good of the community, the possession or use of illegal drugs, (such as marijuana) or drug paraphernalia is strictly forbidden. Any student who violates the drug policy on or off campus will be sanctioned. Certain situations will be dealt with differently if they involve self-reporting. \*See Self-Reporting Policy\*

While the purchase, possession, or use of recreational marijuana may be legal in some states, students are still restricted from purchasing, possessing, or using marijuana or THC in any form while enrolled as a student at Christendom, including during breaks when a student is away from campus.

#### **11. Fan/Spectator/Audience/Participant Conduct**

Unacceptable behavior in/at a College sponsored or recognized event such as athletic contests, intramurals, Student Activities Council sponsored event, etc. is not permitted. Unacceptable behavior includes taunting, intimidating, or harassing behavior directed toward participants, officials, or fans. Possession of alcohol or intoxicated behavior at sporting events is also unacceptable. Such behavior could result in ejection from the event as well as further restriction from attending similar or other College events for a specified period or for a specified number of events.

## 12. Fireworks

Possession or use of fireworks is not allowed on campus without the written consent of the Dean of Students or Vice President of Operations. Due to potential for significant damage or physical harm, the use of fireworks, firecrackers, etc. on campus will result in significant sanctions.

## 13. Golf Cart Use

Several College offices utilize golf carts for transportation and other purposes on campus. While the purpose and appropriate use of the golf carts is determined by each office, the following policies apply to all cart use on campus:

- Operation of any of the College's golf cart fleet is restricted to work-study students who have prior approval; and individual students who have special authorization from the supervisor of the office that manages the particular golf cart.
- Students who have been authorized to drive a golf cart need approval for each instance the cart is needed. Permission to use the cart for one particular operation or time frame does not imply that a student has on-going authorization to use the cart. A managing office may approve more long-term or ongoing authorization and give this expressed permission to an individual work study student.
- Carts are for College use only and not for personal use or convenience.
- Drivers should not transport unauthorized students in the golf carts, except for physical emergencies.
- Drivers should operate the cart at a safe/moderate speed, avoid reckless driving, and comply with all posted restricted areas.
- Drivers operating carts in a dangerous fashion should be reported to the Office that authorizes his or her cart use. Drivers will be warned once before being suspended from cart operation. Tampering with, unauthorized driving, or damaging a golf cart can be cause for sanctions both by the managing office and Student Life. Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in cart operation suspension and/or disciplinary sanctions by the managing office and/or Student Life.

## 14. Guests

### **Guests use of College Dining Facilities**

All campus guests and visitors (who are not visiting as official Admissions Guests), including off-campus students, are required to pay for all meals taken in Campus dining facilities at the time of the meal. Whenever possible, the hosting student should notify the kitchen in advance if they are expecting guests who are taking meals. Students should expect to be charged for their guests who do not pay for meals. Students not on the College meal plan are expected to pay prior to taking meals in the campus dining facilities unless it is during an event noted as being open to the broader community or events required for all students.

### **Guests at College Events**

While Christendom College has many events open to guests and visitors, most events are for the immediate Christendom College Community (meaning current students, faculty, and staff only). In line with what is appropriate etiquette, students are required to seek the permission of the event organizer (often SAC, Student Life, their class professor, Academics, etc.) before bringing a visitor or guest to College events. This is out of respect for the event organizer(s) and for the comfort and safety of all guests and attendees at College events. As a rule, students should seek prior approval before extending any invitations to College events to persons outside of the College Community.

### **Guest Use of Campus Facilities**

Christendom College facilities exist primarily for use by its current faculty, staff, students and officially registered guests. Non-official visitors are not permitted to use the Christendom College facilities.

Guests or visitors who violate any of the college's policy and demonstrate negative behavior may be banned from campus or designated Persona Non Grata. This means that such persons are not permitted to visit campus or attend any Christendom hosted activities until further notice. Since this is a significant policy only the Vice President of Student Affairs or Dean of Students may enact and remove such a sanction.

For the full guest policy with specific definitions and regulations for guests on campus and guest's use of campus facilities, please see the Guest and Facilities Use Policy at the end of Section XI in this handbook.

## 15. Mandatory Events

There are a few College events such as presidential addresses, Major Speakers, etc., which are mandatory for all students. These events, though few, reflect the College's commitment to gathering everyone together for an event that is beneficial for the entire community. Failure to attend such events may result in sanctions such as service hours or fines. It is each student's responsibility to check in with his or her student ID to confirm attendance. RAs may hold mandatory meetings which, if not attended, will incur a fine.

## 16. Media

As with all aspects of culture, the technological ingenuity of man shines brightest when it magnifies the grandeur of God, is placed at the service of the common good, and is ordered toward the perfection of the person. In order that a strong sense of community is encouraged, the College seeks to instill a healthy balance toward contemporary media such as internet content, social media, movies, and video games. Students who spend an inordinate amount of time and energy on such entertainment will be subject to correction.

### **Internet**

In 2002 St. Pope John Paul the Great wrote:

*It is clear, then, that while the Internet can never replace that profound experience of God which only the living, liturgical and sacramental life of the Church can offer, it can certainly provide a unique supplement and support in both preparing for the encounter with Christ in community and sustaining the new believer in the journey of faith which then begins.*

*Despite its enormous potential for good, some of the degrading and damaging ways in which the Internet can be used are already obvious to all, and public authorities surely have a responsibility to guarantee that this marvelous instrument serves the common good and does not become a source of harm.*

Reflecting on the words of this great Saint, Christendom College provides public internet in the St. Lawrence Commons, St. John the Evangelist Library, John Paul the Great Student Center, Regina Coeli and Crusader Gymnasium. In addition, the College provides internet connected computers in the St. John the Evangelist Library.

Students should exercise prudence and caution when posting comments/photographs or personal information on personal/social networking sites (such as TikTok, snapchat, twitter, Instagram, etc.). Students are reminded that on the internet there is no such thing as complete privacy, and these sites are often open for many to view or share. The following are basic guidelines regarding internet usage:

- Students accept full responsibility for each message they communicate online and/or through Christendom's network or computers.
- Fraudulent, defaming, harassing, obscene, indecent, threatening, or illegal communications are prohibited.

- The accessing, viewing, printing, or distributing of indecent, lewd, or pornographic materials is strictly prohibited.
- Students shall not attempt to access, read, edit, or delete anyone's email other than their own.
- Christendom College views the residence halls as spaces to rest, study, and grow in formation and community with fellow residents. For this reason, Internet access of any kind is not provided in the residence halls.
- Students are not restricted from accessing the Internet on a smartphone or through their data plan, but they are not permitted to set up their own wireless networks or to use their personal/private network access (i.e., a smartphone with a data plan, etc.) to create a wireless hotspot to access the internet or for others to use.

#### **Movies, Television Shows & Video Games**

The College encourages the watching of movies that are worthwhile and avoiding those that are offensive to Catholic morals and values. The College therefore has set up the following guidelines for the proper viewing of movies. These guidelines are for the benefit of students and should be applied to movies students choose for viewing in the residence halls or campus buildings.

##### *Movie ratings and approval:*

- Any movies labeled O (morally offensive) are prohibited from being watched.
- Any movie rated AIII or AIV/L by the USCCB for nudity, sexual scenes, violence for its own sake, or excessive profanity should be avoided.
- Any movie receiving PG-13, R, or NC-17 rating by the MPAA for nudity, sexual scenes, violence for its own sake, and excessive profanity should be avoided.
- Students do not need advance approval for movies, but upon request, should be able to produce the USCCB (<http://www.usccb.org/movies/>) rating and review.
- Students are directed to use reliable movie review guides such as <https://catholicnews.com/movies.cfm> or <http://decentfilms.com> to make informed decisions about the films they choose to watch.

##### **TV Shows & Video Games:**

- TV shows and video games with a TV-MA rating are prohibited.
- TV shows or video games with offensive material such as excessive profanity or sexuality are not permitted.

#### **17. Noise Disturbances**

Students must refrain from disturbing the on-campus community and surrounding neighborhoods with unnecessarily loud noise, such as loud music (being played from cars, portable speakers, etc.), shouting or yelling, car horns etc. between the hours of ten p.m. and six a.m. Noise disturbances in parking lots, outdoor spaces, and other areas on or near campus, particularly those that disrupt the residence hall environment or our campus neighbors, may result in sanctions.

#### **18. Non-Traditional Vehicles**

All street-legal or electric vehicles (motorcycles, mopeds, motorbikes, and/or scooters) must be registered with Student Life and parked in a designated spot. They may only be driven on marked campus roads and are not permitted on sidewalks, pathways, or fields. All non-street-legal, gas-powered vehicles (motocross bikes, vehicles without proper lighting, signaling, or other necessary parts) are not allowed to be stored or used on campus. Due to safety concerns, students are not permitted to store gasoline in or around the residence halls or other campus buildings, including the maintenance sheds.

Students may only use a personal motorized golf cart or similar vehicle to aid in mobility due to a documented disability and recommended accommodation that is registered with the Director of Student Support Services.

#### **19. Outdoor Amenities**

If at any time a student desires to use a College outdoor amenity such as a fire pit, for safety reasons the student is asked to notify and receive direction from the Campus Security Officer. Students are not allowed to create fire pits or start bonfires outside of the established fire pits that are placed around campus. Fire pits can be found at the Men's Quad, Student Center patio, St. Catherine's Glade, and St. Brendan's Landing. To use College amenities such as grills, students should get prior permission from the Dean of Students or Director of Student Activities.

#### **20. Responsible Communication**

##### *Christendom Email Account*

Students should understand that consistent and responsible communication is an important part of adult life and life after college. To promote and utilize consistent communication on campus and in preparation for responsible communication as adults, students should know that the Christendom email system is the official form of communication from the College to all students, faculty, and staff. Email will be sent to a student's Christendom email account ([firstname.lastname@christendom.edu](mailto:firstname.lastname@christendom.edu)). Please reference the information provided by Computer Services on how to access and set up your official Christendom email and Office 360 account.

Through the official email system, students will receive important information about safety and security, events, campus updates, personal emails from College offices, and other important information. Thus, students are responsible for maintaining this form of communication and all information sent to their christendom.edu address and received at their personal account. Students may contact [support@christendom.edu](mailto:support@christendom.edu) via a personal email account or call Computer Services for further instructions on how to maintain and troubleshoot their christendom.edu email account. Failure to use this account or maintain it properly is not an acceptable reason for missing important information.

##### *Guidelines for Communication*

A student should be mindful that in every form of communication he is to put away all malice and all guile and insincerity and envy and all slander (Eph. 4:25; 1 Pet. 2:1). A student may freely disseminate one's views in writing to other members of the Christendom College community (via hard-copy or electronic means) subject to the following guidelines:

- Slander, detraction, badmouthing, false rumors, and dishonesty, or the like are to be avoided. Students are also culpable for perpetuating errors, particularly those that touch upon the reputations of others, if proper attention has not been given to the ascertaining of facts.
- Anonymous communication is not allowed. All materials disseminated on campus must be signed by the author's/editor's real name.
- Blasphemous, profane, lewd, or otherwise unacceptable language and images are prohibited.
- Dissemination must be limited to the Christendom College community.
- Official bulletin boards, campus listservs, or mailboxes are not to be used without the authorization of Student Life.
- The copying of such communications is not to be done at College expense.
- All publicly posted flyers/notices must be approved or authorized by Student Life. Failure to secure this permission will result in the removal of the flyers/notices and potential sanctions.

- Due to the College's non-profit status, official endorsement of political parties or candidates is not permitted.
- Students should note that social media (e.g., snapchat, Instagram, twitter, TikTok, etc.) are often shared and therefore are considered public communication and may be sanctioned for comments or activities shown or displayed on these sites. Students may be held responsible for these communications. Please exercise caution with your personal information and those with whom you share it.
- Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.
- Bullying or any form of retribution, including threats, will not be tolerated. This applies, but is not limited to, written messages, text messages, emails, or online postings.

### **21. Romantic Displays of Affection**

During the college years many students are actively discerning marriage through romantic relationships. The College community joyfully recognizes the beauty of healthy relationships and the appropriateness of physical affection within the proper context respecting the dignity of each human person. The human person naturally loves through the dimensions of both body and soul, and therefore degrees of affection are expressed spiritually, emotionally, and physically. The College encourages students to have a proper understanding and appreciation for the holistic role affection plays within the context of a healthy relationship. Because the College intentionally exists as a community environment, during a student's time at Christendom the pursuit and appreciation of his or her role and responsibilities in that community is primary. In this regard, we recognize that on our small campus certain romantic physical expressions in the public sphere tend to disrupt community. The College allows for the holding of hands by couples of the opposite sex in a relationship, but for the sake of the broader community and the common good all other public romantic displays of affection are not permitted on campus. Holding hands is allowed except for in professional settings or the Chapel.

### **22. Rooftops and Ledges**

Students are prohibited from being on rooftops and/or sitting on the outside ledge of a window of any building at any time.

### **23. Safety Equipment and Other Hazards**

Students may not tamper with any safety equipment that contributes to providing a safe environment or engage in activities which may jeopardize the safety of themselves or other persons. This includes but is not limited to damage to or tampering with smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, locks or locking mechanisms, other equipment or pranks that may injure persons or damage equipment that contributes to a safe environment. Violations will usually result in sanctions up to and including suspension or expulsion.

### **24. Smoking Restrictions on Campus**

Smoking, vaping, or the using of e-cigarettes is not allowed in any building on campus or in or immediately in front of the doorways of any building on campus. These restrictions are based on courtesy toward non-smokers and fire safety. Smoking is not permitted in the front entrances of the St. Lawrence Commons, all residence halls, the Library, the Student Center, the Gym, or Regina Coeli at any time out of respect for passers-by who cannot be around smoke. As a rule, those who are smoking should be far enough from a main entrance (approximately 25 feet) that those wishing to enter or exit a building may pass by without having to walk through cigarette smoke. Those who are smoking are expected not to litter the grounds with cigarette butts, but to use only proper containers for disposal. Smoking inside of any building will usually result in a minimum of a \$100 fine.

As of July 1, 2019, it is illegal in the Commonwealth of Virginia for anyone under the age of 21 to purchase or possess any tobacco, nicotine, or vapor/vaping products. Students are expected to comply with this and all laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

### **25. Stewardship**

Christendom College students are expected to be good stewards of the college property, which includes buildings, furniture, landscape, porches, and trails. Litter diminishes the beauty of the campus and reflects poorly on our community and therefore, students are responsible for removing any personal trash and are encouraged to clean up after one another.

### **26. Theft**

As a Christian community, students should be able to live among each other with a sense of trust and security. Theft of personal property, money, or other goods damages the sense of community that is at the heart of Christendom College. Students found responsible for theft, especially in the residence halls, may be given a sanction up to and including suspension or expulsion.

All students should take all reasonable precautions to secure their belongings. Money and valuables (such as laptops, tablets, etc.) should not be left unattended in public spaces on campus. The College does not provide personal property insurance, so students should consider purchasing personal property insurance coverage for valuable items they bring to campus.

### **27. Unlawful Entry/Unlawful Use**

Students may not access any building without authorization from the College staff person supervising that space. Further, students may not enter a locked space without authorization, even if the student has access to keys. Students may not remove items from College buildings or permanent locations without the expressed permission of the College staff member who supervises that space. Breaking and entering into school property, unapproved use of school property, misuse of any College keys, or removal of College property from any building(s) or permanent locations may result in severe disciplinary action including the possibility of suspension from the college. Entering College residence halls or other closed facilities during official breaks without the expressed permission of College staff is considered trespassing and may result in sanctioning by the College.

### **28. Violence, Intimidation, and Threats**

As members of the Body of Christ, respect for the safety and well-being of others strengthens us as a Church and honors the God-given gift of our being. Acts of violence, intimidation, and/or threats against a student, faculty member, staff member, or other member of the College community are not tolerated at Christendom College and will be reason for serious sanctions. Acts of violence may include a physical altercation, as well as attacking or harming another with a weapon or an object used as a weapon. Threatening physical violence, either by making a verbal threat to physically harm another or by displaying a weapon or other means of harm, is also a violation of this policy. Intimidation refers to any action that attempts to exercise power or control over another or influence his or her actions by making that person feel unsafe or in danger of physical or emotional harm.

### **29. Weapons**

Students may not keep any guns or weapons on campus at any time, including the storing of weapons in vehicles. This includes but is not limited to swords, knives (longer than 4"), guns, stun guns, Tasers, paintball guns or pellets, BB guns or pellets, nun-chucks, airsoft guns, bow and arrows, brass knuckles, etc. Facsimiles, replicas, or "look-a-like" weapons can cause undue alarm on campus and incite a serious or forceful response from campus security or police, and therefore they are not permitted. Students are not allowed to possess or store ammunition on

campus, including but not limited to arrows, bullets, shotgun shells, bb's, and/or paintballs.

## RESIDENCE LIFE POLICIES

The Office of Residence Life believes that the on-campus experience is an essential part of the liberal arts education and provides an environment where students can actively grow in virtue and service to the College community. For this reason, all full-time students are required to live on campus during their enrollment at Christendom, except for students who live with their parents locally or are given an exemption from the Director of Residence Life. Residence Life is committed to providing a living environment and co-curricular events that aid in students' Christian formation.

Students living on campus agree to comply with all Residence Life policies, policies regarding care for College property, and policies governing housing selection, move in/out, and breaks. Residence Life reserves the right to change a student's housing or roommate assignment, or to enter, inspect, and/or search a room in the residence halls when there is reason to believe there is a health emergency, safety or security risk, or there is a violation of the Student Life or Residence Life policies. Residents may be held responsible for policy violations that occur in their assigned room. Residence Life reserves the right to reassign a student who is registered to live on campus but does not occupy his or her assigned room during the first two weeks of the semester.

### 1. Breaks

Residence halls are closed during holiday breaks, semester breaks, and during Fall and Spring Breaks. All students are therefore required to vacate campus during these times and do so by the set residence hall closing deadline. Students are responsible for adhering to all closing and break procedures. Curfew is in effect the night before a break and the night before the first day of classes following a break. The College does not permit late departures or early arrivals for any break.

If a student arrives before the scheduled beginning of the academic year or stays after the announced closing of school at semester's end, without permission from Student Life, a minimum fine of \$50.00 will be charged to the student for each day he stays on campus without permission. Further, if students stay late or arrive early before or after break periods (such as Fall break, Christmas break, etc.) the student is subject to a minimum fine of \$50.00 per day.

The College will allow students with a valid need to stay on-campus only for = Thanksgiving and Easter break. If a student has a need to be on campus for Thanksgiving or Easter break, they must first register by the deadline advertised, pay a \$20 fee, and adhere to the special Thanksgiving and Easter break policies and requests before granted approval to stay on campus. Approval is not guaranteed.

### 2. Candles and Incense

For fire safety reasons, students may not possess or burn candles, incense, wax, or any sort of burning device in the residence halls. Violations of the candle/burning policy will normally result in a significant fine. Residence Life will confiscate and dispose of all candles, incense, etc.

### 3. Check In/Check Out

When students check into their rooms, they must complete and sign the room condition report (RCR) that indicates the condition of the room and its furnishings. Students should see all postings and College emails regarding break closings for the most accurate information on hall closings.

Before vacating their rooms, all students must: (a) remove all personal belongings, (b) properly dispose of trash, (c) return the room/area to its original state of cleanliness and (d) return all College keys. Charges will be assessed for improper checkout, damage, missing or extra furniture, and any excessive cleaning needed after the room has been vacated. Students are also responsible for the cleanliness and care of the common lounges, bathrooms, etc. Restitution charges may be assessed to a floor or wing where there is excessive damage or cleaning needed.

### 4. College Furniture

College furniture may not be removed from lounges or rooms. Students are financially responsible for the damage, loss, or theft of College furniture.

### 5. Common Areas

It is the responsibility of everyone to remove personal items from common areas such as bathrooms, hallways, kitchens, and lounges. If items are left out, the housekeeping staff will not be able to properly clean the area. Residence Life will remove items left out for an extended period. Please help to discourage damages to rooms or common areas, and identify individuals responsible to your RA. Each resident is responsible for keeping the outside area immediately around the entrances and porches clean and free of cigarette butts and other debris. Students, guests, and visitors are not permitted to sleep in the Common Areas out of respect for other residents who may need to use or access that space. Fines for damage done to common areas or common furniture that is not claimed by an individual may be assessed to all residents of that floor. Students living in an East Campus house are responsible for cleaning their own kitchens and bathrooms.

### 6. Cooking in Residence Halls

Cooking is permitted only in the residence halls that have full-size kitchens (e.g., East Campus houses, St. Clare's Hall, and St. Catherine's Hall). Students who wish to utilize the kitchen in one of the East Campus houses must do so with advanced (24 hours) notice and only with the expressed permission of the RA who supervises that house. Students are required to bring in all items and ingredients they need to use during cooking and must clean up immediately after completing their cooking. Students may only cook during hours that are set forth by the RA of each campus house.

Any student cooking in a residence hall kitchen is ultimately responsible for cleaning the cooking and dining area. Students' personal dishes, pots and pans, or cooking utensils may be stored in a residence hall kitchen if properly labelled. Students who repeatedly fail to clean the cooking area, leave dirty dishes, or in any other way disrespect this communal cooking space will have the privilege of cooking in the communal kitchen revoked. Frequent violations of this policy may result in the closure of the kitchen by Residence Life.

### 7. Curfew

The curfew at Christendom is designed to assist students in the development of regular habits of living, to foster effective study patterns, encourage same gender community and to give a balanced structure and rhythm to student life on campus. Students are subject to the following curfews: Sunday-Thursday: 12:00 AM; Friday, Saturday, and the eve of holidays: 1:00 AM. To be "in" for curfew means that a student is within his or her residence hall at curfew time and makes himself or herself visible to the RA doing curfew checks. *It is the student's responsibility to check in at curfew, be in their room, or if late, find the RA on duty. It is **not** the RA's responsibility to find missing students.* After checking in for curfew, students must remain in the residence halls until 6:00 a.m. Students found to have left the residence halls after checking in for curfew will be sanctioned by the Director of Residence Life.

Juniors (with a declared major), Seniors, and students aged 21 and over are not subject to curfew. Curfew is in effect over the entire academic year including the nights before all College breaks begin and during Commencement Weekend.

Off-campus students who would have curfew (who are not juniors by credit or under 21) are not permitted on campus beyond normal curfew hours but can obtain an extension from the RA on duty to stay on campus for a legitimate reason such as studying.

#### **8. Campus Curfew Boundaries for All Students**

Once curfew begins, all students (including those without curfew) are asked to remain on their own side of campus and not loiter unnecessarily on the opposite side of campus. After curfew, male students (except for those who live in St. Columba's Hall) should not be anywhere on campus south of the Christ the King Chapel, including the Library, St. Catherine's Glad, or Gym. Similarly, female students should not be anywhere on campus north of the Christ the King Chapel, including Regina Coeli, the Student Center, or the Commons.

Male students under curfew should not go beyond the quad area immediately between St. Joseph, St. Benedict, and St. Francis Residence Halls. Students should not be in the faculty/staff parking lot or be near the buildings on the north side of campus.

Men who are housed in St. Columba's are expected to only be in the immediate vicinity of their hall. They are not to be near the women's residence halls, Campion field, or the women's parking lots.

Female students under curfew should not go beyond the quad area immediately between St. Catherine, St. Clare, and St. Campion Residence Halls or the grass areas surrounding the women's halls.

#### **9. Curfew Extensions**

At the discretion of the RA on duty, curfew extensions may be granted to freshmen and sophomores who request them. Such extensions are not automatic and are granted only for good reasons, and only to those students who have shown themselves to be responsible and mature. Students must ask for such extensions from the RA on duty before 10 pm.

#### **10. Damages**

Holes in walls and/or non-authorized writing or painting on the walls and ceilings will, in most cases, necessitate the repainting of the entire room. Occupants of the room will be charged accordingly, and additional sanctions may be levied. Failure to properly report damage and sign a Room Condition Report form will result in a \$50 fine per person in addition to the costs associated with the repairs. Damage that occurs in your room must be reported within one week to the RA to avoid additional charges. For a further explanation, please see the entry on "Restitution" under disciplinary sanctions.

#### **11. Dartboards**

Dartboards are not allowed in residence halls, due to the frequency and severity of damage caused by darts sticking in doors and walls. Magnetic dartboards are allowed.

#### **12. Electrical Appliances**

The use of electrical appliances is extremely limited in the residence halls for fire and safety purposes. Students may have small refrigerators that do not exceed 4.4 cubic feet. Students may only have one compliant refrigerator per student in each room. All coffee pots and hair appliances such as straightening and curling irons must have automatic shut-off features. George Foreman grills, toasters, toaster ovens, deep fryers, hot plates or other open coil appliances, crock pots, instant pots, personal microwaves, and personal space heaters are not permitted in the residence halls. An microwave and iron are located on each residence floor/wing for community use. For fire safety reasons, no other appliances are allowed in the residence halls unless permission is given by Residence Life.

#### **13. Flags, Draperies, Wall Hangings, etc.**

In compliance with the Warren County fire code, flags, draperies, or similar material may not be hung from the windows, ceiling, furniture, or walls or draped between beds or other pieces of furniture if not properly marked as being flame retardant material. Applying flame-retardant spray to a flag, draperies, etc. does not meet Fire Code requirements. In addition, posters and other items may not take up more than 1/3 of any wall space in the room. Students are to adhere to additional information provided by the College regarding Fire Code compliance.

#### **14. Inter-Visitation**

Recognition of and respect for the differences between the sexes are vital to good order in our community and to the maintenance of Christian moral living. For this reason, men's and women's residence halls are separate, and men and women are required to respect the privacy and integrity of each other's residence facility. Therefore, no members of the opposite sex (students, guests, etc.) are permitted in residence halls at any time; nor are they permitted to stand in or around the open windows or doorways of residence hall rooms. *As an exception to this rule, members of the opposite sex are allowed in the lower level of St. Clare's Hall from 10 am until 10 pm.* Both visitors and residents of the room are subject to serious disciplinary action in case of violation of this rule. "Dorm raids" on the residence halls of the opposite sex are no exception to this policy. Students may not be on the opposite sex's side of campus after curfew; this is the policy even for those students not subject to curfew. Students may only enter the residence of the opposite sex during scheduled open houses or with the expressed permission of Student Life. Parents and siblings of the opposite sex are discouraged from entering the residence halls except during approved times. As noted at the beginning of Section III, of the handbook violations of this policy will normally result in severe disciplinary action such as suspension.

#### **15. Keys for Residence Hall Rooms**

For security of personal belongings, all students may request a key to their room upon moving into their residence hall. At the end of the year, the key should be returned to Residence Director. Loss of a room key or failure to return a room key at the end of the year will result in a \$100 fine from the Operations Department.

#### **16. Laundry**

The laundry rooms in St. Clare, St. Campion, and St. Catherine Halls are for the exclusive use of the women residents only. The laundry rooms in St. Columba's, St. Benedict, St. Joseph, St. Francis Halls, and campus houses are for the exclusive use of the men residents only. Students are asked not to leave clothes in the laundry rooms, and to report promptly any malfunctions of the machines to a Resident Assistant. Laundry policies and procedures for the laundry machines will be distributed to all students at the beginning of the year.

#### **17. Maintenance/Housekeeping**

Students are required to be good stewards of College property. Regarding maintenance and housekeeping in residence halls, students are required to maintain a clean room. Regular room checks are conducted by Residence Life and residents may receive a fine for failing room checks. Residents with in-suite bathrooms and residents of the campus houses are responsible for cleaning their own bathrooms and kitchens.

All residence hall maintenance/housekeeping problems should be reported promptly to an RA. Students are asked to be careful and considerate in their use of residence hall facilities, and to be conservative in their use of energy. Heaters and air-conditioners are to be used only when the room is occupied, and when the windows are closed.

## 18. Overnight Requests

A student who is subject to curfew and who desires to be off campus overnight must submit an Overnight Request form by 4:00 p.m. on the day the student desires to leave campus. Requests are made via the Overnight Request page on the Christendom College website. The notification must include where the student intends to go and when the student will return. Student Life retains the right to deny permission. The College does not ensure the welfare of students who leave campus, even with Student Life's permission. When overnight permission is granted, it must be used unless notification is given to the RA on duty. An overnight extension may not be used to come back after curfew. Repeated curfew violations or abuses of this policy may result in Overnight Extensions not being permitted.

## 19. Overnight Visitors

All students are required to register any overnight guests (this does NOT apply to official guests of the Admissions Office) with Student Life. Overnight Visitor Requests are made via the Overnight Visitors Request page on the Christendom College website and should be submitted to Student Life at least 24 hours in advance. Hosts will be charged \$50 per day for unregistered guests.

- All guests must be hosted by a resident student who will act as their host.
- Guests must pay for any meals taken in St. Lawrence Commons.
- Guests must be between the ages of 16 and 30 to stay in the Residence Halls.
- Guests are not permitted to stay in any residence hall for more than 4 days and 3 nights at a time.
- Guests may stay for a maximum of 7 days and 6 nights a semester.
- There is a maximum of two guests permitted per residence room.
- Guests are not permitted to stay overnight in common areas.
- Please see the formal guest policy for the policies (Section XI) on guest's behavior and the responsibilities of the student host.
- If a female student has a male visitor who plans to stay on campus overnight, the male visitor must be registered with a current male student to stay in the men's residence halls. The same policy applies for male students with female visitors.

Student hosts are responsible for their guests' actions while on College property or at College-sponsored events. Guests must stay in the room of their host and are not permitted to sleep in common rooms or common spaces. Parents are not allowed to stay in the residence halls. Infants and children under 16 are never allowed to stay overnight or for extended lengths of time in the residence halls. Admission guests need to stay with their assigned hosts. Any student who has a guest beyond the approved period of time, as well as the guest, may be subject to disciplinary action.

### ***Rome Students – Overnight and Meal Policy***

Prior to or following the Rome semester, Rome students may not stay in the residence halls more than 3 days and 2 nights total. Additional days and nights must be approved by Student Life. Rome students must be hosted by an on-campus student and may not stay in common areas. Rome students are not permitted to use College dining facilities prior to or after their return from Rome if they do not pay for each individual meal. Rome students found in violation of this policy are subject to disciplinary action.

### ***Off-Campus Students***

Off-campus Students may not stay in the residence halls without advanced notification (24 hr. minimum) to Student Life via the Overnight Visitor Request page. Off-campus students must be hosted by an on-campus student and may not stay in common areas. Off-campus students may stay a maximum of 8 nights on campus per semester. Off-campus students are not permitted to use the residence halls for extended periods of time. Off-campus students who are not juniors by credit or under 21 are not permitted on campus beyond normal curfew hours but can obtain an extension from the RA on duty to stay on campus for a legitimate reason such as studying.

## 20. Quiet/Courtesy Hours

Residence Halls are intended to support the academic and community life of the student in the residential setting.

Courtesy Hours exist to be considerate of others' desire to sleep, study, and pray. Courtesy Hours are always in effect and, therefore, excessive noise (e.g., loud music and yelling) is never acceptable. Thus, reasonable quiet should be maintained in the residence halls at all hours of the day.

Quiet Hours are in effect for the following times: **Sun.-Thurs., 8 PM - 9 AM; Fri.-Sat., 10 PM-9 AM**

Music must not be played so loudly as to be heard outside residence hall rooms. No music may be played in the residence halls without the use of headphones, unless all members of the room wish to listen as a group. If even one student desires quiet, this desire must be respected. Public amplified or projected playing of music outside of campus buildings is not permitted without the permission of the Student Life Office.

## 21. Residence Halls Amenities

Residence Hall amenities are provided specifically for all on-campus students. These amenities include but are not limited to, residence hall kitchens, common areas, and movie rooms in the residence halls. Registered guests are welcome to use these spaces during their approved stay on campus. Off-campus students, non-registered guests, and all other members of the community must request permission from the Director of Residence Life each time they wish to use any of the residence hall amenities.

## 22. Room Changes

The Director of Residence Life or the Residence Director must approve all room changes in advance of a move occurring. Students wishing to change rooms should fill-out a Room Change Request form available in Student Life. There is a housing freeze for the first two and last two weeks of each semester where room change requests may not be submitted and room changes may not occur. Students may not change rooms without submitting a request in writing and receiving subsequent approval via the Director of Residence Life or the Residence Director. No room changes will be granted during the summer or between semesters.

## 23. Room Checks

Keeping in mind that our residence halls must serve students both now and, in the future, as well personal charity with regards to the needs of others, students are responsible for keeping their own living area neat and for cooperating with their roommates in the cleaning of the common areas of the room. Rooms will be inspected regularly but are subject to inspection anytime. Students should have regard for sanitation, basic cleanliness, and College property.

## 24. Smoking in Residence Halls

Smoking, vaping, and using e-cigarettes is not allowed at any time in residence halls or near the primary entrance to a hall. Cigarette receptacles are provided outside for those students who want to smoke. Students who are smoking are asked to stay at least 25 feet away from all buildings out of respect for those persons who are entering and exiting the building. Violations of the smoking policy will normally result in a significant fine

(with the minimum being \$100).

### **25. Special Housing Requests**

A student who needs housing accommodations due to a disability should first contact the Director of Student Services. The DSS will coordinate with Residence Life to provide a student with the approved accommodations available in on-campus housing.

The College believes that the importance of our community is a critical aspect of the College's mission and therefore all students are expected to live on campus. Exceptions to this policy will be rare and will be granted under five main circumstances: (a) the student resides with parents in the Front Royal area; (b) the student is younger than 17 or older than 26 years of age; (c) the student has a documented medical disability that cannot be accommodated in the residence halls; (d) the student is married; or (e) the student has extenuating financial needs as determined by the College Financial Aid Office. Students who wish to be considered for this rare exception should complete the off-campus request form (provided by the Director of Residence Life) in advance of their desired move off-campus.

### **26. Storage**

There is no storage on campus of any kind. Students may not keep personal belongings of any kind on campus between summers. If students need storage for personal belongings outside of their room during the academic year or between summers, local storage facilities should be rented and used by the student. Students should expect that the unauthorized storage of any personal items may result in those items being removed without the student's prior notification. Removed items will not be replaced or returned and the student may be subject to additional fines.

### **27. Wall Hangings**

No thumbtacks, nails, or poster sticky tack are to be used to hang things on the walls. The student assumes any risk associated with adhesive use, is responsible for making sure adhesive is properly used and is responsible for proper removal and any damages caused by the adhesive. Some residence halls provide residents with wooden trim around the perimeter of the room called "poster strips" for the purpose of attaching wall hangings so that students do not need to adhere items directly to the wall. No holes should be made in the drywall for any reason in the residence halls. In addition, posters and other items may not take up more than 1/3 of any wall space in the room.

Students are expected to exercise Christian discretion in their choice of music, posters, publications, and in all other forms of cultural expression. Any such item judged to be offensive by a Student Life staff member or the RAs must be removed from campus.

## **SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY**

Christendom College, as a Catholic college, fully accepts the beliefs and teachings of the Catholic Church as set forth by the Magisterium of the Catholic Church pertaining to all areas of life. All members of the College Community are expected to behave in a manner consistent with this aspect of our mission. Included in this expectation is that members of the community will promote respect for persons and the virtues of chastity and self-control in expression, speech, and conduct.

Consensual sexual activity outside of marriage is contrary to the teaching of the Catholic Church. Unwanted sexual contact is completely contrary to our obligation to respect the dignity of the human person. Nonconsensual sexual contact is a compounded affront to this dignity. Such behavior, as well as other violations of this policy, are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church and may also carry criminal penalties.

The expression of the beliefs and teachings of the Catholic Church, as set forth by the Magisterium, do not violate this policy and shall not be regarded as doing so. Further, nothing in this policy should be understood to undermine the integrity of Christendom as a Catholic college. Nothing in this policy shall require the College to act in a manner contrary to the beliefs and teachings of the Catholic Church.

### **Scope**

This policy defines the expected standard of behavior that applies to administrators, faculty, and other College employees, students, and to all other persons who participate in the College's educational programs and activities, including third-party visitors on campus during their time here (the "College Community"). A violation of the terms of this policy may be the ground for denying an application for employment and may be applied by the College to third-party contractors, as appropriate. The College's prohibition on sexual misconduct extends to all aspects of its educational programs and activities. In the manner described below, this policy applies to on- or off-campus sexual misconduct that negatively impacts any member of the College Community or the community. "Sexual misconduct" includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence, and dating violence. The specific definitions are set forth below.

### **Sexual Harassment**

*Definition of Sexual Harassment:*

Sexual advances requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, physical, or visual conduct of a sexual nature have no place in an academic community founded for the pursuit of Truth. These behaviors are contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church and are unacceptable among and between members of the College Community. Such activity may constitute sexual harassment when:

- Submission to such conduct is, either explicitly or implicitly, made or threatened to be made a term or condition of an individual's employment or education, or the basis for academic or employment decisions affecting that individual; or
- Because of its severe, persistent, or pervasive nature, the conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic or professional performance or creating what a reasonable person would perceive as an intimidating, hostile, or offensive employment, education, or living environment.

A person's subjective belief alone that the behavior is offensive does not necessarily mean the conduct rises to the level of a policy violation. The behavior must also objectively meet the definition of prohibited sexual harassment.

*Examples of Sexual Harassment when the above conditions are met:*

- Disordered pressure for sexual activity or a dating, romantic, or intimate relationship
- Unwelcomed touching, kissing, hugging, or massaging
- Sexual innuendos or sexual humor
- Sexually explicit gestures or profanity
- Displaying or forcing another to view sexually explicit images of any kind
- Social media, e-mail, or Internet use that constitutes sexual harassment as defined above

### **Sexual Assault**

*Definition of Sexual Assault:*

Sexual assault is an affront to human dignity, a violation of the teachings of the Church and the moral standards of this Community, and an especially egregious form of prohibited sexual misconduct. Sexual assault includes physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or

where a person is incapable of giving consent because of his or her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity, or because of his or her age.

*Examples of Sexual Assault:*

- Sexual intercourse or forced sexual activity of any kind by a man or woman upon another person with any object or body part that is committed without consent or by force, threat, or intimidation.
- Sexual touching with an object or body part by a man or woman upon another person, committed without consent or by force, threat, or intimidation.

**Other Sexual Offenses**

Acts of sexual degradation, exploitation, or objectification committed by a man or woman against another person always violate the teachings of the Catholic Church. When these acts are committed by force, threat, or intimidation they are also a violation of the sexual misconduct policy.

*Examples of other Sexual Offenses:*

- Physically abusing another person during sexual activity
- Photography, video, or audio taping of sexual activity, regardless of whether it is shared with a third party
- Sharing or displaying sexually explicit photographs, videos, etc., of another person
- Knowingly and willfully aiding another person in committing sexual misconduct

**Stalking**

Stalking is behavior that often targets a specific person with the intention of causing serious emotional harm or making the person fear for his or her safety. Stalking includes repeatedly contacting (or attempting to contact) someone in person, via the phone, Internet, or social media, or through a third party making the person fear injury, sexual assault, or death. Stalking is a violation of this policy, a violation of the teachings of the Church, and a Class 1 misdemeanor according to the Virginia Code §18.2-60.3.

**Domestic Abuse/Dating Violence**

Domestic abuse is defined as any act of assault or battery against a family or household member. Dating violence is physical violence or the threat of physical violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with an individual. For purposes of this definition, dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse. Domestic abuse/dating violence are a violation of this policy and a violation of the teachings of the Church. Domestic abuse is a Class 1 misdemeanor according to Virginia Code §18.2-57.2.

**Consent**

It is our responsibility as Catholics to treat each person we encounter with charity—to will his or her good. This is the standard of behavior the College expects of all members of its community. Consensual sexual activity outside of marriage is contrary to the teachings of the Church and harmful to those involved, and so it does not meet the standard of respect and dignity each person owes to another.

While sexual activity outside of marriage is contrary to the Catholic faith, it becomes a compounded affront to human dignity and a particularly egregious violation of the teachings of the Church when such activity is non-consensual. Moreover, such activity is likely criminal, and is certainly wholly unacceptable in a Catholic community. The non-consensual nature of certain behaviors is a critical factor in determining whether the sexual misconduct policy has been violated.

Consent is informed, freely given, and mutually understood. Consent can be withdrawn. Consent is **not** present if:

- Coercion, intimidation, threats, and/or physical force are used; in these circumstances passivity should not be taken as implicit consent.
- A person is mentally or physically incapacitated or impaired by alcohol, drugs, or other substances such that the person cannot understand the fact, nature, or extent of the sexual situation.
- A person is asleep or unconscious.
- A person consents to one form of activity, but not another
- A person is under the age of 18. In the Commonwealth of Virginia, any person under the age of 18 is not able to consent to sexual intercourse. Sexual intercourse of any kind with a person under the age of 18 is considered sexual misconduct as defined by this policy and can be prosecuted as a misdemeanor or felony under Virginia Code §18.2-371.

**Special Guidance to Victims of Sexual Assault**

If you believe you have been the victim of sexual assault, do not blame yourself. It is critical to seek assistance and appropriate medical attention as soon as possible. The College is committed to providing physical, psychological, and spiritual resources and assistance to any victim of sexual assault in the current College community. If physical violence of a sexual nature has been perpetrated against you, the College recommends that you immediately go to the emergency room and contact local law enforcement, in addition to making a prompt complaint to the designated Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator under this policy (see below). The closest hospital to campus that can perform a forensic exam is Winchester Medical Center, 1840 Amherst Street, Winchester, VA.

If you are the victim of sexual assault do everything possible to preserve evidence by making certain that the evidence is not disturbed. Preservation of evidence may be necessary for proof of the crime or in obtaining a protection order. Victims of sexual assault should not bathe, urinate, brush teeth, or drink liquids until after they are examined and, if necessary, a forensic examination is completed. Clothes should not be changed. When necessary, seek immediate medical attention at an area hospital and take a full change of clothing, including shoes, for use after the forensic examination.

There is not one correct way for a victim to react to an instance of sexual assault. The College respects the rights of adult students, faculty, and staff members to choose how to proceed following such an incident. A person can choose to access recovery resources though he or she chooses not to initiate the complaint resolution procedure or contact law enforcement.

*Conduct that Constitutes a Crime*

Any person who makes a complaint of sexual misconduct is strongly encouraged to also make a complaint to local law enforcement if the misconduct constitutes a crime. If requested, the College will assist the complainant in notifying the appropriate law enforcement authorities. In the event of an emergency, please contact 911. An individual may decline to notify such authorities.

Pursuant to the Virginia Code, sexual offenses include rape (§18.2-61), forcible sodomy (§18.2-67.1), object sexual penetration (§18.2-67.2), aggravated sexual battery (§18.2-67.3), sexual battery (§18.2-67.4), and attempted sexual offenses (§18.2-67.5). Stalking (§18.2-60.3) and Domestic Violence (§18.2-57.2) are Class 1 misdemeanors in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

## **Sexual Misconduct Complaint Resolution Procedures**

The complaint resolution procedures exist solely to determine whether there is sufficient evidence that this policy has been violated. This procedure cannot and will not determine if a crime has been committed. Furthermore, the absence of clear evidence or significant lack of clarity may render the College unable to justly find that the policy has been violated. It is also possible that, while there is insufficient evidence to determine that this policy has been violated, a complainant may still desire counseling, spiritual resources, or other forms of assistance. The College makes these resources available, regardless of the outcome of the complaint resolution procedures.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### *Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator*

It is the responsibility of the designated Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator to:

- Coordinate dissemination of information, education, and training programs intended to educate the College Community about sexual misconduct and the College's processes and procedures for addressing it
- Ensure that investigators are trained to respond to and investigate complaints of sexual misconduct.
- Ensure that employees and students are aware of the procedures for reporting and addressing complaints of sexual misconduct.
- Implement the complaint resolution procedures or designate appropriate persons for implementing the complaint resolution procedures.

Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator  
Ms. Amanda Graf  
John Paul the Great Student Center, Office 101  
amanda.graf@christendom.edu  
(540) 551-9206

The College is committed to ensuring that every report of sexual misconduct is received with empathy and professionalism, and that the investigation process is always implemented with the highest respect for confidentiality, impartiality, and Christian charity. At the same time, the College understands that in instances of sexual assault, members of the Community may wish to engage the complaint resolution procedures but may not be comfortable making the initial report to the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator. Students and employees are welcome to make an initial report to a trusted faculty or staff member who can then assist them with knowing about available resources, including how to initiate the complaint resolution procedures by making a report to the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator.

#### *Investigating Officer*

The Investigating Officer is a College employee or qualified contracted professional who is trained in administering the complaint resolution procedures. The Investigating Officer is assigned by the designated Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator to investigate whether this policy has been violated.

#### *Student Life Staff and Administrators*

It is the responsibility of Student Life staff and administrators of the College to work with the designated Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator to implement education and training programs for students, as well as implement any corrective actions that are imposed because of the determination of a violation of this policy.

#### *Students*

It is the responsibility of all students to review the Sexual Misconduct Policy as found in the Student Handbook and comply with it.

#### *Faculty & Staff*

It is the responsibility of all faculty and staff to review this policy and comply with it.

#### *The College*

When the College is aware that a member of the College Community may have been subjected to or affected by conduct that violates this policy, the College will take prompt action, including a review of the matter and, if necessary, investigate and take appropriate steps to prevent and remedy the sexual misconduct. The College will act in accordance with its complaint resolution procedure (detailed below). No complaint can be initiated under this procedure after 5 years have elapsed from the date of an alleged incident of sexual misconduct, or the last instance of misconduct in the case of repeated or multiple activities that fit within the scope of this policy. Other processes and procedures in place in existing College Handbooks may still be applicable to any claim of inappropriate activity or criminal conduct.

### **Informal Resolution**

Informal means of resolution may be used in lieu of the formal investigation and determination procedure. However, informal means may only be used with the complainant's voluntary cooperation and the involvement of the designated Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator. The complainant, however, will not be required to work out the problem directly with the respondent. Moreover, the complainant may terminate any such informal means at any time. In any event, informal means, even on a voluntary basis, are insufficient and will not be used to resolve complaints alleging any form of sexual assault.

### **Formal Investigation and Resolution of the Complaint**

Any member of the College Community who wishes to report sexual misconduct should file a complaint with the designated Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator.

#### *Content of the Complaint*

So that the College has sufficient information to investigate a complaint, the complaint should include:

- The date(s) and time(s) of the alleged conduct
- The location(s) of the alleged conduct
- The names of the person(s) involved in the alleged conduct, including possible witnesses.
- All details outlining what happened.
- Contact information for the complainant so that the College can follow up appropriately.

A complainant will be given a copy of the document titled "Explanation of Options After Filing a Report of Sexual Misconduct."

#### *Timing of Complaints*

The College encourages persons to make complaints of sexual misconduct as soon as possible because late reporting may limit the College's ability to investigate and respond to the complaint.

#### *Commencement of the Investigation*

Once a complaint is made, the Investigating Officer will commence an investigation as soon as practicable, but generally not later than seven (7) days after the complaint is made. The purpose of the investigation is to determine whether there is sufficient evidence that the alleged behavior occurred and, if so, whether it constitutes a violation of the Sexual Misconduct Policy. During the investigation, the Investigating Officer may receive counsel from College administrators, the College's attorneys, or other parties as needed. In certain narrow circumstances, the Investigating Officer may commence an investigation even if the complainant requests that the matter not be pursued. In such a circumstance, the Investigating Officer will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the matter in a manner that is informed by the complainant's articulated concerns.

#### *Content of the Investigation*

During the investigation, the complainant will have the opportunity to describe his or her allegations and present supporting witnesses or other evidence. The respondent will have the opportunity to respond to the allegations and present supporting witnesses or other evidence. The Investigating Officer will review the statements and evidence presented and may, depending on the circumstances, interview others with relevant knowledge, review documentary materials, and take any other appropriate action to gather and consider information relevant to the complaint. All parties and witnesses involved in the investigation are expected to cooperate and provide complete and truthful information.

#### *Support Person*

During the investigation process, the complainant and the respondent may each ask one support person to accompany him or her at all stages of the process. In cases involving multiple complainants or respondents, the support person cannot be another complainant or respondent. The support person does not serve as an advocate on behalf of the complainant or respondent, may not be actively involved in any proceedings, and must agree to maintain the confidentiality of the process. A support person who acts inconsistently with his or her role, or who otherwise disrupts the process, may be prohibited from further participation.

#### *Interim Measures*

At any time during the investigation, the Investigating Officer may determine that interim remedies or protections for the parties involved or witnesses are appropriate. These interim remedies may include separating the parties, placing limitations on contact between the parties, suspension, or assisting or allowing either party alternative class placement, housing assignments, or workplace arrangements if options to do so are reasonably available. Failure to comply with the terms of these interim remedies or protections may constitute grounds for further corrective action, including and up to suspension, expulsion (student) termination (faculty or staff member) and/or pursuit of criminal or legal sanctions. If a complainant has obtained a temporary restraining order or another no-contact order against the alleged perpetrator from a criminal or civil court, the complainant should provide such information to the designated Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator. The College will take all reasonable and legal action to implement the order.

#### *Pending Criminal Investigation*

Some instances of sexual misconduct may also constitute criminal conduct. In such instances, the complainant is also encouraged to file a report with the appropriate law enforcement authorities, and, if requested, the College will assist the complainant in doing so. The pendency of a criminal investigation will not necessarily delay the College's investigation. To the extent that doing so does not interfere with any criminal investigation, the College will proceed with its own investigation and resolution of the complaint.

#### *Determination of Responsibility*

If there is substantial clarity and convincing evidence that the reported behavior(s) occurred – that they were substantially more likely to have occurred than not (rather than simply more likely than not) --the Investigating Officer will determine that this policy has been violated. If there is a lack of convincing evidence or clarity as to what occurred, the Investigating Officer will determine that this policy has not been violated.

#### *Resolution*

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Investigating Officer will prepare a written report. The written report will explain the scope of the investigation, identify findings of fact, and state whether any allegations in the complaint have been found to be substantiated.

If the written report determines that sexual misconduct has occurred, the Investigating Officer shall, after consulting with other College administrators with jurisdiction over the respondent, set forth in the written report those steps necessary to maintain an environment free from misconduct and to protect the safety and well-being of the complainant and other members of the College Community. Such actions will also include reasonable steps to correct the effects of such conduct on the complainant and others and to prevent the recurrence of misconduct and retaliation. Examples of such action include no-contact orders, the provision of counseling or other support services, corrective education, and a recommendation for discipline for the perpetrator, including up to termination, expulsion, initiation of other disciplinary procedures to which a respondent is entitled under relevant policies or handbooks, or other appropriate institutional sanctions.

If the written report determines that sexual misconduct has not occurred, no further action shall be taken under this procedure. If any rights of the respondent have been suspended as an interim measure during the investigation, they will be restored to the respondent. The complainant and the respondent will receive a copy of the written report, typically within three (3) days of its completion.

#### *Appeal*

An appeal of any decision must be made to the Executive Vice President within five (5) days of the decision and can only be made on the grounds that: a) the Complaint Resolution Procedure was not correctly applied; or b) new information concerning the violation is brought to light that could change the outcome and was not considered during the process. If the Executive Vice President was the Investigating Officer, an appeal may be made to the President on the same bases.

#### *Rights of Both Parties*

During the investigation and resolution of a complaint, the complainant and respondent shall have equal rights, including:

- Equal opportunity to identify and have considered witnesses and other relevant evidence
- Similar and timely access to all information considered by the Investigating Officer
- Equal opportunity to review any statements or evidence provided by the other party
- Equal access to review and comment upon any information independently discovered by the Investigating Officer

#### *Investigation Timeline*

The College will endeavor to conclude its investigation and resolution of the complaint within sixty (60) calendar days of receiving it, although some investigations may take longer depending on the complexity of the investigation, the availability of witnesses, and intervening holidays and breaks. Once a complaint is made, the Investigating Officer will commence an investigation of it as soon as practicable, but generally not later

than seven (7) days after the complaint is made. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Investigating Officer will write a report detailing the findings and outcome of the investigation. The complainant and the respondent will receive a copy of the written report, typically within three (3) days of its completion.

### **Further Things to Know About Making a Complaint**

#### *Confidentiality & Mandatory Reporting*

Faculty and staff are *not* mandated to inform the designated Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator if a student discloses an incident of sexual misconduct. They are encouraged to receive this information empathetically and assist the student in knowing his or her options for reporting or accessing resources. Students should be aware that, while faculty and staff are not mandated to report information about sexual misconduct (except in the limited cases in which they are mandated reporters as described below) they may still independently choose to do so.

Whenever possible, the College supports the decision of an adult student or employee of the College to determine how he or she responds to an incident of sexual misconduct, including if he or she chooses to engage the complaint resolution procedures. The College does reserve the right to initiate an investigation despite a complainant's request not to file a report in circumstances involving serious or repeated conduct, when the alleged perpetrator is a College employee, or where the alleged perpetrator may pose a continuing threat to the campus community.

Furthermore, when the incident involves abuse or sexual abuse of a minor who is part of the College community, faculty and staff are mandated to report the incident to Child Protective Services. In most cases, a member of the faculty or staff will choose to notify the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator who will then make the necessary report.

If the alleged perpetrator of misconduct within the scope of this policy is a College employee or member of the clergy associated with the College community in any way, and the misconduct alleged is against a student, faculty member, staff member, or visitor, faculty and staff are mandated to report the incident to the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator. This provision is not intended to trigger mandatory reporting for domestic strife between spouses who both happen to be students, faculty or staff members. Such activity may still constitute a violation of this policy, other provisions of relevant handbooks, and/or the law. Use of this complaint procedure or other processes that cover the conduct may still be appropriate. In such cases, however, the individual alleging misconduct still has the right to determine a course of action to address his/her situation as outlined above, including whether to report the misconduct at all. Faculty and staff should endeavor to advise the individual alleging misconduct about possible courses of action, and faculty and staff still retain discretion to report an allegation of misconduct as outlined above if the situation warrants it.

Counselors and chaplains are always considered confidential resources, except when information shared concerns the abuse or sexual abuse of a minor. However, any information revealed to a chaplain under the Seal of Confession can never be shared or reported, in accordance with Canon Law (Can. 983).

#### *Investigation and Confidentiality*

All complaints of sexual misconduct will be promptly and thoroughly investigated in accordance with the Complaint Resolution Procedures and the College will take disciplinary action where appropriate. The College will make reasonable and appropriate efforts to preserve an individual's privacy and protect the confidentiality of information when investigating and resolving a complaint. In the event a complainant requests confidentiality or asks that a complaint not be investigated, the College will take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request for confidentiality or request not to pursue an investigation. However, the College cannot guarantee confidentiality to those who make complaints. If a complainant insists that his or her name not be disclosed to the alleged perpetrator, the College's ability to respond may be limited; the College reserves the right to initiate an investigation despite a complainant's request for confidentiality in limited circumstances involving serious or repeated conduct or where the alleged perpetrator may pose a continuing threat to the College Community.

#### *Intentional Bad Faith Complaints*

While the College encourages all good faith complaints of sexual misconduct, the College has the responsibility to balance the rights of all parties. Therefore, if the College's investigation reveals that a complaint is deliberately false, the complaint will be dismissed and the person who filed the knowingly false complaint will be subject to disciplinary action, up to termination/expulsion. If a student or employee is unsure whether to file a report, he or she can seek guidance from the designated Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator without initiating the formal reporting process. If a complainant chooses to withdraw a complaint for whatever reason, the complainant will not be viewed as having made an intentional bad faith complaint.

Pursuant to the Virginia Criminal Code, it is a Class 1 misdemeanor to knowingly give a false report about the commission of any crime to any law-enforcement official with intent to mislead, or without just cause and with intent to interfere with the operations of any law-enforcement official (§18.2-461).

#### *Retaliation*

Integrity and honesty are essential components of Christian character. Christendom prohibits an employee from retaliating against anyone who has made a good-faith complaint or a report of a concern against that employee. Retaliation can include, but is not limited to, intimidation, threats, or acts of physical or emotional harm. If an employee is found to have retaliated against a student, faculty member, staff member, or other member of the College community whom he or she believes to have made a complaint, serious disciplinary action will be taken, including termination, if appropriate. Persons who believe they have been retaliated against in violation of this policy should make a complaint to the designated Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator.

## **VEHICLE & PARKING POLICIES**

### **1. Servicing Personal Vehicles**

Students are not permitted to service their vehicles (e.g., change oil, wash cars, etc.) on college property.

### **2. Use of College Vehicles**

Students are not permitted to use College vehicles, machinery, tools, hoses, etc., without the express permission of the Director of Operations or his representatives. Students not listed on the College's insurance will not be permitted to operate a College vehicle. All students requesting to be added to the College insurance to operate College vehicles must attend the training course provided at the beginning of each semester. Drivers and passengers of College vehicles are required, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, to always fasten their seat belts, for their own safety. Smoking is not allowed in any of the College vehicles.

### **3. Parking Policies**

Christendom College is a walking campus and vehicles are not necessary for transportation around campus. The privilege of having a vehicle and parking on campus is viewed simply as a place to put your vehicle until you need the vehicle for personal off-campus use. We appreciate your cooperation as we strive to maintain the privilege that all students be allowed to bring vehicles to the campus for use off campus. All operators of motor vehicles, whether they are residential or non-resident students, or students driving their own vehicle or that of a friend, must adhere to the following policies:

- All vehicles must be registered with Student Life within the first week of the school year and pay an annual \$20.00 registration fee. The student will receive a parking decal which indicates the lot where the student is assigned to park. The decal must be displayed in the back window of the student's vehicle. Students are only permitted to park in their assigned lot.
- Drivers and owners of a vehicle must adhere to all posted signs and written policies regarding parking, including no parking areas, reserved spaces, limited time parking, handicapped spaces, etc. Parking will be strictly enforced by the Campus Security Officer in all areas to ensure safe and easy access for emergency and delivery vehicles.
- Vehicles may not park in any undesignated parking area for any reason; parking in undesignated and/or specially assigned spaces will result in a ticket with a minimum fine of \$25.00. The fine may be increased or further action taken at the discretion of the Dean of Students and/or Director of Residence Life.
- If a vehicle is ticketed four times within one semester, a tow-away warning will be issued and subsequently a car may be towed off campus at the owner's expense.
- Major or excessive violation of parking policies and/or reckless driving on campus will result in the loss of on-campus parking and/or driving privileges and the vehicle being towed or immobilized (at owner's expense) at the discretion of Student Life staff.
- Policies are in effect all class days, exam days, closed-campus days, event days and days the College is open for business even if there are no classes scheduled (e.g., Holy Days, Study Days, etc.).
- The College is not responsible for damage, theft, or vandalism to vehicles while parked on College grounds.
- Vehicles are not permitted to drive on the Maintenance-Emergency road around the St. John the Evangelist library.
- Vehicles may not be left on campus for summer break.
- The owner of a vehicle is ultimately responsible for the payment of all fines levied on his/her vehicle. The College reserves the right to make amendments to parking policies, which includes requiring that vehicles be moved for college functions, at any time. Students will be notified of such an event. Transcripts and/or final grades will not be released, and class schedules will not be given out to those students with unpaid fines.

#### 4. Lot Specifications:

##### **LOT A—Student Center Lot**

This lot is reserved for **sophomore, junior and senior on-campus men who live in St. Francis, St. Joseph, or St. Benedict resident hall.** The spaces specifically noted to be reserved for faculty, staff, or visitors are reserved at all times. This includes all regular class days, weekends, exam weeks, days the college is closed, and days the college is open with no classes. If there are no spaces available in Lot A, students should park in Lot E near the Crusader Fields.

##### **LOT B—Regina Coeli Lot (NO STUDENT PARKING)**

The lot immediately in front of Regina Coeli **is reserved for faculty and staff only.** Students may not park in this lot during normal business hours. This includes all regular class days, exam weeks, days the college is closed (national holidays/holydays, etc.), and days the college is open with no classes.

##### **LOT C—Women's Halls/St. Columba's Hall Lot**

The spaces surrounding the women's resident halls are a part of Lot C and are reserved for all **on-campus sophomore, junior, and senior women and the residents of St. Columba's Hall.** If there are no spaces available in Lot C, students should park in Lot E near the Crusader Fields.

##### **LOT D—Crusader Gym Lot**

This lot is for **all off-campus students.** If there are no spaces available in Lot D, students should park in Lot E near the Crusader Fields.

##### **LOT E—Crusader Fields Lot**

The gravel lot north of the Crusader Fields is **reserved for college vans, freshmen, and campus visitors** and to serve as overflow parking for Lots A, C, and D. Students should not park here to attend practices or games on Crusader fields if they are registered to park in a different lot. Visitors should be directed to park in this lot.

#### 5. House Residents' Vehicles

All men residing in houses (St. Anne's, St. Dominic's, St. Augustine's, St. Pius X and St. Teresa's) must register their vehicle to park in provided house driveway. Vehicle owners will receive a Lot E decal which allows them to park in Lot E if their house driveway is full. Parking is limited to each house's driveway; no street or lawn parking is allowed. Living in a house is not a sufficient reason for driving to the main campus, therefore vehicles are to remain parked in driveway (or Lot E) unless needed for off-campus use.

#### 6. All Other Campus Roads & Drives

Students are not permitted to park anywhere other than the lot to which they are assigned. Restricted parking areas includes the upper or lower level of St. Lawrence Commons, along the road to the Commons, along St. John's Way toward the Chapel or Campion Field, the roads around the St. John the Evangelist Library, the road along St. Francis Hall, and the Crusader Gymnasium circle.

*Parking registration enforcement will begin August 29, 2022*

## **V. STUDENT LIFE STAFF & SERVICES**

### **STUDENT LIFE MISSION STATEMENT**

The Office of Student Life exists to give students the experience of living in a fully integrated Catholic community that is centered around the faith and a commitment to growing in the habits of Christian living, much like the communities found in the historical Christendom. Student Life provides students with the services, activities, resources, formation, and accountability necessary to pursue a truly Catholic liberal arts education in a residential environment. These opportunities give students an experience and taste for the fine arts, provide occasions to serve through local and international outreach programs, and encourage students to work diligently to cultivate leadership skills through serving on the Student Activities Council or in the