SUBSTANTIATED CLAIMS

January 2, 2020; saved January 6, 2020

https://bismarckdiocese.com/substantiated-claims-1

PUBLICATION OF ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

The sexual abuse scandal in the Catholic Church has called forth greater accountability and transparency of bishops and dioceses in the resolution of cases of substantiated claims. While one claim is one too many, the Church acknowledges her brokenness because of the action of a few and recognizes our responsibility for healing and reconciliation.

The Diocese of Bismarck remains committed to reaching out to victims of childhood sexual abuse within our diocese as well as doing all that we can to protect our youth from harm.

This commitment means that no diocesan clergy member against whom there has been a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor is currently in ministry. Any diocesan employee or volunteer (clergy or lay) who is found to have a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor is permanently removed from ministry and employment. There have been no substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of a minor alleged to have occurred after 1989 – a period of 30 years.

In the interest of transparency and accountability, I have chosen, as part of our ongoing process of reaching out to the diocesan community, to publicly identify those priests who have carried out ministry in the Diocese of Bismarck, and against whom there is a substantiated claim of sexual abuse of a minor.

A substantiated claim is an allegation that a priest, deacon, monsignor or bishop sexually abused a minor during his appointment within the Diocese of Bismarck which the diocese determined is likely true.

— Bishop David D. Kagan

Diocesan Clergy with Substantiated Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor

NAME: EARL J. BECWAR *

Ordained: 12/21/1944
Died: 9/5/1991
NAME: NORMAN J. DUKART
Ordained: 6/2/1967
Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 3/20/2002

NAME: ROBERT E. FEENEY
Ordained: 5/21/1956
Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 4/17/2002

NAME: THEODORE F. GUSTIN
Ordained: 6/2/1957
Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 6/18/2002
Died: 12/27/2006

NAME: EUGENE J. HASPERT *
Ordained: 5/27/1947
Died: 7/3/1979

NAME: DONALD W. HILL
Ordained: 5/25/1967
Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 1/6/2003
Died: 11/21/2004

NAME: MICHAEL T. KRANK
Ordained: 6/2/1952
Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 3/11/2004
Died: 11/28/2010

NAME: JOHN H. KUHN
Ordained: 11/23/1943
Died: 3/15/2006

NAME: HUGH C. MCGOVERN *
Ordained: 7/26/1950
Died: 7/22/1988
NAME: MAURICE MCNEELY
Ordained: 6/7/1958
Incardinated into Diocese of Honolulu: 1982
Died: 7/29/2017

NAME: FREDERIC J. NELSON *
Ordained: 5/29/1950
Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 2/20/1984
Died: 8/13/1988

NAME: JOHN J. OWENS
Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 4/13/2010

NAME: JAMES W. POMMIER
Ordained: 6/7/1954
Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 12/18/1977
Dismissed from the Clerical State: 12/21/2007
Died: 1/28/2012

NAME: JAMES E. REARDON
Ordained: 3/13/1965
Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 4/16/2002

NAME: ARMOUR R. ROBERTS *
Died: 12/8/1989

NAME: ALOYSIUS P. SIMON
Ordained: 5/29/1950
Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 6/18/1985
Died: 10/31/1991
NAME: LAURENCE R. TALTY
      Ordained:  11/30/1945
      Died:  8/22/1989

NAME: STEVEN R. ZASTOUPIL
      Ordained:  5/20/1961
      Faculties for Priestly Ministry Permanently Removed: 3/20/2002
      Died:  7/2/2018

Extern Clergy with Substantiated Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor[1].

NAME: VICTOR J. HEINEN, OSB *
      Ordained:  6/6/1936
      Died:  6/24/1953

NAME: CHARLES MEYER, CPPS
      Ordained:  5/14/1931
      Died:  12/16/1997

NAME: MICHAEL A. SPEGELE, CPPS *
      Ordained:  6/14/1941
      Died:  3/16/1998

NAME: ROBERT WUEST, CPPS *
      Ordained:  4/21/1940
      Died:  3/26/1988

[1] Extern clergy refers to clergy members who were attached to another diocese but served in the Diocese of Bismarck for a period of time.

* Allegations reported after priest was deceased.