



# *Diocese of Springfield*

65 Elliot Street - P.O. Box 1730  
Springfield, Massachusetts 01102-1730

**Office of Public Affairs and Information**

Telephone: (413) 452-0648  
Fax: (413) 747-0273  
E-mail: [m.dupont@diospringfield.org](mailto:m.dupont@diospringfield.org)

**March 29, 2016**

## **STATEMENT ON REV. PAUL J. ARCHAMBAULT**

The Diocese of Springfield has reached a settlement with an individual regarding their claim that while a minor they had been sexually abused by the late Rev. Paul J. Archambault whom they had known personally for many years prior to his ordination.

Based on the legal filings in this case, it now appears that after being confronted with these allegations in 2011, Rev. Archambault took his own life.

In light of this, the Diocese of Springfield now recognizes this victim's allegation as credible and accordingly has added Rev. Archambault's name to the official list of clergy with credible claims of abuse found on the diocesan website (<http://diospringfield.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-List-of-accused-priests-for-website-1.pdf>).

We are also asking parishes where Rev. Archambault was assigned, or conducted ministry, to issue a direct notification alerting those communities as to this finding. These include Holy Name of Jesus, Chicopee, St. Mary, Hampden, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Northampton, St. Theresa, So. Hadley and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Springfield. We urge all victims of abuse, or those who may have knowledge of abuse, to always report these concerns to the appropriate law enforcement and child protective service agencies. We also encourage you to call the Office of Child and Youth Protection at 413-452-0624 or the confidential line at 1-800-842-9055 to report abuse by clergy or a person working for the Catholic Church. State law requires that abuse and/or neglect of a minor be reported to the MA Dept. of Children and Families at 1-800-792-5200 or through law enforcement.