

## **N.Y. priest who used boys club for sex gets maximum prison term for abuse**

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — A Catholic priest who took boys to New Jersey and Cape Cod for sex apologized to his victims and to God on Thursday as he was sentenced to eight years in prison.

U.S. District Judge Charles L. Brieant was unmoved by the Rev. Edward A. Pipala's act of contrition.

"These were evil actions," declared Brieant. He handed down the maximum possible sentence for the charge to which Pipala had pleaded guilty last July: one felony count of transporting minors across state lines.

Pipala, 55, was a priest at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen and Sacred Heart Church in Monroe.

Pipala admitted that he organized a parish boys club called "the Hole" in which he gave liquor and beer to the boys and then had sex with them. He had the boys swear an oath of secrecy, authorities said.

Between 1983 and 1991, he lured about 11 boys, all between the ages of 12 and 16, to illicit, out-of-state rendezvous.

"I am especially sorry to God for the damage I have caused by my misconduct," Pipala said. "But more especially I apologize to my victims and their families for the suffering, hurt and pain I have caused them because of the abuse."

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