

Priest gets 14 years in sex case

Molestation sentence limited by plea bargain

From Bee staff reports

SAN ANDREAS — The Rev. Oliver O'Grady, a Catholic priest convicted of sexual molestations involving boys, was sentenced Monday to 14 years in state prison.

O'Grady agreed to the guilty plea and sentence after the Calaveras County district attorney's office agreed to drop additional charges.

He pleaded guilty to four counts involving two boys between the ages of 3 and 13.

Neither O'Grady nor any of the victims or family members made a statement during Monday's brief court proceeding.

According to authorities, the offenses occurred between December 1984, when O'Grady became pastor at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in San Andreas, and July 1991. O'Grady became pastor at St. Anthony's in Hughson in July 1992 and also has served in Turlock.

He resigned June 20 as pastor of the Hughson church, issuing a statement in the church bulletin that he was leaving because of allegations of sexual misconduct.

He initially was held on 23 counts of lewd and lascivious behavior with minors and could have faced a prison sentence of up to 172 years.

Sheriff's investigators said they believed the molestations occurred in Calaveras County and that O'Grady, 48, brought the boys from outside the county.

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