Maryland Province Releases Names of Jesuits Credibly Accused of Sexual Abuse of a Minor

December 17, 2018

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Today, the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus is releasing the names of Jesuits from our province, and other Jesuits who have served the province, who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse of minors since 1950. We are deeply sorry for the harm we have caused to victims and their families. We also apologize for participating in the harm that abuse has done to our Church, a Church that we love and that preaches God’s care for all, especially the most vulnerable among us. The People of God have suffered, and they rightly demand transparency and accountability. We hope that this disclosure of names will contribute to reconciliation and healing.

In the last fifteen years, the Maryland Province has instituted numerous reforms for responding to claims of abuse and striving to insure the safety of minors. Most of the cases related to the names that we release today date back decades, with the last known incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a Jesuit of the Maryland Province happening in 2002. We view the disclosure today of our shameful history as part of our commitment now to preventing abuse. The Maryland Province employs a strict zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and reports to civil authorities accusations of sexual abuse involving a minor. We have ethics in ministry policies in place for Jesuits since 2003, and an independent review board evaluates accusations and our response to them. The Province has been accredited since 2006 by Praesidium, Inc., an independent agency, for our compliance with standards for safeguarding of minors. As an additional step toward transparency and accountability, we plan to have an external audit of our files to ensure that our previous reviews were both accurate and complete.

An accompanying FAQ sheet provides additional information regarding the release of names today and our procedures for preventing abuse. Via the links below, we are releasing the names of credibly accused Jesuits in four groupings depending on the current status of the Jesuit. One of the groups refers to allegations that could not be fully investigated to determine credibility, but we are releasing the names because there is a reasonable possibility the alleged abuse occurred.

We encourage anyone who suspects abuse by any clergy or employee of the Province to contact local civil authorities and/or the provincial’s office of the Maryland Province. Our Victim Assistance Coordinator can be reached at 443-370-6357, MARadvocacy@jesuits.org, or through writing to Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus, 8600 LaSalle Rd, Suite 620, Towson, MD 21286.

In this season of Advent when we hear the promise of God’s coming among us, we pray for all victims of abuse and for our Church, and we strive now to participate in the future God is bringing into being.

Recent News

The Feast of St. Francis Xavier, SJ: One of the First Jesuits
Dec. 3, 2018 — December 3 marks the feast day of St. Francis Xavier, SJ, one of the first Jesuits, who is considered by some to be the greatest missionary since the time of the Apostles.

Remembering Fr. Francis Reese, SJ, Beloved Pastor and servant to Latino Communities
Fr. Francis X. Reese, SJ, beloved pastor, minister and faithful servant to Latino communities, has died at the age of 91.

Jesuit Works Along the East Coast Celebrate Jesuit Vocations Month
Nov. 28, 2018 - More than 90% of Jesuit apostolates in the Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces hosted vocation awareness events during the month of November. View highlights from just a few of these works, which have spent this month encouraging those discerning to pursue their vocations.

Society of Jesus Ordains New Deacons
This year, U.S. and Canadian Jesuits were ordained to the diaconate at several different Masses in the United States, Canada, Rome, Paris and Cairo.

Remembering Fr. Joseph Sanders, SJ, Beloved Professor at Wheeling Jesuit University
Fr. Joseph P. Sanders, SJ, beloved professor at Wheeling Jesuit University, has died at the age of 88.

Three Inspirational Ways Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, Put His Faith into Action
With the launch of the sainthood cause for Fr. Arrupe, a reflection on his legacy.

Thanksgiving Prayers 2018
Nov. 19, 2018 – Blessings and warm wishes for you and your loved ones during this Thanksgiving and as we prepare for the Christmas season. The Maryland and USA Northeast Provinces have assembled several thanksgiving prayers that can be used for your family gatherings.
Jesuits with a credible or established offense against a minor (anyone under the age of 18) who are current Maryland Province Jesuits or are current Jesuits from another Province whose offense took place in the Maryland Province.

Jesuits with a credible or established offense against a minor (anyone under the age of 18) who are deceased or former Maryland Province Jesuits or are deceased or former Jesuits from another Province whose offense took place in the Maryland Province.

Jesuits with an allegation of an offense against a minor (anyone under the age of 18) that could not be fully investigated to determine credibility, but for which there is a reasonable possibility (semblance of truth) that the alleged offense occurred. These are deceased or former Maryland Province Jesuits or deceased or former Jesuits from another Province whose alleged offense took place in the Maryland Province. Reasons a full investigation would not be possible include that the allegation was brought forward after the death of the Jesuit or that historic information on the allegation is incomplete.

Jesuits from other Provinces who served in the Maryland Province at one time and have been publicly named by other Provinces.

Provincial’s Letter - PDF Format  Frequently Asked Questions

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Mission  Get Involved  Support Us  Become a Jesuit

The mission of the Society of Jesus, as a religious order within the Catholic Church, is the service of faith and the promotion of the Gospel of peace in living and proclaiming the Word of God.

Share in the mission of the Maryland Province Jesuits by serving as a volunteer in the Ignatian way.

Donors give Jesuits the freedom, flexibility, resources, and training to respond to the needs of the Church.

Do you have a calling to serve Christ? Learn more

Jesuit Center for Spiritual Growth
The Jesuit Center in Wernersville, Penn., is a place of natural beauty, welcoming quiet and spiritual sustenance for those who seek peace within.

Find a retreat center near you  Find a parish near you

Canada and U.S. Provinces