FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — Monday, October 8, 2018

The Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau reports an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor involving Fr. Fred Lutz, retired. The allegation pertains to a period in the early 1970s. Following the procedures outlined in the diocesan Safe Environment Policies and Procedures, the Diocese has notified civil authorities of the allegation. Additionally, pastoral support is being provided to the victim.

Fr. Lutz was born in 1943 and was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau in 1973. Fr. Lutz retired from active ministry on March 1, 2011.

Pastoral appointments for Fr. Fred Lutz
As a Transitional Deacon, Rev. Mr. Lutz served in St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral, in Cape Girardeau (1972), and Holy Trinity Parish, Springfield (1973).

1973  Associate Pastor—Holy Trinity Parish, Springfield
1974  Leave to Archdiocese of San Francisco
1975  Parochial Administrator—SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Pulaskifield, and
       St. Edward Parish, in Cassville, MO
1975  Pastor—St. William Parish, Buffalo; Chaplain—Fordland Honor Camp
       Parochial Administrator—Sacred Heart Parish, Conway
1981  Leave
1986  30-day retreat
1987  Pastor—Immaculate Conception Parish, Jackson
1988  Pastor—SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Pulaskifield, and
       St. Edward Parish, Cassville
1991  Pastor—St. Susanne Parish, Mount Vernon, and
       St. Patrick Mission Church, Greenfield
1994  Pastor—Guardian Angel Parish, Oran
1996  Pastor—St. Joseph Parish, Advance, and
       St. Anthony Mission Church, Glennon
2003  Pastor—St. Benedict Parish, Doniphan, and
       St. Anne Mission Church, in Grandin (mission closed in 2005)
2005  Pastor—St. Mary Parish, Lamar
2009  Health leave
2010  Pastor—St. Mary Parish, Lamar
2011  Retired

Assistance Provided to Victims
The Diocese will reach out to every person who has been the victim/survivor of sexual abuse as a minor by anyone acting in the name of the Church, whether the abuse was recent or occurred many years in the past. This outreach will include the provision of counseling, spiritual assistance, support groups, and other social services agreed upon by the victim and the Diocese. The Assistance Coordinator will aid in the immediate pastoral care of persons who claim to have been sexually abused as minors by clergy or other diocesan personnel.

Persons who wish to document an allegation may do so by calling the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-392-3738 or 844-CAN-TELL; or contact William Holtmeyer, Jr., MS, NCC, LPC, CEAP, Director of Child and Youth Protection, (417) 866-0841, or billholtmeyer@dioscg.org; or Victim Assistance Coordinator Judy St. John, LPC, NCC, (573) 587-3139, or vac1@dioscg.org; or through the diocesan Web-based TIPS Online reporting portal (see dioscg.org and look for “TIPS” link).

The Safe Environment Policies for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau are available by logging on to the diocesan Website at www.dioscg.org under the Child and Youth Protection ministry tab.