

Archdiocese of Detroit

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Cardinal Maida Reports on Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests and Deacons in the Archdiocese dating back to 1950

Cardinal Adam Maida, archbishop of Detroit, has released information on allegations of sexual abuse made against priests and deacons of the Archdiocese of Detroit from 1950 through February 1, 2004 and noted the amounts paid out in settlements and counseling for the victims. The data was presented at news conference at Detroit's Sacred Heart Major Seminary.

Cardinal Maida indicated that during the past 54 years, 63 clerics (priests and deacons) have been involved in sexual abuse allegations. He said that 116 victims were known to the Detroit archdiocese and that \$1,377,000 had been paid out in settlements and counseling.

Included in the presentation was a pie chart showing that the 63 clerics represented 2% of the 3,267 priests and deacons who had served in the Archdiocese of Detroit between 1950 and 2004. A breakdown of the money paid out showed that \$601,500 came from insurance carriers and \$775,500 from a self-insurance fund.

“As sad and sobering as these statistics are, our response to them can be a source of renewed hope,” said Cardinal Maida. “...We are committed to continuing our efforts to assist victims, create safe environments, and do all we can to protect children and young people.”

On February 27, aggregate statistics for all U.S. dioceses will be released as part of the *John Jay Study* commissioned by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Those statistics will include the total number of accused perpetrators and victims for the whole country, as well as total costs for the entire Church in the United States for the period between 1950 and December 2002. For the Archdiocese of Detroit, Cardinal Maida released statistics that were updated to February 1, 2004.

Participating in the news conference with Cardinal Maida were Judge Michael J. Talbot, chairperson of the Archdiocesan Review Board; Bishop Walter Hurley, Cardinal Maida's delegate to the Archdiocesan Review Board; Nancy J. Diehl, a member of the Archdiocesan Review Board; Mary Eckert, archdiocesan compliance coordinator; Sr. Beverly Hindson, IHM, victim assistance coordinator; and Ned McGrath, director of communications for the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Detailed information concerning the Archdiocese of Detroit's statistics can be found in *Promise to Protect. Pledge to Heal*, a special supplement to the February 6th edition of *The Michigan Catholic*, which was mailed to some 300,000 Catholic households. Information is also available on the Archdiocese of Detroit website at www.AODonline.org.

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