Archdiocese releases list of substantiated claims of clergy sexual abuse with a minor

By Joe Bollig
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KANSAS CITY, Kan. — To provide greater transparency on the part of the church regarding historical allegations of clerical sexual abuse, Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann has released today a list of clerics against whom substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of a minor have been made some time in the last 75 years. None are in current ministry in the archdiocese.

“I thank all victims who have courageously come forward with allegations in order to prevent someone else from being victimized, as well as to assist with the progress of their own healing process,” wrote Archbishop Naumann in his Leaven column.

“I am also grateful to members of the secular press that have brought accusations to light and compelled the church to address this evil in order to promote the healing of victims and protect our children and youth today and in the future,” he added.

The list is composed of the names of 22 clerics against whom substantiated allegations have been made, and four with previously published allegations not able to be substantiated. The list was generated by the archdiocese based upon a review of approximately 1,080 individual clergy files dating back more than 75 years by the Chicago office of the law firm of Husch Blackwell.

Those who were not clergy of the archdiocese were either priests of another diocese or members of religious orders assigned to ministry in the archdiocese.

A report based upon the review done by Husch Blackwell was shared with the attorney general of Kansas. If new information comes to the archdiocese, the archbishop said, the list will be updated.

Of the 22 on the list, 10 were priests of the archdiocese. Also, of the 22, 11 are deceased and 7 have been laicized.

The 22 represent 2.04 percent of the 1,080 files reviewed by Husch Blackwell.

The archbishop recognizes his responsibility to protect all entrusted to his pastoral care, especially children, and to protect the good names of clerics against the harm of unsubstantiated accusations. Therefore, he has chosen not to include on this list individuals against whom accusations cannot be substantiated at this time.

“When you are attempting to discern the truth of an event that allegedly happened decades ago, this can be very difficult, especially when the accused is deceased and the memories of others, who could have provided helpful information, have faded,” the archbishop wrote. “The list that we are providing today is accurate based on the information we possess at this moment.”

For more details about the names on this list, go to pages 8-9.

Archbishop addresses release of list of substantiated abusers

TODAY’s Leaven makes public a list of all Catholic clergy with substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of minors for whom we have files in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas dating from the 1940s to the present.

To assist the archdiocese with this effort, we engaged the services of Husch Blackwell, a law firm with expertise and experience conducting similar types of reviews for many entities, organizations, and public and private educational institutions. We asked Husch Blackwell to provide us with an objective and comprehensive understanding of more than a thousand files of Catholic clergy dating back more than 75 years.

Each name on this list represents a grave human tragedy. Each name represents a betrayal of trust and a violation of the innocent. The sexual abuse of children and youth by Catholic priests contradicts our church’s teaching on authentic love, the beauty of human sexuality and the dignity of the human person. What was done to victims by those who were called to be spiritual fathers is cause for great shame. On behalf of the church, I apologize to each victim and pledge our commitment to do all that we can to assist with your healing.

After the McCarrick scandal and the Pennsylvania grand jury report, I had hoped to be able to share earlier this information with you. However, it was not a simple task. The Church has a responsibility to be transparent about sexual misconduct with children or minors by those with leadership responsibilities in the Church. I have an obligation to protect all those entrusted to my pastoral care, especially children.

At the same time, I have a solemn responsibility also to protect the good names of our priests, the vast majority of whom serve with selfless dedication, from having their reputations harmed by sometimes sincere but nevertheless unsubstantiated accusations.

When you are attempting to discern the truth of an event that allegedly happened decades ago, this can be very difficult especially when the accused is deceased and the memories of others, who could have provided helpful information, have faded.

See “ARCHBISHOP” on page 10

Cases of substantiated abuse found in file review

Substantiated abuse through the decades*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Files</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1940s</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950s</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960s</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970s</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980s</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990s</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000s</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010s</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Names of clerics who offended in more than one decade were counted for each decade.

Previously publicized allegations not able to be substantiated.

Brayley, John
Dannenfelser, Lambert
Fiala, John
Finnerty, William
Foraythe, James
Ginzkey, Lawrence
Gottschalk, Dave
Harrington, John J.
Imming, David
Juarez, Martin
Justi, Marvin
Lamping, Steven
Licktieg, Adrian
McGinley, Frank
Redmond, Donald
Richardson, Barry
Roberts, Edward
Schepers, Frank
Schmitz, Dennis
Wianer, John Henry
Wolf, Chuck
Wurtz, Camillus

Previously publicized allegations not able to be substantiated.

Haegelein, William
Kallal, Scott James
Putti, Anthony
Rossman, Christopher

For more details about the names on this list, go to pages 8-9.
SPECIAL

Previously published allegations not able to be substantiated

HAEGELIN, WILLIAM
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1949
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1976
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Laicized 2004
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1983
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
  - St. Agnes, Roeland Park
  - Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City, Kansas
  - Blessed Sacrament, Kansas City, Kansas
  - Christ the King, Kansas City, Kansas
  - Sacred Heart, Mound City
  - Queen of the Holy Rosary, Wea
  - Sacred Heart, Kansas City, Kansas
  - Holy Name, Topeka
  - Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City, Kansas
  - St. John, Osawatomie

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No
REPORT

MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No
COMMENTS: Could not be determined if sexual relationship began before or after the accuser reached the age of majority.

KALLST, SCOTT JAMES
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, Apostles of the Interior Life (AVI)
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1975
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 2004
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Administrative leave
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Holy Spirit, Overland Park
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No
COMMENTS: Criminal charges filed; case ongoing. Accused denied charges of abuse. Diocesan investigation suspended during law enforcement investigation.

PUTTI, ANTHONY
AFFILIATION: Diocese of Guntur, India
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1975
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 2001
LAST KNOWN STATUS: No longer affiliat-
acted
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 2009-2010
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Holy Trinity, Guntur
• St. Michael, Guntur
• St. Marcus, Guntur
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No
COMMENTS: Recalled to home diocese prior to allegation of abuse of a minor. Denies abuse of a minor. Investigated by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.

ROSSMAN, CHRISTOPHER
AFFILIATION: Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1967
YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1996
LAST KNOWN STATUS: Removed from ministry 2016
ESTIMATED TIMEFRAME OF ABUSE: 1989-2016
PASTORAL ASSIGNMENTS:
• Prince of Peace, Olathe
• Mother Teresa, Topeka
• St. Anthony, St. Joseph, St. Margaret, St. Edward, Olathe
• Our Lady of Snows, Kansas City
MORE THAN ONE ALLEGATION: No
COMMENTS: Law enforcement investiga-
tion is ongoing.

REPORTING ABUSE
If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, you should make a report to the Kansas De-
If you or someone you know has been abused by a cleric, employee or volunteer of any archdiocesan parish, school or agency — regard-
less of when the abuse may have occurred — call the archdiocesan confidential report line at (913) 673-5245 or the victim assistance coordinator at (913) 298-9244, af-
ter calling local law enforcement. You can also report by uti-

Frequently asked questions
Q. What information are you releasing? Whose names are on this list?
A. This list contains the names of the clergy members against whom a substantiated claim of sexual abuse of a minor (a young person under the age of 18) has been received by the Archdiocese. The accused might have been a priest of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, or a member of another diocese assigned to work in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, or a member of one of the religious congregations of Kansas City in Kansas.

Q. How do you define “child sexual abuse”?
A. Sexual abuse of a child, minor or youth means any sexual act to or with a child or other sexual explora-
tion of a child or other person with whom an adult uses a minor as an object of sexual gratification. For pur-
poses of archdiocesan policies, the term “sexual abuse” is not necessar-
ily limited to the definitions of sexual abuse as defined by the law. It includes, but is not limited to, penetration, creation or possession of child pornography, images or drafting or possession of child pornography images constituting child sexual abuse.

Q. What are the criteria for in-
cclusion on the list?
A. Clergy members’ names are included on this list if there was a sub-
stantiated allegation of child sexual abuse against them. Their inclusion does not necessarily mean they were found guilty of a crime or are liable for civil claims. Many of the allegations received by the archdiocese are from decades ago and were reported many years after the alleged abuse, some-
times after the death of the accused.

Q. What do you mean by a sub-
tantiated allegation?
A. When a complaint is received, the archdiocese starts with the pre-
sumption that the accusation is being brought forward in good faith. There-
fore, all allegations are considered credible; the report investigator’s task is to investigate thoroughly and inde-
pendently. An allegation is considered “substantiated” when it is corroborated with wit-
ness statements, documents, emails, photos, texts, or by another source, such as law enforcement. Obviously, if the accused member of the clergy admits to allegations the accusation is substantiated. However, an allega-
tion can be considered substantiated, even if the accused denied the allega-
tion, when there is corroborating evi-
dence that supports the veracity of the allegation.

Q. How many clerical files were reviewed and what time period did they cover?
A. The review included a total of some 1080 individual clerical files going back more than 75 years.

Q. How many clergy with sub-
tantiated allegations were in di-
ocesan priests of the Archdio-
ese of Kansas City in Kansas?
A. Ten.
A. 2.04%
Q. What happens to an allega-
tion of child abuse by a member of the clergy once it is received?
A. When an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by a member of the clergy is received, the archdiocese initiates an investigation and notifies law enforcement according to state law and the archdiocese’s Child Pro-
tection policy.

The archdiocese is also communi-
cated to the archdiocese’s own Inde-
pendent Review Board (IRB) in accord with its Safe Environment policy. The archdiocese employs a report investigator who, with information from law enforcement and investigative background as a former FBI agent and Kansas state trooper, performs internal investigations of allegations of sexual abuse. The investigator’s reports are presented to the IRB to inform their deliberations and provide the known facts on which to base their recommendations.

The IRB’s members include a victim of clerical sexual abuse, an attor-
yee who has long advocated for abuse victims, mental health profes-
sionals, law enforcement officials and one priest. The IRB offers both the person making the accusation and the accused the opportunity to meet separately with the board.

The IRB is not an investigative body, but it is presented with the re-
sults of the investigation conducted by the archdiocesan report investiga-
tor. Following its review of the case, the IRB refers on to the archbishop the case file and the board’s recom-
mendations. At that time, it makes recommendations with respect to all aspects of the case, including, when applicable, its recommendations con-
cerning the accused cleric’s suitabili-
ty for ministry.

If the allegation is not able to be substantiated and consistent with the recommendation of the IRB, the cleric may be returned to active ministry.

Q. Is this list complete?
A. This list is a complete and ac-
curate representation of the substan-
tiated allegations that have been made to the archdiocese against priests for whom we have files. The list is based on the extensive file review conduct-
ed by the independent law firm of Husch Blackwell. The archdiocese has received some historic allegations that could not be substantiated based on the information contained in the files. These are not allegations about anyone currently serving in priestly ministry. The report investigator will be asked to investigate the allega-
tions and present her findings to the Independent Review Board. Once the IRB has made its recommendations, it is possible that names could be added to the current list.

If new information comes to the archdiocese, the list will be updated.

Q. Why was Husch Blackwell chosen to review the files?
A. Husch Blackwell was chosen because of its expertise in this field. The firm conducted investiga-
tions and reviews covering a multi-
tude of circumstances for a number of large religious organizations and public and non-profit educational insti-
tutions throughout the United States.

Q. Why were some of these names not made public before now?
A. Many of these names have been made public previously. But some of these allegations were re-
ported decades after the alleged abuse — in some cases, when the accused was deceased. In other in-
stances, the victim requested that the matter not be publicized. The publica-
tion of this list, therefore, encompass-
ing more than 75 years of records, is an effort to make all substantiated allegations of sexual abuse — even historical ones — public in the same way that the archdiocese has made cur-
cent ones.

Q. Why are you releasing this list now?
A. In light of the confusion and concern caused by the Pennsylvania grand jury report and the Archbishop McCarrick scandal this past summer, there has been a call for greater trans-
parency on the part of the church re-
garding not just present allegations, but historical allegations as well. We are releasing this list as part of that effort toward greater transparency.

Q. Are any of the men on this list still in active ministry?
A. No cleric with a substantiat-
ed allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor is permitted to exercise any form of public ministry.

Q. What is the archdiocese doing to prevent sexual abuse within the church?
A. The archdiocesan safe envi-
ronment program has three compo-
ents. First, persons who work with or around children are required to participate in ongoing child safety training and to keep it current. Chil-
dren, too, are required to undergo personal safety training. Second, all church employees, clergy, and volun-
teers are required to undergo criminal background checks. Third, the United States Conference of Catholic Bish-
ops engages an independent firm that conducts an annual safe environment audit of the archdiocese.

The archdiocese currently has 18 trained facilitators available to pre-
vent the Virtus program’s adult aware-
ness training sessions to archdiocese-
ans employees, clergy, and volunteers and to date has instructed more than 43,000/30 sessions. It has conducted more than 41,000 background checks for any adult serv-
ing in any capacity in the archdiocese and has passed a child sexual abuse audit remote and on-site — since the audits were instituted in 2004.

Q. What training do seminari-
ans, or new employees, clergy and volunteer applicants to the archdiocese re-
ceive regarding the archdiocese’s Safe Environment program?

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1. All adults — employees, volunteers and clergy — are required to undergo Virtus training. (See below.) Aspiring seminarians must complete their Virtus training before entering the seminary studies. All children in Catholic schools or religious education programs also undergo personal safety training.

Q. What is Virtus training?

A. Virtus is the safe environment program created by the National Catholic Risk Management, Inc. in 2000 and chosen by the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas to provide ongoing training to all personnel on sexual abuse of minors, and how to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse. This training is required for all employees, clergy and volunteers, and is special age-appropriate training provided to children. The Virtus safe environment program is in use in over 80 dioceses in the United States.

Q. What steps have the archdiocese taken to ensure that employees who apply for seminary are suitable for ministry?

A. The application process for admission to seminary studies for the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas is extensive and includes lengthy interviews, multiple references, national criminal background and national sex offender registry checks and a psychological assessment that includes a psychosexual evaluation. Only men willing and able to meet the high standards that are required of them move forward in the application process. While in seminary, men are closely supervised by a formation team and routinely evaluated by the archdiocese. Another thorough background check—under supervision by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation—are done just prior to being ordained a transitional deacon.

Q. How does the archdiocese ensure that priests from other dioceses are suitable for a short or long-term assignment?

A. Every clerical from another diocese seeking to exercise ministry in the archdiocese has to present from his bishop or provincial confirmation that he is a priest or deacon in good standing.

Q. Does the archdiocese work with law enforcement to investigate reports of abuse?

A. Allegations of sexual abuse of adult victims are reported to the appropriate law enforcement and child protection agencies. Allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy are investigated by applicable state laws and the archdiocese's Child Protection policy. Moreover, the archdiocese cooperates fully with law enforcement in the process of ensuing investigations.

Q. What should I do if I know of a child that is being abused or if I've been abused by an employee of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas?

A. If you know of a child who is in immediate danger, call 911. If you have observed suspicious behavior and fear for a child's safety, you might be being abused or neglected by a representative of the archdiocese, call the Kansas Depart ment of Children and Families Protection Report Center at 800-922-5330. Additionally, a report to the archdiocese itself. You can report online at: www.archkck.org/reportabuse, or by calling these numbers:


If you are an adult and have been abused by a representative here in the archdiocese in the past, the archdiocese still encourages your report, no matter when the abuse occurred. Those who are Hearing Impaired may report online or contact the Office of Deaf Ministry at 913-324-5378.

Additional answers to frequently asked questions continued

Special Report

Frequently asked questions continued

Archbishop thanks victims for their courage

The list that we are providing today is accurate and includes the information that we possess at this moment. There are some allegations in our files of various sources that are still under investigation. I did not wish to delay further the publication of this list until we could complete a more thorough investigation of every historic allegation of abuse and give our Independent Review Board (IRB) sufficient time to deliberate and make a recommendation to me. Therefore, I have chosen not to include on this list individuals with an accusation of abuse that we are unable to substantiate at this time. An accusation is considered substantiated only if there is corroborating evidence to it. If the accused denied the allegation, it can also be substantiated for instance if there is corroborating evidence in the file, knowledgeable testimony of others, and/or multiple accusations.

I am pleased with the archdiocese having exercised public ministry in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas has had a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse in a minor made against him. If new information comes to light, the list will be updated and any priest or volunteer with a substantiated allegation will be removed from ministry.

I thank all those who have courageously come forward with allegations in order to prevent someone else from being victimized as well as to assist with the progress of their own healing process. I am also grateful to members of the secular press that have brought accusations to light and comp elled the Church to address this evil in order to promote the healing of victims and protect our children and youth today and in the future.

I renew my expressions of gratitude to Jan Saylor, our Report Investigator, for her diligence in helping us to the best of our ability to ascertain the truth. I thank all those who assist with the implementation of our safe environment programs that are designed to do everything possible to prevent future abuse. Thanks to their efforts our parishes, schools and ministries provide exceptionally well for the safety of our youth and children.

I am also grateful to the Independent Firm, Victor Assistance Coordinator, for helping our Church better care for and assist victims. I want to do all that we can to do our very best to help with the healing of those who have been victimized by representatives of the Church. I continue to offer Mass weekly for the healing of all victims of sexual abuse.

Q. How can victims access help?

A. Victims or anyone with concerns about sexual abuse or other forms of misconduct can contact the archdiocese's Safe Environment Response in Crisis at 913-647-3051 or 800-922-5330. The archdiocese cooperates fully with law enforcement during investigations. This information is made available not only in this issue of The Leaven but also online at: responseincrisis.archkck.org and on our website at: www.thelbeaven.org.

Q. What does the archdiocese do with the names of accused priests?

A. The list that we are providing today is complete and factually accurate. As I have said before, I will not comment on the depositions of priests if they are priests or deacons in good standing. The list will be updated and any priest or volunteer with a substantiated allegation will be removed from ministry.

Q. What is Virtus training?

A. Virtus is the safe environment program created by the National Catholic Risk Management, Inc. in 2000 and chosen by the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. The Virtus program is in use in over 80 dioceses in the United States. The list that we are providing today is complete and factually accurate. As I have said before, I will not comment on the depositions of priests if they are priests or deacons in good standing. The list will be updated and any priest or volunteer with a substantiated allegation will be removed from ministry.

Q. What steps have the archdiocese taken to ensure that employees who apply for seminary are suitable for ministry?

A. The application process for admission to seminary studies for the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas is extensive and includes lengthy interviews, multiple references, national criminal background and national sex offender registry checks and a psychological assessment that includes a psychosexual evaluation. Only men willing and able to meet the high standards that are required of them move forward in the application process. While in seminary, men are closely supervised by a formation team and routinely evaluated by the archdiocese. Another thorough background check—under supervision by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation—are done just prior to being ordained a transitional deacon.

Q. How does the archdiocese ensure that priests from other dioceses are suitable for a short or long-term assignment?

A. Every clerical from another diocese seeking to exercise ministry in the archdiocese has to present from his bishop or provincial confirmation that he is a priest or deacon in good standing.

Q. Does the archdiocese work with law enforcement to investigate reports of abuse?

A. Allegations of sexual abuse of adult victims are reported to the appropriate law enforcement and child protection agencies. Allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy are investigated by applicable state laws and the archdiocese's Child Protection policy. Moreover, the archdiocese cooperates fully with law enforcement in the process of ensuing investigations.

Q. What should I do if I know of a child that is being abused or if I've been abused by an employee of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas?

A. If you know of a child who is in immediate danger, call 911. If you have observed suspicious behavior and fear for a child's safety, you might be being abused or neglected by a representative of the archdiocese, call the Kansas Department of Children and Families Protection Report Center at 800-922-5330. Additionally, a report to the archdiocese itself. You can report online at: www.archkck.org/reportabuse, or by calling these numbers:


If you are an adult and have been abused by a representative here in the archdiocese in the past, the archdiocese still encourages your report, no matter when the abuse occurred. Those who are Hearing Impaired may report online or contact the Office of Deaf Ministry at 913-324-5378.

Additional answers to frequently asked questions continued

Safety protocols implemented across spectrum of church life

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According to archdiocesan policy, the phrase “priest or deacon” is not limited to the definitions of sexual abuse under civil or criminal law.

An allegation is considered “substantiated” when it is corroborated with witness statements, documents, emails, photos, texts or by another source, such as law enforcement or the Independent Review Board of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. A confession by the accused is not necessary to substantiate a case.

While the publication of this list shines a light on historical allegations, the archdiocese has, since 2003, implemented a substantive safe environment program to help prevent sexual abuse in the church. This program includes child safety education, background checks for adults, personnel safety training for children, and annual safe environment audits of the archdiocese, both local and outside, independent firm engaged by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The program also sets out requirements for reporting and investigation.

All adults — clergy, employees, and volunteers — are required to undergo the archdiocese's safe environment training, Virtus.

Currently, the archdiocese has 18 trained facilitators available to present the Virtus program's adult awareness training sessions and to date, more than 47,930 adults in the archdiocese have undergone this training. The archdiocese has conducted more than 41,000 background checks for adults serving in any capacity in the archdiocese.

Additionally, the archdiocese has passed every safe environment audit — both remote and on-site — since the audits were instituted in 2004.

Men who apply for seminary studies for the archdiocese have undergone an extensive application process that includes lengthy interviews, multiple references, national criminal background and national sex offender registry checks and a psychological assessment.

Clergymen from other dioceses seeking to minister in the archdiocese must present confirmation from their bishop or provincial that they are priests or deacons in good standing.

Allegations of sexual abuse of minors or adults are immediately reported to law enforcement and child protection agencies as required by law and the archdiocese's Child Protection policy. The archdiocese cooperates fully with law enforcement during investigations. This information is made available not only in this issue of The Leaven but also online at: responseincrisis.archkck.org and on our website at: www.thelbeaven.org.

Additional answers to frequently asked questions start on page 9.