

Reverend Donald Cramer

Biographical Information

YEAR OF BIRTH:	1970
YEAR OF DEATH:	N/A
ORDINATION:	June 2, 2001

Employment/Assignment History

6/2001-6/2004	Good Shepherd, Camp Hill, PA
6/2004-6/2005	St. John the Baptist, New Freedom, PA
6/2005-2/2006	Leave of Absence
6/2006-6/2010	Christ the King Mission & Bloomsburg University
6/2010-8/2012	St. Monica
8/2012	Leave of absence
11/2014	Dispensed

Summary

Diocesan documents contained information summarized below.

On August 17, 2012, the Department of Homeland Security and the Postal Inspection Service were present at the Diocese of Harrisburg for an investigation into Father Donald Cramer. The investigation revealed that Cramer was in an online chatroom using the screen name "Bigmark512." While online, he communicated with an individual in Connecticut who was charged criminally for possessing child pornography. In his online communications, Cramer mentioned he wanted to go to Mexico where he could "rent" boys. After an investigation, Cramer was not arrested because he was not in possession of child pornography. However, the Department of Homeland Security's investigative report listed, in detail, the nature of the e-mail communication where Cramer expressed an interest in minor boys. The Department of Homeland Security eventually terminated its investigation and closed its file.

The Diocesan files for Cramer also contained a letter that Cramer wrote to Pope Francis in September of 2013, where Cramer requested dispensation from the priesthood. He was officially dispensed in November of 2014.

Chancellor Carol Houghton of the Diocese of Harrisburg wrote a handwritten note dated January 24, 2013, which described a summary of a forensic examination of an electronic device that Cramer possessed. A forensic company in Harrisburg conducted the examination. The examiner told Houghton that Cramer "*was 'definitely' looking for underage boys/teens (w/ all the websites w/ those names) – then he shifted to hardcore sites.*"

