

Reverend Richard Scherer

Biographical Information

YEAR OF BIRTH:	1924
YEAR OF DEATH:	2007
ORDINATION:	June 12, 1949

Employment/Assignment History

6/30/1949 – 6/09/1954	Assistant, St. Charles, Donora,
6/10/1954 – 3/03/1964	Assistant, St. Anne, Castle Shannon,
3/04/1964 – 2/02/1965	Assistant, St. Coleman, Turtle Creek,
2/03/1965 – 6/1965	Assistant, St. Patrick, Canonsburg, PA
6/1965 – 5/1968	Sick Leave
5/1968 – 1992	Chaplain, Holy Cross Hospital, Diocese of Miami, FL
1992	Retired

Summary

Records from the Diocese of Pittsburgh revealed that in August 1991, a woman reported to the Diocese that she was sexually molested by Father Richard Scherer when she was a student at St. Anne. The abuse occurred between 1957 and 1961 at the church.

Records further revealed that in a letter dated October 24, 1965, Scherer wrote of his “*revelation*” of his nervous breakdown resulting from the “*relationship*” with the woman. It should be noted that no other documentation was supplied to the Grand Jury regarding a description or explanation of the “*relationship*.”

In a letter dated January 17, 1966, Scherer wrote about his continued improvement in health, body, and mind and stated that the “*severe feeling of guilt*” had left him.

In a letter to the Diocese dated April 5, 1966, Father Tobin from Our Lady of the Snow/Clergy House Retreat located in Minnesota wrote that he had been counseling Scherer for three months; that Scherer was making progress in the tensions that plagued his priesthood; that Scherer suffered a nervous breakdown; and, that involvement with the “*young lady*” was part of his emotional escape.