Clergy with credible claims against them concerning sexual abuse of a young person

As part of the Diocese of Duluth’s ongoing efforts to foster safe environments for children and young people, Bishop Paul D. Sirba released on December 31, 2013 information about clergy members who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse of young persons while serving or residing in the Duluth Diocese. Included in the release are clergy members who served as diocesan priests as well as clergy from other dioceses or religious orders who at one time worked or resided in the Duluth Diocese.

Despite our best efforts to make sure our information is accurate and complete, we know that it may include errors or be incomplete. We ask that anyone who believes they have information about any instance of child sexual abuse involving any member of the clergy to contact their local law enforcement and the diocese or a diocesan assistance coordinator. Contact information for the diocese and its coordinators is listed in the diocesan newspaper and on the diocesan website.

The list below includes those clergy members whose names were provided to the John Jay Study conducted in 2004, one diocesan priest against whom credible claims have been made subsequent to the compilation of the John Jay list and four non-diocesan clergy who worked or resided in the diocese and who are the subject of allegations made against other institutions. The names included in the John Jay Study have had credible accusations made against them which, for purposes of the study, was a standard defined to be “not implausible.” An allegation was considered “implausible” only if it could not possibly have happened under the given circumstances.

1. Rev. Kirby Blanchard

*Date of birth:* 11/16/1928  
*Date of ordination:* 5/30/1953  
*Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:*

- Pastor: Our Lady of Fatima Church, Garrison – 1/7/1965 – 8/24/1966
- Pastor: St. Joseph's Church, Deerwood – 1/7/1965 – 8/24/1966
- Pastor: St. Mary's Church, Deer River – 8/24/1966 – 2/27/1969
- Retired: 12/5/1993

*Diocese or religious order:* Diocesan Priest  
*Date removed from ministry:* 12/27/1995  
*Current location:* Deceased  
2. Rev. Louis Brouillard

*Date of birth:* 07/27/1921  
*Date of ordination:* 12/17/1948  
*Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:*  
  - Pastor: St. Anne, Kelly Lake - 7/11/1984 – 11/12/1985  
*Diocese or religious order:* Priest of the Diocese of Agana, Guam  
*Date removed from ministry:* 11/12/1985  
*Current location:* Pine City, MN  
*Current status:* Not in ministry, Faculties revoked

3. Rev. Victor Chateauvert, MSF

*Date of birth:* 5/25/1919  
*Date of ordination:* 8/25/1973  
*Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:*  
*Diocese or religious order:* Priest of the Holy Family Missionaries  
*Date removed from ministry:* 12/28/1992 – Returned to Order  
*Current location:* Deceased  
*Current status:* Died 3/3/1999

4. Rev. Leonard Colston

*Date of birth:* 10/10/1936  
*Date of ordination:* 1980  
*Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:*  
*Diocese or religious order:* Diocesan Priest  
*Date removed from ministry:* 9/6/1986 Resigned from the Diocese of Duluth  
*Current location:* Deceased  
5. Rev. Raymond Cossette

**Date of birth:** 12/24/1929  
**Date of ordination:**  6/4/1955

**Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:**
- Instructor, Dean of Discipline, Athletic Director, Principal, Chaplain - Duluth Cathedral High School; Duluth – 8/16/1962 – 7/21/1965
- Chaplain: Carmel Heights, Duluth – 8/16/1962 – 7/21/1965
- Pastor: St. Peter's Church, Duluth – 8/24/1966 – 9/9/1969
- Diocesan Superintendent of Schools: 8/24/66-9/9/69
- Chaplain: Brainerd State Hospital - 7/29/75 – 1/1 1995
- Retired: 1/1/1995

**Diocese or religious order:** Diocesan Priest  
**Date removed from ministry:** Re-investigation initiated  
**Current location:** Brainerd, MN  
**Current status:** Retired

6. Rev. Frederick Fox

**Date of birth:** 08/28/1926  
**Date of ordination:** 7/7/1952

**Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:**
- Asst. Pastor: St. James Church, Duluth – 7/ 30/1952 – 9/14/1956
- School: Catholic University of America – 9/14/1956 – 7/5/1957
- Asst. Pastor: St. John the Evangelist Church, Duluth – 7/5/1957 – 1/18/1965
- Director: St. James Children’s Home, Duluth 1/18/1965 -8/19/1970
- On Leave: to work with Family Services-Duluth Drug Abuse Program 12/13/1970
- Retirement: 6/1/1987

**Diocese or religious order:** Diocesan Priest  
**Date removed from ministry:** 1/28/1988  
**Current location:** Deceased  
**Current status:** Died 6/17/1999
7. Rev. John Golobich

*Date of birth:* 03/03/1923  
*Date of ordination:* 6/5/1948  
*Cleric's prior assignments in diocese:*  
- Pastor: St. Mary's Church, Silver Bay – 6/29/1965 – 7/1/1981  
- Pastor: St. Anthony's Church, Duluth – 7/1/1981 – 7/11/1984  
- Pastor: St. James Church, Duluth – 7/11/1984 – 7/14/1993  
- Administrator: St. Elizabeth Church, Duluth – 7/12/2001 – 1/15/2002  
- Retired: 7/14/1993  

*Diocese or religious order:* Diocesan Priest  
*Date removed from ministry:* Reprimanded – inappropriate behavior involving hugging and kissing  
*Current location:* Deceased  
*Current status:* Died 6/5/2011

8. Rev. Ralph Goniea, OMI

*Date of birth:* 12/23/1937  
*Date of ordination:* 1963  
*Cleric's prior assignments in diocese:*  

*Diocese or religious order:* Priest of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate  
*Date removed from ministry:* Cleric no longer in diocese at time of allegation  
*Current location:* Deceased  
*Current status:* Died 3/24/2003

9. Rev. Robert Klein

*Date of birth:* 10/17/1931  
*Date of ordination:* 6/2/1956  
*Cleric's prior assignments in diocese:*  
- Director of Liturgy: 1981 - 1983  
- Leave: Unassigned, Disability Leave – 8/1/1983  

*Diocese or religious order:* Diocesan Priest  
*Date removed from ministry:* 9/18/1987  
*Current location:* Deceased  
*Current status:* Died 2/16/2000
10. Rev. Mark Makowski

*Date of birth:* 10/31/1956  
*Date of ordination:* 6/7/1987  
*Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:*  
- Pastor: St. Benedict's Church, Duluth – 7/18/1990 – 7/14/1993  
- Pastor: Queen of Peace Church, Hoyt Lakes – 7/14/1993 – 9/1/1993  
- Pastor: St. John's Church, Grand Marais – 9/1/1993 – 1/12/1995  
- Pastor: Holy Rosary Church, Grand Portage – 9/1/1993 – 1/12/1995  
*Diocese or religious order:* Diocesan Priest  
*Date removed from ministry:* 1/12/1995  
*Current location:* Sun City, AZ  
*Current status:* Not in ministry, Faculties revoked

11. Rev. (Thomas) Gregory Manning

*Date of birth:* 05/25/1918  
*Date of ordination:* 3/25/1944  
*Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:*  
- Pastor: St. Louis Church, Floodwood, & missions of Goodland & Warba – 7/20/1950 – 7/22/1953  
- Pastor: St. John the Baptist Church, Biwabik – 7/22/1953 – 10/16/1957  
- Left Diocese: 12/1/1957  
*Diocese or religious order:* Diocesan Priest  
*Date removed from ministry:* 10/16/1957  
*Current location:* Deceased  
*Current status:* Died 8/15/1979


*Date of birth:* 01/23/1918  
*Date of ordination:* 6/5/1948  
*Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:*  
- Director: Diocesan Director of Scouting – 8/5/1948 – 5/2/1961  
- Administrator, St. Mary's Church, Deer River, and  
- Pastor: St. Mary's Church, Deer River and St. Augustine, Cohasset – 4/28/1960 – 8/24/1966  
*Diocese or religious order:* Diocesan Priest  
*Date removed from ministry:* Deceased  
*Current location:* Deceased  
*Current status:* Died 12/6/1988
13. Rev. Dennis Puhl

Date of birth: 03/28/1947  
Date of ordination: 6/15/1974  
Cleric’s prior assignments in dioecese:  
   Pastor: St. Casimir's Church, Cloquet and mission at Cromwell – 7/15/1978 – 7/15/1979  
   Sick Leave: 11/1/1980  
Diocese or religious order: Diocesan Priest  
Date removed from ministry:  
   7/15/1986 signed a statement terminating priestly ministry and affiliation with Diocese of Duluth  
Current location: Deceased  
Current status: Died 12/11/1995

14. Rev. Thomas Stack

Date of birth: 05/11/1914  
Date of ordination: 3/25/1944  
Cleric’s prior assignments in dioecese:  
   Asst. Pastor: Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Virginia – 4/20/1944 – 12/14/1950  
   Pastor: St. Joseph's Church, Gnesen and  
   St. Joseph's Church, Lakewood – 12/14/1950 – 8/10/1955  
   Pastor: Good Shepherd Church, Duluth – 9/29/1964 – 1/6/1968  
   Pastor: St. Anthony's Church, Ely – 9/27/1972 – 8/1/1973  
Diocese or religious order: Diocesan Priest  
Date removed from ministry: Deceased at time of allegation  
Current location: Deceased  
Current status: Died 2/24/1987

15. Rev. Joseph Thibaudeau, OMI

Date of birth: 10/17/1869  
Date of ordination: 8/15/1896  
Cleric’s prior assignments in dioecese:  
   St. Jean’s, Duluth - 6/30/1910 – ?/1943  
Diocese or religious order: Priest of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate  
Date removed from ministry: Deceased at time of allegation  
Current location: Deceased  
Current status: Died 1946, Manitoba, Canada
16. Rev. Stephen Toporowicz

*Date of birth:* 5/13/1914  
*Date of ordination:* 6/7/1941  
*Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:*  
Pastor: St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, Duluth – 9/4/1941 – 10/12/1944  
(Part Rock attached to Sturgeon Lake 4/20/1960)  
Pastor: St. Joseph's Church, Deerwood  
and mission of Our Lady of Fatima, Garrison – 6/10/1964 – 1/7/1965  
Chaplain: St. Joseph’s Hospital, Brainerd – 1/7/1965 – 8/24/1966  
Pastor: St. John's Church, Virginia – 8/24/1966 – 6/16/1969  
*Diocese or religious order:* Diocesan Priest  
*Date removed from ministry:* Deceased at time of allegation  
*Current location:* Deceased  
*Current status:* Died 6/16/1969

17. Rev. Angelo Zankl, OSB

*Date of birth:* 04/19/1901  
*Date of ordination:* 5/29/1926  
*Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:*  
St. Clement’s, Duluth – 7/18/1951 – 8/8/1967  
Left the Diocese: 5/30/1987  
*Diocese or religious order:* Priest of the Order of St. Benedict03  
*Date removed from ministry:* Deceased at time of allegation  
*Current location:* Deceased  
*Current status:* Died 7/12/2007

18. UN-NAMED ACCUSED PERSON NO LONGER IN MINISTRY

The name of a former priest was included in the list provided to the John Jay Study solely on the basis of a single vague and ambiguous allegation that did not identify the priest by name. A subsequent investigation did not produce any further information or corroboration. This individual voluntarily left the priesthood prior to and not related to the allegation. As a result, the diocese is re-investigating this matter but is not releasing the former priest’s name at this time.
Rev. Cornelius Kelleher

Date of birth: 9/9/1932  
Date of ordination: 6/17/1956  

Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:
- Asst. Pastor: St. James Church, Duluth – 9/14/1956 – 9/16/1959
- Asst. Pastor: St. Joseph's Church, Crosby – 9/16/1959 – 9/22/1960
- Pastor: St. Andrew's Church, Brainerd – 7/11/1986 – 7/16/1997
- Pastor: St. Patrick's Church, Hinckley and St. Joseph's Church, Beroun – 7/16/1997 – 7/11/2012
- Retired: July 11, 2012

Diocese or religious order: Diocesan Priest  
Date removed from ministry: 10/2/2012  
Current location: Proctor, MN  
Current status: Removed from ministry, Faculties revoked

Rev. J. Vincent Fitzgerald, OMI

Date of birth: 12/9/1919  
Date of ordination: 5/28/1950  

Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:
- Pastor: St. Michael’s, Northome; Our Lady of the Snows, Bigfork and St. Theresa, Effie – 11/13/1957 – 9/10/1961
- Pastor: Holy Cross, Orr – 9/1/1963 – 9/1/1964
- Pastor: Immaculate Conception, Nett Lake – 9/1/1963 – 8/2/1966

Diocese or religious order:  
Priest of Oblates of Mary Immaculate  
Date removed from ministry: Deceased at time of allegation  
Current location: Deceased  
Current status: Died 2009
Rev. Othmar Hohmann, OSB

Date of birth: 1/28/1900  
Date of ordination: 6/7/1931  
Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:  
Diocese or religious order:  
  Priest of the Order of St. Benedict  
Date removed from ministry: Retired in 1976  
Current location: Deceased  
Current status: Died 1/24/1980

Rev. Richard Jeub

Date of birth: 2/21/1940  
Date of ordination: 1966  
Cleric’s prior assignments in archdiocese:  
  Associate priest, St. Joseph, Hopkins, 1966-1967;  
  Associate priest, Our Lady of Grace, Edina, 1967-1970  
  Associate priest, St. Mark, St. Paul, 1970-1976;  
  Associate priest, Christ the King, Minneapolis, 1976-1978;  
  Chaplain, Methodist Hospital, St. Louis Park, 1978-1982;  
  Chaplain, Fairview Southdale Hospital, Edina, 1978-1982;  
  Pastor, St. Kevin, Minneapolis, 1981-1990;  
  Associate priest, Sacred Heart, Robbinsdale, 1996-1997;  
  Associate priest, Sacred Heart/St. Lawrence, Faribault, 1997-2000;  
  Associate priest, St. Rose of Lima, Roseville, 2000-2002;  
  Retired, 2002  
Diocese or religious order: Priest of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis  
Date permanently removed from ministry: 2002  
Current location: Crosby, Minn.  
Current status: Permanently removed from ministry

Rev. Brennen Maiers, OSB

Date of birth: 4/27/1936  
Date of ordination: 6/1/1963  
Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:  
Diocese or religious order:  
  Priest of the Order of St. Benedict  
Date permanently removed from ministry: 6/2002  
Current location: St. John’s Abbey, Collegeville, MN  
Current status: Permanently removed from ministry
Rev. Timothy Conlon. OSC

Date of birth:  
Date of ordination:  
Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:  
Holy Family Church in McGregor  
as part of a Deacon Internship – 1978-1979  
Diocese or religious order:  
Priest of the Crosier Fathers  
Date permanently removed from ministry:  
Current location: Gallup, N.M.  
Current status: 1/2014 removed from ministry

Rev. James Porter

Date of birth: 1/2/1935  
Date of ordination: 1960  
Cleric’s prior assignments in diocese:  
Diocese or religious order:  
Diocese of Crookston  
Date permanently removed from ministry: 1970  
Current location: Deceased  
Current status: 2/11/2005