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Parish priest accused of rape by his 18-year-old helper

August 28, 2011 9:12am

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An 18-year-old woman has filed a complaint with public prosecutors in Agusan del Norte that a parish priest whom she had served as a domestic helper repeatedly raped her earlier this year.

The priest, Fr. Raul Cabonce, has reportedly sought refuge in the Bishop's residence in Butuan City and could not be reached for comment, but has previously denied the allegations.

The complainant said in her affidavit filed last Thursday that Father Cabonce had offered her a scholarship in exchange for her services as a "convent girl" who would serve his household needs.

Hired in her hometown of Las Nieves, Agusan del Norte where Cabonce was then parish priest, the alleged victim was brought to the town of Tubay last year when Cabonce was reassigned.

The complainant alleged that she was first groped last September in the priest's St. Anne's parish convent room when he asked her to give him a massage.

Other sexual assaults allegedly occurred on February 27, March 3 and 14 of this year, with rape allegedly taking place on the last date.

Two counts of rape, Child Abuse in relation to R.A. 7610, and Acts of Lasciviousness were filed Thursday morning before Agusan del Norte Provincial Prosecutor Office against Cabonce.

In early July, a Tubay municipal welfare officer said the girl and her mother had gone missing after reporting the abuse to a group of Catholic nuns.

In a radio interview in early July, Cabonce said: "I categorically deny allegations of rape hurled against me... Please check the background of the family of the victim first before judging me."

In her complaint affidavit, the alleged victim said her mother was a catechist and church volunteer at the Las Nieves parish when she was recruited by Cabonce.

The woman, born on December 5, 1992, is now under the care of women's rights organization Gabriela, an officer of the group said Friday.

Gabriela-Caraga chairperson Atel Hijos said former Surigao City Mayor

Recent sex scandals in PHL Catholic Church

In 2008, 15-year-old girl "Crystal" (not her real name) accused Fr. Gabriel Madangeng Jr of raping her from August to December 2006.

The girl eventually filed five counts of rape and seven counts of acts of lasciviousness against the priest.

A Leyte-based priest also faced a similar accusation in 2010 when a girl, 17 years old, claimed he raped her a number of times starting in November 2009. The alleged sexual abuse had continued until February 2010.

The priest denied the accusation and has since been re-assigned to another parish.

In 2003, Father James Reuter was quoted in reports as claiming almost three dozen priests have been suspended due to allegations of sexual harassment.

Amid mounting public pressure in 2002, the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines - through then president Archbishop Orlando Quevedo - issued a historic apology to all the victims of hundreds of priests accused of sexual abuse since the 1980s.

"To the various crises in society, we must now, with great sorrow

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lawyer Alfonso Casurra is a pro-bono legal counsel of the victim, whom they have assigned the alias "Leah".

Meanwhile, Gabriela encouraged the Roman Catholic hierarchy to take the necessary steps to help Leah get the justice that she deserves.

They called on the Church to investigate the case and file the necessary charges against the priest should they find enough basis.

"It is not enough to transfer the erring priest to another parish where he can still violate other girls. He should be made accountable under the State laws as well as Church laws," Gabriela's executive director Lana Linaban said.

Recent history of Church sex scandals

The Catholic Church world-wide has been rocked in recent years by a series of sex scandals involving priests and sometimes bishops and other high-ranking officials. Few have been prosecuted by any government, with most cases dealt with internally by Church hierarchy.

Many erring priests have simply been transferred to other parishes or assignments; in some cases overseas, the priests repeated the same offenses at their new places of assignment.

Last year, Pope Benedict XVI conveyed an unprecedented apology for sex abuses in a pastoral letter to Catholics in Ireland, where a long history of molestation had come to light.

"You have suffered grievously, and I am truly sorry," the pope said. "Your trust has been betrayed and your dignity has been violated."—**with a report by Ben Serrano/LBG/HS, GMA News**

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and shame, add problems in the Church... Sexual misconduct on the part of shepherds of the flock betrays the holy priesthood that Christ has shared," Quevedo said at the time.

While most of the religious leaders being implicated in rape cases are often re-assigned to different dioceses, some resigned.

Bishop Crisostomo Yalung of Antipolo gave up his religious practice after confessing to having had an affair with a woman and fathered her children.

Sex scandals have likewise rocked the Catholic Church in a number of countries such as Kenya and Tanzania in Africa; France, Germany, Great Britain, Sweden, Poland, Malta, and even Italy, among others in Europe.

In North and South America, rape cases against priests and bishops have likewise been reported in the US, Mexico, Canada, Brazil, Chile, Peru, and Argentina. Australia and Newz Zealand.

The rape accusations against priests came from female and male victims. Some notable examples are Father Francesco Scerri from Malta. A supposed "mistake in the charges" led to his acquittal of rape and instead, a conviction of sexual abuse.

A report commissioned by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2004 revealed that a total of 10,667 people accused priests of child sexual abuse from 1950 to 2002.

A [Boston Globe](#) report showed that from 1990 to 2002, at least 11 Catholic bishops outside the US have resigned from their posts amid accusations of sexual misconduct. — **compiled by Mark Merueñas**

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Steven Zahl • 2 years ago

The catholic church protects their own. Even Rapists.

^ | ▾ • Share ›

Avatar

Stean • 2 years ago

Yuck. Katoliko Kadiri.

^ | ▾ • Share ›



MAXPAIN → [Stean](#) • 2 years ago

The fact is, the national percentage of Catholic priests accused of abuse amounts to one half of one percent, according to Catholic Answers, "Understanding the Priests Scandal". Protestant and secular experts have even cited surveys showing the actual abuse among Catholic clergy to be much lower than other denominations, as well as significantly lower than the general population (P. Jenkins, Pedophiles and Priests; J. Could, "Pedophilia," Time Magazine, April 2002). Brewed by the media people, hungry for high ratings and popularity, such as this website who is posting this headline for over a week, and despite these statistics, the public typically only hears of the criminally unfaithful priests, rather than the tragedy of the overall abuse problem in our culture.

Catholics is on the record as proclaiming that the root cause of evil, such as sexual abuse, is human sinfulness and the abandonment of Jesus's teachings of moral Truth.

^ | ▾ • Share ›

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Rey Abella • 2 years ago

they should not trust a priest he is only a human being, they can rape any of young girls. gay priest is better? no accusation of rape it is right.

^ | ▾ • Share ›



GKLER → [Rey Abella](#) • 2 years ago

Gays are not allowed to become priests in the Catholic Church.

^ | ▾ • Share ›



Johnny Torres → [GKLER](#) • 2 years ago

Who told you that gays are not allowed to become priest in the Roman Catholic? How would you considered those young boys that have been sexually molested by Catholic priests? Are they not gays?

^ | ▾ • Share ›



GKLER → [Johnny Torres](#) • 2 years ago

read:

<http://www.tldm.org/news8/homo...>

^ | ▾ • Share ›



This comment was deleted.



GKLER → [Guest](#) • 2 years ago

I quote from the article above:

"Amid mounting public pressure in 2002, the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines - through then president Archbishop Orlando Quevedo - issued a historic apology to all the victims of HUNDREDS of priests accused of sexual abuse since the 1980s."

It said HUNDREDS of priests from the 1980s to 2002.

^ | v • Share ›

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MAXPAIN • 2 years ago

We would be naïve and dishonest were we to say this is a Roman Catholic problem and has nothing to do with us because we have married and female priests in our church. Sin and abusive behavior know no ecclesial or other boundaries." Rt. Rev. William Persell, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, Good Friday Sermon, 2002.

^ | v • Share ›

Avatar

MAXPAIN • 2 years ago

To those who care to have an open-mind and shun the babbling:

<http://fisheaters.com/clergyse...>

<http://reformation.com/>

^ | v • Share ›



Guest → **MAXPAIN** • 2 years ago

Senators and Congressmen, above are sites to visit. The state should protect their citizens. The clergies no matter what religion they represent are not coddled by their church. The sex molesters are arrested, put to trial in court, if convicted, jailed. The church or the offender pays the settlement due to the victims. Victims are given proper psychological therapy under government institutions. Hindi ito nangyayari sa Pilipinas. Gabriela, kayo ang makakatulong.

1 ^ | v • Share ›

Avatar

Krystoff • 2 years ago

wow.. another one bites the dust...

CBCP.. wake up?

1 ^ | v • Share ›

Avatar

Steven Zahl • 2 years ago

Pedophile catholic priest. So what else is new?

CBCP Cover-up. So what else is new?

^ | v • Share ›

Avatar

Ulysses Nebres • 2 years ago

we misunderstood the real meaning of religion, maybe you were pertaining to sect.

^ | v • Share ›

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EMMY • 2 years ago

Ohhh! Parish Priest again was involved in a rape case?

Mahirap talaga ang Mahirap > lagi na lang inaabusu?

3 ^ | v • Share ›

Avatar

Guest • 2 years ago

Mideo Cruz, salamat. Kinutkot mo ang balat, ngayon lumalabas na ang baho. The Lord is now SHAKING the Roman Catholic church. Abangan nyo ang mga susunod na araw, MAS AALINGASAW PA 'YAN. The church will do a lot of cover-up, pero SISINGAW PA RIN ANG BAHONG NIYA. After 150 years, buhay pa pala ang espiritu ni Rizal. Ang mga Pilipino, naghahanap na ng katotohanan. Pero ang nakakalunokot buhay pa rin ang kaluluwa ni Padre Damaso

nakatandang, nangyayari ang karamihan sa mga bansa.

3 ^ [v] • Share >



Ulysses Nebres → Guest • 2 years ago

sama mo si padre salvi at camorra

^ [v] • Share >

Avatar



Dino • 2 years ago

Corrupt Bishops, Criminal Priests (CBCP) - a most appropriate name. and anti-women, at that. Hipokrito pa rin ang mga pinuno ng simbahan, kahit saang anggulo mo tingnan. Si Hesukristo, hindi nagmalinis at nagpakumbaba. Nakihalubilo pa nga sa mga prostitute at tax collector para marinig ang kanyang mensahe. Malayong-malayo ang mga CORRUPT BISHOPS, CRIMINAL PRIESTS kay Jesus.

3 ^ [v] • Share >



This comment was deleted.



jayson → Guest • 2 years ago

wala ba?bkit sabi ng mga papa at mga naging papa sa roma Vicar of Christ cla. khulugan kahalili ni kristo sa lupa. e d ba pakikitulad yun?

^ [v] • Share >

Avatar



lemmeesee67 • 2 years ago

No to Religious Extremists! No to Catholic Talibans! No to Fascist Bishops!

Let us all fight for freedom!

CBCP is against Women.

CBCP is against Choice.

CBCP is against Art.

CBCP is against Freedom!

CBCP is all about power, manipulation money, little boys and raping people..

3 ^ [v] • Share >



Johnny Torres → lemmeesee67 • 2 years ago

CBCP? They're hypocrites!

^ [v] • Share >



brunogiordano → lemmeesee67 • 2 years ago

AMEN!!!!

3 ^ [v] • Share >

Avatar



Chito Tuason • 2 years ago

what mideo cruz' art depicts that people don't get

1 ^ [v] • Share >



GKler → Chito Tuason • 2 years ago

Because he is dumb. He should have come-up with something people will "get" if he wants his message to get across. We simple folk prefer it that way.

2 ^ [v] • Share >



Sam → GKler • 2 years ago

Please don't call an artist 'dumb' just because you are too stupid to understand it. I agree with your last comment, you are simple!

2 ^ [v] • Share >



GKler → Chito Tuason • 2 years ago

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Sam → GKler • 2 years ago

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2 ^ [v] • Share >



GKler → Sam • 2 years ago

I may be stupid, but no more than you or Augustine Aquinas, so who made you King of the stupids?

3 ^ [v] • Share >



Guest → GKler • 2 years ago

SIMPLE FOLK = IGNORANT... BLINDLY FOLLOWING RELIGIOUS AUTHORITY WHO DICTATE THE NATURE OF GOD AND MAN...

SCIENCE MUST BE YOUR BASIS OF FAITH AND MORALITY, PARA HINDI KA NA SIMPLE FOLK... YOU WILL BECOME ONE WITH GOD THE UNIVERSE YOUR FATHER...

2 ^ [v] • Share >



This comment was deleted.



Guest → Guest • 2 years ago

PINAKAMATINDI YUNG SA'YO!!! IMAGINE MAY FAITH KA SA ISANG TAO LANG???

KASI AKO, I HAVE FULL FAITH IN A SCIENTIFIC AND ETERNAL GOD!!!!

^ [v] • Share >



Sam → Guest • 2 years ago

Augustine Aquinas, may I respectfully point out your continuous use of CAPITALS is considered very bad manners online.

^ [v] • Share >



GKler → Guest • 2 years ago

In ~500BC up to the 17th century AD, science said, "the earth is flat".

In ~300BC, Aristotle said, that the heavier of two objects will hit the ground first when dropped. This "science" was adopted by the Church as part of its doctrine of faith and morality, until it was proven incorrect by Galileo in the ~1600s.

Thanks to science, the USA produced 60,000 nuclear weapons. The only use for a nuclear weapon is mass destruction.

Faith and morality according to science: "Glory be to the Bomb and the Holy Fallout".

You have been enlightened.

You're welcome.

4 ^ [v] • Share ›



Guest → GKLeR • 2 years ago

WRONG...

SCIENCE IS BEYOND WHAT YOU CAN DO...

RELIGION IS ONLY MAN'S DICTATION TO THE NATURE OF THE UNIVERSE...

PLEASE STOP YOUR "ATOM BOMB" MENTALITY TAUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR HALF-TRUTH RELIGIOUS DOGMA... RELIGIOUS DOGMA IS OPPRESSOR AND AGGRESSOR THAT CAUSES PURE FANATICISM AND SPIRITUAL DEATH TO ALL...

RELIGION SAYS "GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, SO WE FOLLOW HIS REPRESENTATIVES, THE PREACHERS WHO ARE TEACHING PURE FALSEHOOD..."

SCIENCE TEACHES TOLERANCE AND DEMOCRACY... REMEMBER THAT...

^ [v] • Share ›



GKLeR → Guest • 2 years ago

Science: Glory be to the Bomb and the Holy Fallout.

Scientist: May the Blessings of the Bomb Almighty, and the Fellowship of the Holy Fallout, descend upon us all. This day and forever more.

John Brent: "That thing out there, an atomic bomb... is your god?"

2 ^ [v] • Share ›



Guest → GKLeR • 2 years ago

NOW I WANT TO ASK THEN, "WHAT DOES RELIGION DO IN A MAN'S LIFE???"...

SCIENCE DOES EVERYTHING FOR US, BECAUSE SCIENCE IS GOD'S SERVICE, LIKE ATOMIC INTERACTIONS, BIOLOGICAL HOMEOSTASIS... IN OUR BODIES...

RELIGION CANNOT ACCOUNT FOR THAT!!!!

^ [v] • Share ›



GKLeR → Guest • 2 years ago

John Locke wasn't around when Democracy was invented through myths and epics.

You may clap your hands now.

^ [v] • Share ›



GKLeR → Guest • 2 years ago

Science teaches Democracy?? LOL hahahaha

You need more enlightenment.

Look up history of democracy:

I quote:

Therold Jacobson has studied the pre-Revolution

Morkid Jacobsen has studied the pre-Babylonian Mesopotamia and uses Sumerian epic, myth and historical records to identify what he calls primitive democracy

So...democracy came from epics and myths. FAR from science.

1 ^ [v] • Share ›



Guest → GKLeR • 2 years ago

WRONG...

JOHN LOCKE, ONE OF THE PROPONENTS OF LIBERALISM, TAUGHT OF MAN AS A "BLANK SLATE MIND"... YAN ANG TRUTH... WALANG ALAM ANG TAO PAG IPINANGANAK... KAYA TUTURUAN MO...

TSK!!!TSK!!!

^ [v] • Share ›



Guest → GKLeR • 2 years ago

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^ [v] • Share ›



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^ [v] • Share ›



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TSK!!!TSK!!!

^ [v] • Share ›



GKLeR → Guest • 2 years ago

Go on and worship your Bomb, I won't stop you or your science myths.

Glory be to the Bomb and the Holy Fallout. LOL.

^ [v] • Share ›



Guest → GKLeR • 2 years ago

WORSHIP YOUR BOMB!!!

SCIENCE TEACHES US TO ASK, SEARCH AND KNOCK... FOR IF WE ASK, WE WILL GET AN ANSWER; IF WE

SEARCH, WE SHALL FIND AND IF WE KNOCK, THE DOOR WILL BE OPENED...

SCIENCE IS THE WAY WE DO OUR EXPERIMENTS, OUR OBSERVATIONS, OUR ANALYSIS... THIS WILL SERVE AS BASIS FOR THE TRUE FAITH BEING TAUGHT BY JESUS AND SIDDHARTHA GAUTAMA... IT IS THEN THAT WE KNOW THE FULL TRUTH AND WE SHALL WORSHIP GOD!!!! YUN ANG PARAAN... HINDI SA LYING RAPIST AND HYPOCRITE PASTORS MO!!!!

SCIENCE TEACHES FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE...
YOUR RELIGION TEACHES HYPOCRISY!!!

^ | v • Share ›



eddie_32 → GKler • 2 years ago

Thanks to nuclear weapon, World Wars never happened again. Nuclear Weapons can even make the Superpowers think twice about starting wars. but religion has created more wars than any other single idea combined.

^ | v • Share ›



GKler → eddie_32 • 2 years ago

You mean the bomb stopped large scale wars? 40-66million people died in WW2 (1939-1945).

What is large scale? 1million? 5million?

Look at how many people died in China alone from wars after WW2 (1949-1975): 40million.

<http://necrometrics.com/20c5m...>

Now you are introducing religion as the main cause of war. Please look up "Red Herring Fallacy".

I am only stating, the Bomb, has not stopped or prevented wars, like you initially stated.

Finally, just because "Steven Crocker", (whoever he is) said it, doesn't make it a universal truth. It doesn't make it so.

1 ^ | v • Share ›



eddie_32 → eddie_32 • 2 years ago

It did not stop wars, but the large-scale ones. The potential death of billions of people was spared. Humans will invent them anyway, stopping technology won't do us any good. technology will always be there, but "Today's religion will be the future's mythology. Both believed at one time by many; but proved wrong by the clever." - Steven Crocker

^ | v • Share ›



GKler → eddie_32 • 2 years ago

Dude, what rock have you been hiding in? Since WW2, when the bomb was first dropped, millions have been dying from wars around the world. The bomb has not stopped wars.

51 nations took part in WW2.

37 nations have been the victim of US intervention alone in their wars since WW2. That's just the US meddling.

Here read before you comment more

Here, read before you comment more.

<http://www.countercurrents.org...>

Science has made killing so much easier today, right Augustine Aquinas?

Glory be to the Bomb and the Holy Fallout.

1  • Share >



Guest → GKLeR • 2 years ago

WELL, RELIGION MADE US KILL ALL PEOPLE IN THE NAME OF THE HOLY GOD...

SCIENCE MADE US EXTEND LIVES AND TRULY HELP OTHERS...

DON'T USE YOUR COMPUTER, IT MIGHT KILL YOU BECAUSE IT IS A SCIENTIFIC INVENTION...

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