

Denver says Worcester diocese gave Holley its endorsement

By Kathleen A. Shaw
Staff Reporter

The spokesman for the Archdiocese of Denver said yesterday that the Rev. David A. Holley was approved by the Diocese of Worcester when he took a chaplain's job there in 1987.

Robert Feeney, archdiocesan communications secretary, said Holley was taking a job as chaplain at St. Anthony Hospital when he went to the archdiocese to get permission to administer sacraments.

Holley is "incardinated" in the Worcester diocese — meaning Worcester is his home base — so the archdiocese called the local chancery to check on Holley, Feeney said. "They said he was OK," Feeney said. Holley served in Denver until retiring in 1988.

Monsignor Edmond T. Tinsley, vicar general of the Worcester Diocese, said last night that Worcester is Holley's base, but said he has no knowledge of the 1987 call from Denver. Bishop Timothy J. Harrington said recently that Holley left "active ministry" in the diocese in 1969. As a priest of this diocese, he has since worked in Alamogordo, N.M.; McCamey, Texas; Garden City, Texas; Amaril-

Diocese has hotlines to report sex abuses

People who believe they were sexually molested by Rev. David J. Holley or other priests can call the Worcester diocese hotlines and talk directly to Bishop Timothy J. Harrington or other diocesan officials.

The numbers are: Bishop Harrington, 751-6710; Auxiliary Bishop George E. Rueger, 751-6712; Monsignor Lawrence A. Deery, 751-6715; Sister Paula Kelleher, 751-6752; the Rev. Rocco M. Piccolomini, 798-5697; Monsignor Edmond T. Tinsley, 751-6724 (days) or 892-4886 (nights and weekends).

lo, Texas; Albuquerque, N.M., and Denver.

Holley has been accused by at least 13 men — three of them in this area — of sexually molesting or raping them in the 1960s and 1970s.

The Worcester diocese is named as a defendant in a New Mexico

suit brought by 10 men, who allege that Holley molested them after the Worcester diocese ordered him to attend a center there run by Servants of the Paraclete. The suit alleges that the Worcester diocese knew that Holley was a pedophile and allowed him to do parish work in that state while he was in treatment.

Feeney said Holley, now a Denver area resident, recently was recalled to Worcester and was sent to St. Luke Institute near Baltimore, Md. This is a treatment center for religious with psychological or substance abuse problems. Tinsley said he cannot comment on whether Holley was recalled or where he is.

Holley served at St. Philip's Church in Grafton, St. Denis Church in East Douglas, St. Mary of the Hills Church in Boylston, and Our Lady of Fatima Church in Worcester from 1962 to 1969, according to the Worcester diocese.

Paul T. Roughan of Worcester and William L. Schultz of Natick said recently that Holley tried to molest them when they were youths at St. Mary's in the mid-1960s. Philip Saviano, 40, a native of East Douglas, has said he was sexually abused by Holley.