

Archdiocese releases list of substantiated claims of clergy sexual abuse with a minor

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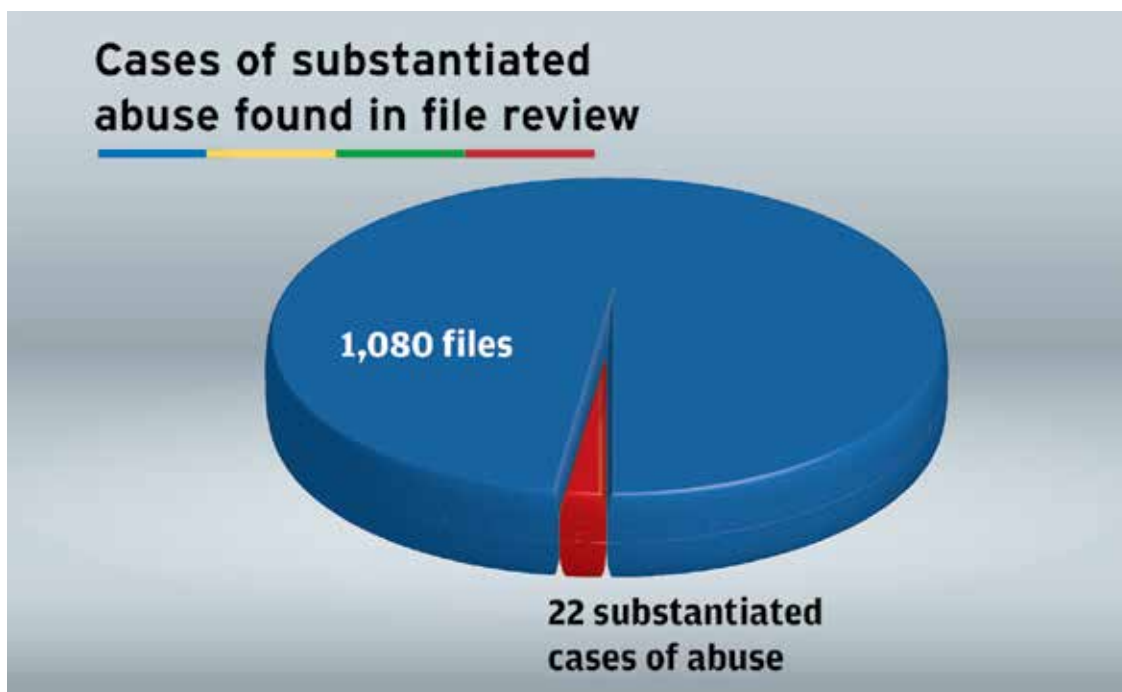
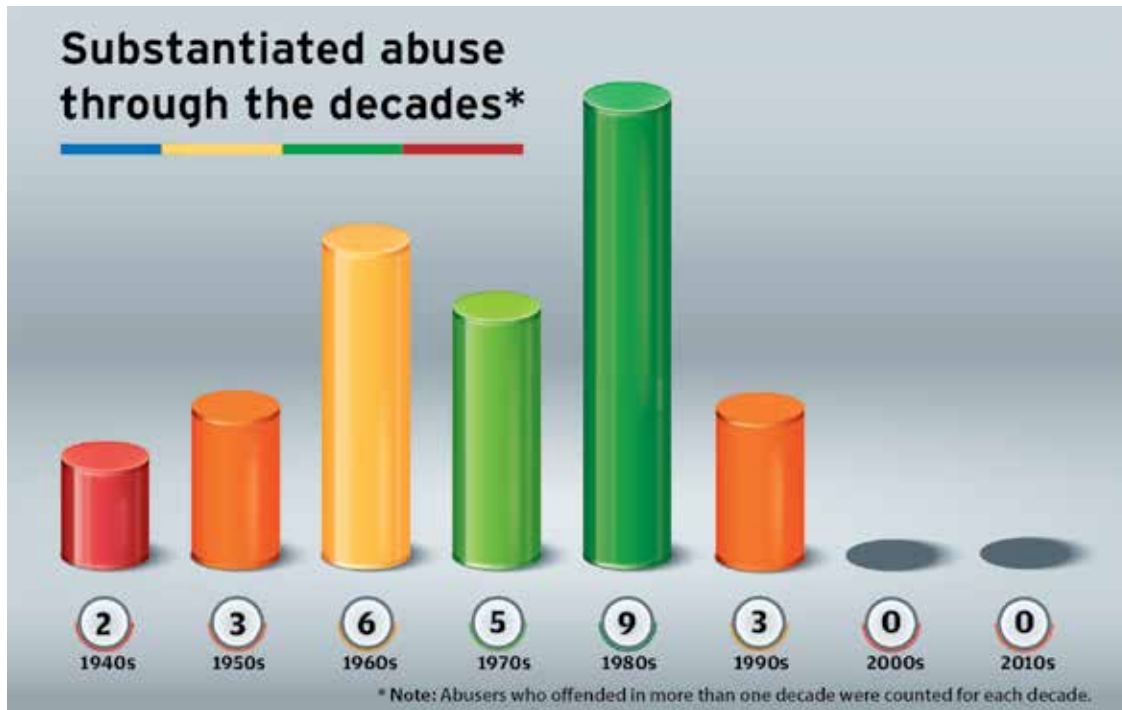
KANSAS CITY, Kan. — To provide greater transparency on the part of the church regarding historical allegations of clerical sexual abuse, Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann has released today a list of clerics against whom substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of a minor have been made some time in the last 75 years. None are in current ministry in the archdiocese.

“I thank all victims who have courageously come forward with allegations in order to prevent someone else from being victimized, as well as to assist with the progress of their own healing process,” wrote Archbishop Naumann in his Leaven column.

“I am also grateful to members of the secular press that have brought accusations to light and compelled the church to address this evil in order to promote the healing of victims and protect our children and youth today and in the future,” he added.

The list is composed of the names of 22 clerics against whom substantiated allegations have been made, and four with previously publicized allegations not able to be substantiated. The list was generated by the archdiocese based upon a review of approximately 1,080 individual clergy files dating back more than 75 years by the Chicago office of the law firm of Husch Blackwell.

Those who were not clergy of the archdiocese were either priests of another diocese or members of a religious order assigned to ministry in the archdiocese.



A report based upon the review done by Husch Blackwell was shared with the attorney general of Kansas. If new information comes to the archdiocese, the archbishop said, the list will be updated.

Of the 22 on the list, 10 were priests of the archdi-

ocese. Also, of the 22, 11 are deceased and 7 have been laicized.

The 22 represent 2.04 percent of the 1080 files reviewed by Husch Blackwell.

The archbishop recognizes his responsibility to protect all entrusted to his pastoral care, especially chil-

dren, and to protect the good names of clerics against the harm of unsubstantiated accusations. Therefore, he has chosen not to include on this list individuals against whom accusations cannot be substantiated at this time.

“When you are attempting to discern the truth of an

Those with substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of a minor:

- Brayley, John
- Dannenfelser, Lambert
- Fiala, John
- Finnerty, William
- Forsythe, James
- Ginzkey, Lawrence
- Gottschalk, Dave
- Harrington, John J.
- Imming, David
- Juarez, Martin
- Justi, Marvin
- Lamping, Steven
- Licktieg, Adrian
- Meis, Finian
- Redmond, Donald
- Richardson, Barry
- Roberts, Edward
- Schepers, Frank
- Schmitz, Dennis
- Wisner, John Henry
- Wolfe, Chuck
- Wurtz, Camillus

Previously publicized allegations not able to be substantiated.

- Haegelin, William
- Kallal, Scott James
- Putti, Anthony
- Rossman, Christopher

For more details about the names on this list, go to pages 8-9.

event that allegedly happened decades ago, this can be very difficult, especially when the accused is deceased and the memories of others, who could have provided helpful information, have faded,” the archbishop wrote. “The list that we are providing today is accurate based on the information we possess at this moment.”

>> See “SAFETY” on page 10

Archbishop addresses release of list of substantiated abusers

Today's Leaven makes public a list of all Catholic clergy with substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of minors for whom we have files in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas dating from the 1940s to the present.

To assist the archdiocese with this effort, we engaged the services of Husch Blackwell, a law firm with expertise and experience conduct-



ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH F. NAUMANN

ing similar types of reviews for many entities, organizations,

and public and private educational institutions. We asked Husch Blackwell to provide us with an objective and comprehensive understanding of more than a thousand files of Catholic clergy dating back more than 75 years.

Each name on this list represents a grave human tragedy. Each name represents a betrayal of trust and a violation of the innocent. The sexual abuse of children and youth by Catholic priests contradicts

our church's teaching on authentic love, the beauty of human sexuality and the dignity of the human person. What was done to victims by those who were called to be spiritual fathers is cause for great shame. On behalf of the church, I apologize to each victim and pledge our commitment to do all that we can to assist with your healing.

After the McCarrick scandal and the Pennsylvania grand jury report, I had hoped to be able to share earlier

this information with you. However, it was not a simple task. The Church has a responsibility to be transparent about sexual misconduct with children or minors by those with leadership responsibilities in the Church. I have an obligation to protect all those entrusted to my pastoral care, especially children.

At the same time, I have a solemn responsibility also to protect the good names of our priests, the vast majority of whom serve

with selfless dedication, from having their reputations harmed by sometimes sincere but nevertheless unsubstantiated accusations.

When you are attempting to discern the truth of an event that allegedly happened decades ago, this can be very difficult especially when the accused is deceased and the memories of others, who could have provided helpful information, have faded.

>> See “ARCHBISHOP” on page 10

Substantiated allegations of clergy sexual abuse of a minor

BRAYLEY, JOHN

AFFILIATION: Oblate missionary, Montreal, Canada
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1980 while visiting friends in Roeland Park
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

DANNENFELSER, LAMBERT

AFFILIATION: Franciscans (OFM)
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1989
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Sacred Heart, Emporia
- St. Joseph, Olpe

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

FIALA, JOHN

AFFILIATION: Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT)
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: Mid-1980s (not within the archdiocese)
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Joseph, Shawnee
- St. Dominic, Holton

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

FINNERTY, WILLIAM

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1927
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1955
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: Early- to mid-1960s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Queen of the Holy Rosary, Overland Park
- Sts. Cyril and Methodias, Kansas City, Kansas
- Holy Angels, Basehor
- St. Francis de Sales, Lansing
- St. Thomas, Kansas City, Kansas
- St. Rose, Kansas City, Kansas
- Catholic Charities, Kansas City, Kansas
- Our Lady & St. Rose, Kansas City, Kansas
- St. Mary-St. Anthony, Kansas City, Kansas
- St. Agnes, Roeland Park
- St. Patrick, Kansas City, Kansas
- Holy Spirit, Overland Park

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

FORSYTHE, JAMES

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1954
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1983
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2005
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1987
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Agnes, Roeland Park
- Holy Trinity, Lenexa
- St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Overland Park

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

GINZKEY, LAWRENCE

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1946
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1972
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2005
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1985
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Holy Name, Topeka
- St. Peter Cathedral, Kansas City, Kansas
- Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City,

Kansas

- St. Ann, Prairie Village
- Sacred Heart, Paxico
- Holy Cross, Emmett
- Sacred Heart, Delia
- St. John Vianney, Eskridge

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

GOTTSCHALK, DAVE

AFFILIATION: Capuchin Franciscans (OFM Cap.)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1943
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1969
LAST KNOWN STATUS: San Antonio Friary, Denver
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: Unknown
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Good Shepherd, Shawnee

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

HARRINGTON, JOHN J.

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1920
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1947
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 1986
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1940s and 1960s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Blessed Sacrament, Kansas City, Kansas
- St. John, Greeley
- St. Gregory, Marysville
- St. Francis de Sales, Lansing
- Assumption, Edgerton
- Holy Trinity, Paola
- Sacred Heart, Bonner Springs
- Stormont Vail Health Center, Topeka
- Holy Cross, Emmett
- Sacred Heart, Delia
- Convalescent Home, Topeka
- St. Aloysius, Meriden
- St. Francis, Lapeer

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

IMMING, DAVID

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2011
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1980 in Oklahoma
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Never served in the archdiocese

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

JUAREZ, MARTIN

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1946
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1981
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2005
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: Early to mid-1980s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Matthew, Topeka
- Holy Spirit, Overland Park
- St. Peter Cathedral, Kansas City, Kansas
- Sacred Heart, Paxico
- Our Lady of Guadalupe, Topeka
- St. Joseph-St. Benedict, Kansas City, Kansas
- Queen of the Holy Rosary, Overland Park

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

JUSTI, MARVIN

AFFILIATION: Capuchin Franciscans (OFM Cap.)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1933
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1958
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 2009
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1969 in Pennsylvania
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Good Shepherd, Shawnee

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

LAMPING, STEVEN

AFFILIATION: Franciscans (OFM)
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown

LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1950s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Joseph, Olpe

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes.

LICKTIEG, ADRIAN

AFFILIATION: Carmelites (OCarm)
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: Unknown
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Presumably deceased
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1959
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Joseph, Leavenworth

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

MEIS, FINIAN

AFFILIATION: Capuchin Franciscans (OFM Cap.)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1936
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1964
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 1997
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1972-1979
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Good Shepherd, Shawnee

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

REDMOND, DONALD

AFFILIATION: Benedictines (OSB)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1930
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1957
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Removed from ministry 2002
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1960-1968
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Sts. Peter and Paul, Seneca
- St. Lawrence Catholic Campus Center, Lawrence
- Benedictine College, Atchison
- St. Benedict Parish, Atchison
- Sacred Heart, Atchison
- Sacred Heart, Sabetha
- St. Augustine, Fidelity
- St. James, Wetmore

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

RICHARDSON, BARRY

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1967
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1997
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2005
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1999
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Prince of Peace, Olathe
- St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Overland Park
- Sts. Peter and Paul, Seneca

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

ROBERTS, EDWARD

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1917
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1941
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 1997
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1949 - early 1990s
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Peter Cathedral, Kansas City, Kansas
- St. Teresa, Westphalia
- Sacred Heart, Baileyville
- St. Gregory, Marysville
- St. Joseph, Nortonville
- Holy Name, Topeka

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

SCHEPERS, FRANK

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1916
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1955
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 2002
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1975-76
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

• Christ the King, Kansas City, Kansas
 • Sacred Heart, Mound City
 • Queen of the Holy Rosary, Wea
 • Sacred Heart, Kansas City, Kansas
 • Holy Name, Topeka
 • Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City, Kansas
 • St. John, Greeley
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

SCHMITZ, DENNIS

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1961
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1989
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2005
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1990s & 1998
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Ann, Prairie Village
- Queen of the Holy Rosary, Overland Park
- Bishop Miede High School, Roeland Park
- St. Joseph, Shawnee
- Vocation director
- St. Mary-St. Anthony, Kansas City, Kansas
- Fiat House, Lawrence
- St. Gregory, Marysville

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

WISNER, JOHN HENRY

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1946
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1972
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2017
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1977-1984
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Sacred Heart, Kansas City, Kansas
- Christ the King, Kansas City, Kansas
- St. Joseph, Shawnee
- St. Agnes, Roeland Park

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: Yes

WOLFE, CHUCK

AFFILIATION: Capuchin Franciscans (OFM Cap.)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1949
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1979
LAST KNOWN STATUS: UNKNOWN
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1976
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Good Shepherd, Shawnee

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

WURTZ, CAMILLUS

AFFILIATION: Benedictines (OSB)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1928
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1953
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Deceased 2013
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1960
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- Maur Hill-Mount Academy, Atchison
- Camp St. Maur, Atchison

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No

Previously publicized allegations not able to be substantiated

HAEGELIN, WILLIAM

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1949
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1976
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2004
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1983-84
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Agnes, Roeland Park
- Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City, Kansas
- Blessed Sacrament, Kansas City, Kansas
- Christ the King, Kansas City, Kansas
- St. Lawrence, Easton
- Sacred Heart-St. Casimir, Leavenworth
- Immaculata High School, Leavenworth
- St. Ann, Prairie Village

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No
COMMENTS: Could not be determined if sexual relationship began before or after the accuser reached the age of majority.

KALLAL, SCOTT JAMES

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, Apostles of the Interior Life (AVI)
YEAR OF BIRTH: Unknown
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 2011
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Administrative leave
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 2015
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• St. Patrick, Kansas City, Kansas
• Holy Spirit, Overland Park
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No
COMMENTS: Criminal charges filed; case ongoing. Accused denies charges of abuse. Diocesan investigation suspended during law enforcement investigation.

PUTTI, ANTHONY

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Guntur, India
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1975
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 2001
LAST KNOWN STATUS: No longer affiliated
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 2009-2010
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Prince of Peace, Olathe
• St. Michael, Leawood
• St. Gregory, Marysville
• St. Malachy, Beattie
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No
COMMENTS: Recalled to home diocese prior to allegation of abuse of a minor. Denies abuse of a minor. Investigated by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.

ROSSMAN, CHRISTOPHER

AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1972
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 2007
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Removed from ministry 2016
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 2016
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Prince of Peace, Olathe
• Mother Teresa, Topeka
• St. Dominic, Holton
• St. Francis, Mayetta
• Our Lady of Snows, Potawatomi Reservation
• Annunciation, Baldwin City
• St. Francis, Lapeer
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: N/A
COMMENTS: Law enforcement investigation is ongoing.

REPORTING ABUSE

If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, you should make a report to the Kansas Department for Children and Families Protection Report Center by calling (800) 922-5330.

If you or someone you know has been abused by a cleric, employee or volunteer of any archdiocesan parish, school or agency — regardless of when the abuse may have occurred — call the archdiocesan confidential report line at (913) 647-3051 or the victim assistance coordinator at (913) 298-9244, after calling local law enforcement. You can also make a report by utilizing the online reporting form at: www.archkck.org/reportabuse.

The Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas places the protection of children as its first priority. Furthermore, the archdiocese respects the sincere concerns of all individuals who report misconduct and is thus committed to conducting thorough investigations of all such allegations.

Frequently asked questions

Q. What information are you releasing? Whose names are on this list?

A. This list contains the names of the clergy members against whom a substantiated claim of sexual abuse of a minor (a young person under the age of 18) has been received by the Archdiocese. The accused might have been a priest of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, a priest of another diocese assigned to work in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, or a member of a religious order assigned to ministry in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas.

Q. How do you define “child sexual abuse”?

A. Sexual abuse of a child, minor or youth means any sexual act to or with a child or other sexual exploitation of a child or other behavior by which an adult uses a minor as an object of sexual gratification. For purpose of archdiocesan policies, the term “sexual abuse” is not necessarily limited to the definitions of sexual abuse under civil or criminal law. The use, creation or possession of child pornographic images constitutes child sexual abuse.

Q. What are the criteria for inclusion on the list?

A. Clergy members’ names are included on this list if there was a substantiated allegation of child sexual abuse against them. Their inclusion does not necessarily mean they were found guilty of a crime or are liable for civil claims. Many of the allegations received by the archdiocese are from decades ago and were reported many years after the alleged abuse, sometimes after the death of the accused.

Q. What do you mean by a substantiated allegation?

A. When a complaint is received, the archdiocese starts with the presumption that the allegation is being brought forward in good faith. Therefore, all allegations are considered credible; the report investigator’s task is to investigate it thoroughly. An allegation is considered “substantiated” when it is corroborated with witness statements, documents, emails, photos, texts, or by another source, such as law enforcement. Obviously, if the accused member of the clergy admits to allegations the accusation is substantiated. However, an allegation can be considered substantiated, even if the accused denied the allegation, when there is corroborating evidence that supports the veracity of the allegation.

No matter how long ago the alleged abuse occurred, every effort is made to determine if the allegation can be substantiated.

Q. How many clergy files were reviewed and what time period did they cover?

A. The review included a total of some 1080 individual clergy files going back more than 75 years.

Q. How many clergy with substantiated allegations were diocesan priests of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas?

A. Ten.

Q. What percentage of all clergy whose files were reviewed had a substantiated allegation?

A. 2.04%

Q. What happens to an allegation of child abuse by a member of the clergy once it is received?

A. When an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by a member of the clergy is received, the archdiocese initiates an investigation and notifies law enforcement according to state law and the archdiocese’s Child Protection policy.

The allegation is also communicated to the archdiocese’s own Independent Review Board (IRB) in accord with its Safe Environment policy. The archdiocese employs a report investigator who, with her extensive law enforcement and investigative background as a former FBI agent and Kansas state trooper, performs internal investigations of allegations of sexual abuse. The investigator’s reports are presented to the IRB to inform their deliberations and provide the known facts on which to base their recommendations.

The IRB’s members include a victim of clergy sexual abuse, an attorney who has long advocated for abuse victims, mental health professionals, law enforcement officials and one priest. The IRB offers both the person making the accusation and the accused the opportunity to meet separately with the board.

The IRB is not an investigative body, but it is presented with the results of the investigation conducted by the archdiocesan report investigator. Following its review of the case, the IRB refers on to the archbishop the case file and the board’s recommendations. At that time, it makes recommendations with respect to all aspects of the case, including, when applicable, its recommendations concerning the accused cleric’s suitability for ministry.

If the allegation is not able to be substantiated and consistent with the recommendation of the IRB, the cleric may be returned to active ministry.

Q. Is this list complete?

A. This list is a complete and accurate representation of the substantiated allegations that have been made to the archdiocese against priests for whom we have files. The list is based on the extensive file review conducted by the independent law firm of Husch Blackwell. The archdiocese has received some historic allegations that could not be substantiated based on the information contained in the file. These are not allegations about anyone currently serving in priestly ministry. The report investigator will be asked to investigate the allegations and present her findings to the Independent Review Board. Once the IRB has made its recommendations, it is possible that names could be added to the current list.

If new information comes to the archdiocese, the list will be updated.

Q. Why was Husch Blackwell chosen to review the files?

A. Husch Blackwell was chosen

because of its expertise in this field. The firm has conducted investigations and reviews covering a multitude of circumstances for a number of large religious organizations and public and private educational institutions throughout the United States.

Q. Why were some of these names not made public before now?

A. Many of these names have been made public previously. But some of these allegations were reported decades after the alleged abuse — in some cases, when the accused was deceased. In other instances, the victim requested that the matter not be publicized. The publication of this list, therefore, encompassing more than 75 years of records, is an effort to make all substantiated allegations of sexual abuse — even historical ones — public in the same way the archdiocese has made current ones.

Q. Why are you releasing this list now?

A. In light of the confusion and concern caused by the Pennsylvania grand jury report and the Archbishop McCarrick scandal this past summer, there has been a call for greater transparency on the part of the church regarding not just present allegations, but historical allegations as well. We are releasing this list as part of that effort toward greater transparency.

Q. Are any of the men on this list still in active ministry?

A. No cleric with a substantiated allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor is permitted to exercise any form of public ministry.

Q. What is the archdiocese doing to prevent sexual abuse within the church?

A. The archdiocesan safe environment program has three components. First, persons who work with or around children are required to participate in ongoing child safety training and to keep it current. Children, too, are required to undergo personal safety training. Second, all church employees, clergy, and volunteers are required to undergo criminal background checks. Third, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops engages an independent firm that conducts an annual safe environment audit of the archdiocese.

The archdiocese currently has 18 trained facilitators available to present the Virtus program’s adult awareness training sessions to archdiocesan employees, clergy, and volunteers and to date has instructed more than 47,930 adults here in the archdiocese. It has conducted more than 41,000 background checks for any adult serving in any capacity in the archdiocese and has passed every audit — both remote and on-site — since the audits were instituted in 2004.

Q. What training do seminarians, or new employees, clergy and volunteers of the archdiocese receive regarding the archdiocese’s Safe Environment program?

>> Continues on page 10

Frequently asked questions continued

>> Continued from page 9

A. All adults — employees, volunteers and clergy — are required to undergo Virtus training. (See below.) Aspiring seminarians must complete their Virtus training upon acceptance to seminary studies. All children in Catholic schools or religious education programs also undergo personal safety training.

Q. What is Virtus training?

A. Virtus is the safe environment program created by the National Catholic Risk Retention Group in the United States and chosen by the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas to provide ongoing training to all personnel on sexual abuse of minors, and how to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse. This training is required for all employees, clergy and volunteers, and there is special age-appropriate training provided to children. The Virtus safe environment program is in use in over 80 dioceses in the United States.

Q. Everywhere in the news, sexual abuse by perpetrators in all walks of life is being reported. But it seems that some critics have singled out the Catholic Church for criticism on this matter. Why is that?

A. One instance of sexual abuse by a member of Catholic clergy is too many. As a Church, we should hold ourselves and, in particular, our clergy to the highest standards. As a result of a series of articles in the Boston Globe on the sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy, the Catholic Church has undergone intense scrutiny on this issue. This led in 2002 to the adoption by the Catholic Bishops of the United States of the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.” The charter mandated policies and protocols regarding the church’s re-

sponse to allegations of sexual abuse of minors by clergy as well as standards for safe environment programs aimed at preventing future abuse. No other institution in our country has undergone such a comprehensive review and reform. We are grateful to victims and the secular media who called the Church to exercise greater accountability in this area. At the same time, federal and state laws as well as government investigations must apply equally to all individuals and institutions (e.g. other churches, organizations, professions, public schools).

Q. What steps have the archdiocese taken to ensure that those who apply for seminary are suitable for ministry?

A. The application process for admission to seminary studies for the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas is extensive and includes lengthy interviews, multiple references, national criminal background and national sex offender registry checks and a psychological assessment that includes a psychosexual evaluation. Only men willing and able to live the chaste and celibate lives that are required of them move forward in the application process. While in seminary, men are closely supervised by a formation team and routinely evaluated by the archdiocese. Another thorough background check and fingerprinting by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation are done just prior to being ordained a transitional deacon.

Q. How does the archdiocese ensure that priests from other dioceses, ministering here either short or long-term, are not a threat?

A. Every cleric from another diocese seeking to exercise ministry in the archdiocese has to present from his bishop or provincial confirmation that

he is a priest or deacon in good standing.

Q. Does the archdiocese work with law enforcement to investigate reports of abuse?

A. Allegations of sexual abuse against children are reported to the appropriate law enforcement and child protection agencies as required by applicable state laws and the archdiocese’s Child Protection policy. Moreover, the archdiocese cooperates fully with law enforcement in the process of ensuing investigations.

Q. What should I do if I know of a child that is being abused or if I’ve been abused by a representative of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas?

A. If you know of a child who is in immediate danger, call 911. If you have observed suspicious behavior and fear that a child might be being abused or neglected by a representative of the archdiocese, call the Kansas Department for Children and Families Protection Report Center at 800-922-5330. Additionally, make a report to the archdiocese itself. You can report online at: www.archkck.org/reportabuse, or by calling these numbers:

- 1.) The Confidential Report Line, (913) 647-3051
- 2.) Jan Saylor, report investigator, (913) 647-3051 or
- 3.) Linda Slater-Trimble, Victim Assistance Coordinator, (913) 298-9244.

If you are an adult and have been abused by a representative of the archdiocese in the past, the archdiocese still encourages your report, no matter when the abuse occurred.

Those who are Hearing Impaired may report online or contact the Office of Deaf Ministry at (913) 324-5378 vp.

Safety protocols implemented across spectrum of church life

>> Continued from page 7

According to archdiocesan policy, the term “sexual abuse of a minor” is not limited to the definitions of sexual abuse under civil or criminal law.

An allegation is considered “substantiated” when it is corroborated with witness statements, documents, emails, photos, texts or by another source, such as law enforcement or the Independent Review Board of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. A confession by the accused is not necessary to substantiate a case.

While the publication of this list shines a light on historical allegations, the archdiocese has, since 2003, implemented a substantive safe environment program to help prevent sexual abuse in the church.

This program includes child safety training and criminal background checks for adults, personal safety training for children, and annual safe environment audits of the archdiocese, by an outside, independent firm engaged by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The program also sets out requirements for reporting and investigation.

All adults — clergy, employees, and volunteers — are required to undergo the archdiocese’s safe environment training, Virtus.

Currently, the archdiocese has 18 trained facilitators available to present the Virtus program’s adult awareness training sessions and to date, more than 47,930 adults in the archdiocese have undergone this training. The archdiocese has conducted more than 41,000 background checks for adults serving in any capacity in the archdiocese.

Additionally, the archdiocese has passed every safe environment audit — both remote and on-site — since the audits were instituted in 2004.

Men who apply for seminary studies for the archdiocese must undergo an extensive application process that includes lengthy interviews, multiple references, national criminal background and national sex offender registry checks and a psychological assessment.

Clerics from other dioceses seeking to minister in the archdiocese must present confirmation from their bishop or provincial that they are priests or deacons in good standing.

Allegations of sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable adults are reported to law enforcement and child protection agencies as required by law and the archdiocese’s Child Protection policy. The archdiocese cooperates fully with law enforcement during investigations.

This information is being made available not only in this issue of *The Leaven* but online at: responseincrisis.archkck.org and *The Leaven* website at: www.theleaven.org.

Additional answers to frequently asked questions start on page 9.

Archbishop thanks victims for their courage

>> Continued from page 7

The list that we are providing today is accurate based on the information we possess at this moment.

There are some allegations in our files that need additional investigation. I did not wish to delay further the publication of this list until we could complete a more thorough investigation of every historic allegation of abuse and give our Independent Review Board (IRB) sufficient time to deliberate and make a recommendation to me.

Therefore, I have chosen not to include on this list individuals with an accusation of abuse that we are unable to substantiate at this time. An accusation is considered substantiated obviously if the accused has admitted to it. If the accused denied the allegation, it can also be substantiated for instance if there is corroborating evidence in the file, knowledgeable testimony of others, and/or multiple accusations.

I can reassure you that no priest exercising public ministry in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas has had a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor made against him. If new information comes to light, the list will be updated and any priest with a substantiated allegation will be removed from ministry.

I thank all the victims who have courageously come forward with allegations in order to prevent someone else from being victimized as well as

to assist with the progress of their own healing process. I also am grateful to members of the secular press that have brought accusations to light and compelled the Church to address this evil in order to promote the healing of victims and protect our children and youth today and in the future.

I renew my expressions of gratitude to Jan Saylor, our Report Investigator, for her diligence in helping us to the best of our ability to ascertain the truth. I thank all those who assist with the implementation of our safe environment programs that are designed to do everything possible to prevent future abuse. Thanks to their efforts our parishes, schools and ministries provide exceptionally well for the safety of our youth and children.

I am also grateful to Linda Slater-Trimble, our Victim Assistance Coordinator, for helping our Church better care for and assist victims. I want to do all that we can to do our very best to help with the healing of those who have been victimized by representatives of the Church. I continue to offer Mass weekly for the healing of all victims of sexual abuse, but in particular those harmed by Catholic clergy. I am willing and eager to meet with any victim if it is helpful for their healing as well as to learn from their experience.

Jesus tells us in the Gospel that the Truth will set us free. This is particularly applicable to the scourge of sexual abuse within the Church. It is only by facing honestly the hard reality of the

uniquely devastating impact of sexual abuse perpetrated by clergy that we will continue to be motivated sufficiently to be ever vigilant in protecting our children and youth as well as to be determined to do everything possible to eradicate this grave evil from the Church.

The Church is so much healthier today because of the reforms instituted in 2002 with the adoption of the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.” The Pennsylvania grand jury report, if read carefully, confirms the effectiveness of the charter and its implementation.

I am keenly aware that failure to be diligent and transparent in responding to misconduct by clergy jeopardizes every other aspect of the Church’s ministry. We must remain vigilant for the protection of our children and youth, for the health, happiness and holiness of our clergy and for the ongoing purification and renewal of the Church.

Throughout 2019, I ask you to join me in praying the rosary seeking Our Blessed Mother’s intercession for the healing of victims, for perseverance in our vigilance to protect children and youth, for zeal in ending the scourge of sexual abuse within the Church and finally for wisdom for me and all bishops in our efforts to lead the Church with integrity, transparency and boldness during this time of purification and renewal.