



CATHOLIC
MUTUAL GROUP

Summer 2022

COMMITMENT + EXPERTISE + STABILITY

The Catholic Mutual Connection

Prioritizing Parish Safety

With the challenges that are part of today's world, it can be hard to find a quiet place to escape from the chaos. The church should always be a place of respite and refuge for its worshippers. Catholic Mutual Group is pleased to offer resources to help make your parish as safe as possible from outside threats, no matter the cause.



We encourage you to watch our new video on CMG Connect, titled [Critical](#)

[Incidents: Preparation and Response](#). We have also created a [CARES document](#) that specifically addresses protests and disturbances, a growing threat in our churches. These resources, along with our [Parish Safety & Security Guide](#), will help you assess your unique risks and formulate a plan to mitigate them. A few of the topics covered include:

- Developing your safety/security team and plan
- Assessing interior and perimeter risks
- Planning evacuation procedures
- Creating or updating lockdown procedures
- Addressing medical emergencies
- Identifying mental health concerns

You may elect to hire an outside firm to help you create a comprehensive security plan. If so, we are available to review any service agreement to ensure you are receiving the best, most relevant security services for your parish.

Safety Tip

Heat-Related Illnesses

July is typically the warmest month of the year, no matter where you live in the United States. The temperature can go from comfortable to dangerous very quickly, leaving many people unsure of the best ways to protect themselves. Our [CARES document](#) on heat exhaustion identifies the signs and symptoms when someone may be falling ill. Also, encourage parishioners to stay inside and hydrated in the event of extreme heat, and ask that they check on each other frequently.

Preventing Cybersecurity Threats

Cybersecurity remains an ongoing concern when it comes to the sensitive data and systems that keep our parishes running smoothly. It is important that every person who is operating a computer within your facilities understands the importance of maintaining basic computer security and how to spot a cyberattack before falling victim to it. A few questions you should be prepared to answer:



- Do you have a documented cybersecurity policy?
- Are applications regularly patched for updates?
- Have you defined what type of data needs to be protected and at what level?
- Do you have a contingency plan in the event of a major system failure?

Even if you have a cybersecurity plan in place, it's best to review it regularly due to continuous changes in technology. Our [CARES document](#) can provide additional guidance, whether you have an existing cybersecurity plan in place or are building one from scratch.

Connect with CMG Connect!

We are constantly updating our online trainings on CMG Connect to ensure that CMG members have the information they need to minimize their risk exposure. Please don't forget to visit [CMG Connect](#) regularly for timely new content... and please don't hesitate to share it with others who would benefit from the information.

To view this newsletter on our website, please click [here](#).

For more helpful information, please visit the Catholic Mutual Group [newsletter archives](#).

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