



Diocese of Rockford

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Office of the Bishop

November 14, 2018

*“With all my heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments.
In my heart I treasure your promise that I may not sin against you.” (Psalm 119:10-11)*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In January 2004, the Diocese of Rockford published a four-page report to the people of the Diocese of Rockford which outlined the history of sexual abuse of minors in the Diocese, and our diocesan policies and procedures for reporting and addressing sexual abuse of a minor. In that report the Diocese of Rockford disclosed that it had examined its files dating back to 1950 and found that between the years of 1950 and 2002, allegations of sexual abuse of a minor had been substantiated against three priests of the Diocese, and those priests were no longer in ministry.

Many dioceses in the United States have decided in recent months to publicly disclose a list of priests of their dioceses, by name, against whom substantiated allegations of childhood sexual abuse have been reported.

As faithful Catholics, we have experienced hurt and grief and indignation, the natural consequences of the horrendous sexual abuse scandal plaguing the Catholic Church. I have heard and shared your anger. I am making public today the list of priests of the Diocese of Rockford against whom allegations of sexual abuse of a minor have been substantiated. The list includes the identities of the three priests referred to in the Diocese's 2004 report.

The practice of the Diocese has been to inform the faithful when a priest has been removed from ministry due to a credible allegation of sexual abuse or other inappropriate conduct. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list, and the list covers the time frame of 1908, when this Diocese was established, to the present.

An allegation against a priest who had an assignment in this Diocese but belongs to a religious order or other diocese is referred to the religious order or other diocese to which the priest belongs and is under its jurisdiction. That is our current practice. However, to the extent the Diocese is aware of a substantiated allegation against a religious order priest or priest from another diocese who was assigned in the Diocese of Rockford or, who at any time served within the geographical boundaries of this Diocese but was not assigned in this Diocese, the name of that priest is included in this list. The list is not limited to priests, and includes permanent deacons and religious.

Several of the priests named on the list and the allegations against them are not new and, over the years, have been the subject of public statements by the Rockford Diocese to affected parishes and the public, published information in *The Observer* Catholic newspaper, and other media reports. In some cases, names of clergy not previously disclosed appear on this list, and that is because the allegations in their regard were reviewed in the process of compiling this list and were judged to be substantiated.

Finally, the list of names will be updated as necessary, and will be maintained as public information on the Diocese of Rockford website.

The people of the Diocese can be assured that those clergy members who are ministering to them today in their parishes and schools and other diocesan facilities are doing so according to the Diocese's strict standards of pastoral and moral conduct.

Publishing this list does not ameliorate the criminal acts of abusers. Our continued prayer is that victims of these priests find some bit of peace in seeing this list, and that all victims of sexual abuse find the courage to come forward and know that assistance is available to them. It is important that the Catholic faithful of the Diocese of Rockford are free to worship in environments that are safe, and that all clergy, staff and volunteers are criminally background checked, trained and held accountable for that safety. It is our policy that no clergy, staff or volunteer with a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor made against him or her shall be allowed to minister in this Diocese.

For more information about the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Essential Norms, the Diocese's safe environment policies and training of children and adults in prevention, detection and reporting of sexual abuse, please visit www.rockforddiocese.org.

To report an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor please call the police in the county in which the abuse occurred and then contact the Diocese of Rockford at its victim abuse hotline at **815-293-7540** or reportsexualabuse@rockforddiocese.org.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David J. Malloy
Bishop of Rockford

UPDATED MARCH 6, 2023

Diocese of Rockford Priests against whom
a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor has been reported

Priest	Ordination date	Parish Assignments	Status of accused
Mark A. Campobello	1991	St. James Church of Belvidere; St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church of Crystal Lake; St. Thomas the Apostle Church of Crystal Lake; Holy Angels Church of Aurora; Cathedral of St. Peter of Rockford; St. Peter Church of Geneva; Holy Family Church of Rockford	Removed from ministry December 2002. Laicized 2005.
Harlan B. Clapsaddle	1977	St. Anne Church of Dixon; St. Thomas More Church of Elgin; St. Mary Church of McHenry	Removed from ministry January 1997. Reassigned to ministry not involving minors November 1997. Removed from ministry March 2002.
Thomas Considine	1966	St. Catherine Church of Freeport; St. Mary Church of DeKalb; Holy Family Church of Rockford	Removed from ministry April 1980. Deceased March 1988.
John C. Holdren	1971	St. John the Baptist Church of Johnsbury; St. Peter Church of Geneva; St. Thomas the Apostle Church of Crystal Lake; St. Rita of Cascia Church of Aurora	Removed from ministry for reason not related to a child abuse allegation July 1994. Deceased April 2018.
William I. Joffe	1957	St. Patrick Church of Amboy; St. Flannan Church of Harmon; St. Patrick Church of Maytown; St. Mary Church of Walton; Ss. Peter and Paul Church of Cary; St. Joseph Church of Harvard; St. Patrick Church of Hartland; St. Mary Church of Woodstock; St. Mary Church of Morrison; St. Patrick Church of Dixon; Our Lady of Good Counsel Church of Aurora; St. Peter Church of Rockford; St. John the Baptist Church of Savanna	Removed from ministry August 1993. Deceased April 2008.
Joseph J. M. Tully	1925	St. John the Baptist Church of Savanna; St. Rita of Cascia Church of Aurora; St. Andrew Church of Rock Falls; St. Catherine Church of Freeport; St. Wendelin Church of Shannon; St. Thomas Aquinas Church of Freeport; St. Mary Church of Freeport; St. Patrick Church of Dixon; St. Patrick Church of Hartland; St. Ann Church of Warren; St. James Church of Rockford	Retired January 1971. Deceased December 1982.

Diocese of Rockford Permanent Deacons against whom
a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor has been reported

Deacon	Ordination date	Parish Assignments	Status of accused
Michael Frazier	1982 as a permanent deacon	St. Monica Church of Carpentersville	Retired 2011. Removed from ministry by Diocese of Knoxville on February 2014. Faculties removed by this Diocese February 2014.

Religious Order Priests or Priests of another diocese, who worked within the geographical boundaries of the Rockford
Diocese or were assigned in this Diocese, against whom
a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor has been reported

Priest/Brother	Ordination date	Parish Assignments	Status of accused
James Campbell, M.S.C., Missionaries of the Sacred Heart religious order	1972	St. Joseph Church of Elgin; St. Therese of Jesus Church of Aurora	Removed from ministry by religious order May 2002. Dismissed from the priesthood February 2005. Identified on religious order's list of priests credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor: https://www.misacor-usa.org/msc-accountability/ Deceased 2007.
Theodore Feely, OFM. Conv., Conventual Franciscans of St. Bonaventure Province religious order	1958	St. Anthony of Padua Church of Rockford	Deceased 1991.
Walter E. Johnson, M.M., Maryknoll Missionaries religious order	1953	St. Mary Church of Woodstock	Removed from ministry by religious order April 1988. Returned to ministry by religious order September 1988. Removed from ministry by religious order April 1993. Deceased April 2018.
Augustine K. Jones, O.S.B., Benedictine religious order	1953	None	Removed from ministry by religious order August 1993. Deceased September 2007. Identified on religious order's List of Accused Monks: https://www.marmion.org/s/1356/bp21/abbey/interior.aspx?sid=1356&gid=1&pgid=2931&sparam=Skaja&scontid=0
Peter D. Kohler, M.S., Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette religious order	1968	None	Deceased June 2014.
Joseph M. Lessard, priest of the Diocese of Phoenix	1980	None	Removed from ministry by hospital employer and Diocese of Rockford February 2001. Removed from ministry by Diocese of Phoenix 2002. Identified on Diocese of Phoenix list of priests laicized or removed from ministry due to sexual misconduct of a minor: https://dphx.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/TABLE-I-DIOCESE-PHOENIX-PRIESTS.pdf

Alfredo Pedraza Arias, priest of the Diocese of Tunja, Colombia, South America	1992	Our Lady of Good Counsel of Aurora; Sacred Heart Church of Aurora; St. Mary Church of DeKalb	Removed from ministry October 2014; criminal prosecution February 2016-February 2018; U.S. Visa revoked; deported to Colombia, South America in February 2018 by Federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement following criminal case in which he pled guilty to one count of battery.
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Religious Order Priests or Priests of another Diocese who worked within the geographical boundaries of the Rockford Diocese or were assigned in this Diocese, against whom an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor has been reported, and whose name appears on another Diocese's list or religious order's list of accused

Priest	Ordination date	Parish Assignments	Status of accused
William D. Virtue, priest of the Diocese of Peoria	1975	St. James Church of Lee; St. Flannen Church of Harmon; St. Patrick Church of Maytown; St. Mary Church of Walton	Removed from ministry by Diocese of Peoria and Diocese of Rockford February 2006. Identified on Diocese of Peoria's list of priests of the Diocese of Peoria removed from ministry due to allegations of abuse of a minor: https://cdop.org/safe-environment-program/
Joseph Jablonski, religious priest of the Missionaries of Sacred Heart religious order	1976	St. Therese of Jesus Church of Aurora	Diocese removed priest's faculties to exercise ministry in this Diocese March 2019. Identified on Diocese of San Bernardino's list of priests with credible allegations of child sexual abuse in the Diocese of San Bernardino: https://www.sbdiocese.org/sexualabuse.cfm Identified on religious order's list of priests credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor: https://www.misacor-usa.org/msc-accountability/
David F. Heimann	1958	St. Peter Church of Rockford	Removed from ministry in Ohio 1961; identified on Diocese of Columbus' list of priests credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor occurring in the Diocese of Columbus: https://columbuscatholic.org/list-of-credibly-accused-clergy Reportedly deceased.
Richard Kuhl, M.S.C., religious brother of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart religious order	1954 (Final Profession of Vows)	None	Removed from ministry by religious order 1996. Identified on religious order's list of priests credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor: https://www.misacor-usa.org/msc-accountability/ Deceased 2009
Ivan Rovira, priest of the Diocese of Brownsville	1971	St. Joseph Church of Elgin; St. Therese of Jesus Church of Aurora	Identified on Diocese of Brownsville's January 2019 list of priests credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor: https://www.cdob.org/dlist/ Priest reportedly fled to Mexico in 2002.
Daniel Cipar, M.S.C., religious priest of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart religious order	1961	Holy Cross Church of Batavia	Identified on religious order's list of priests credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor: https://www.misacor-usa.org/msc-accountability/ Deceased February 2018.
Aloysius Piorkowski, priest of a	1935	St. Wendelin Church of Shannon; Ss. John and Catherine Church of Mount Carroll; St. Mary	Identified on Diocese of Lincoln's list of priests against whom a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor has been reported: https://www.lincolndiocese.org/vigilance/published-list

diocese in Poland		Church of Galena; St. Peter Church of South Beloit; St. Mary Church of Polo; St. Mary Church of Sterling	Deceased March 1978.
Leo Petit, religious order priest of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart religious order	1951	St. Joseph Church of Elgin; Sacred Heart Church of Aurora	Identified on religious order's list of priests credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor: https://www.misacor-usa.org/msc-accountability/ Deceased March 2014.
Joseph P. Marron, O.S.A., religious order priest of the Augustinian order	1936	St. Mary Church of Rockford	Identified on Diocese of San Diego's November 2020 list of credibly accused priests: https://www.safeinourdiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/documents/List-of-Priests-published-102518.pdf Deceased March 1998.
Jerome Skaja, religious brother of Benedictine religious Order	Date of entrance 1972	None	Identified on religious order's List of Accused Monks: https://www.marmion.org/s/1356/bp21/abbey/interior.aspx?sid=1356&gid=1&pgid=2931&sparam=Skaja&scontid=0 Deceased 2016.