

These Diocese of Corpus Christi priests were accused of sexual abuse

<https://www.caller.com/story/news/local/2019/01/31/these-diocese-corpus-christi-priests-were-accused-sexual-abuse/2658819002/>

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Published 1:48 p.m. CT Jan. 31, 2019 | Updated 4:07 p.m. CT Feb. 1, 2019

The Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi released the names of priests and other clergy Thursday that have been "credibly" accused of sexual abuse of minors.

More than 20 Diocese of Corpus Christi clergy members were "credibly" accused of sexual abuse of minors.



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Corpus Christi Cathedral. (Photo: Rachel Denny Clow/Caller-Times)

The 26 names were released after The Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter and the 15 Texas dioceses made the decision to release the names back in October 2018.

The list is split in two parts. One is a list of clergy in "religious orders clerics and extern clerics," meaning those not from the Diocese of Corpus Christi but those who have visited at some point, the list shows. There are a total of nine names on that list.

The other part is a list of clergy "from or incardinated into the Diocese of Corpus Christi." Seventeen names are included in that portion of the list.

"The process we went through is to hire four independents that are not part of the diocese, professionals in the legal community to come in and let them have the definitions from their experience of what is credible accusations so they used that in reviewing all of these files," Bishop Michael Mulvey said. "So they really told us what was credible in their minds as a legal community so we took that and used that."



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Bishop Michael Mulvey answers questions from the media after Diocese of Corpus Christi released a list of names of priests accused of sexual abuse of minors on Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019. (Photo: Courtney Sacco/Caller-Times)

Mulvey said no one on the list is active in the ministry.

"People get angry, and I understand that but anger cannot consume us," he said. "We hope that will be part of the healing because it brings about in my mind a transparency."

It is estimated there are 8.5 million Catholics and 1,320 Catholic parishes in Texas, making compiling a list "a major project," the release states.

“We're ready to help to stop abuse.”

Bishop Michael Mulvey

The Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops has a list of contact information for [victim assistance coordinators for each diocese in the state on its website](#).

"After contacting the appropriate civil authorities and law enforcement, please report any allegation of abuse to the local diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator," the website reads.

The website includes a link to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services abuse hotline website and its phone number — 1-800-252-5400.



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Bishop Michael Mulvey answers questions from the media after Diocese of Corpus Christi released a list of names of priests accused of sexual abuse of minors on Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019. (Photo: Courtney Sacco/Caller-Times)

Mulvey said the diocese takes all allegations seriously. He added the diocese has trained 100,000 people about creating a safe environment to recognize signs of sexual abuse for more than 10 years.

"We want to show the community and the church that we do want to heal as much as we can," he said. "When people feel betrayed, their trust level goes down. I think people have to decide the church offers more, to me, than these situations, which are terrible. We're working on our part to build that trust back up."

Mulvey said abuse is a "societal problem." He hopes the community, government, churches, law enforcement and legal communities needs to focus on the children at the center of these crimes and help them.

"We're ready to help to stop abuse," he said.

Here are the names included in the list of clergy members "credibly" accused of sexual abuse of minors:

RELIGIOUS ORDER CLERICS & EXTERN CLERICS

(Clerics not from the Diocese of Corpus Christi)

Name: Bishop Joseph V. Sullivan

- **Date of Birth:** 8/15/1919
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/1/1946 (Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph)
- **Episcopal ordination:** 4/3/1967 (Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph; Diocese of Baton Rouge)
- Extern cleric who visited the Diocese of Corpus Christi
- **Current Status:** Deceased 9/4/1982

Name: Rev. Russell Gerard Appleby, MSF

- **Date of Birth:** 10/3/1934
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 3/26/1966 (Missionaries of the Holy Family)
- **Current Status:** Removed from ministry in Diocese of Corpus Christi, September 1983

Name: Rev. Robert J. Bedrosian, MSF

- **Date of Birth:** 7/7/1937
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 3/26/1965 (Missionaries of the Holy Family)
- **Current Status:** Left Diocese of Corpus Christi 1979
- Left Missionaries of the Holy Family order 1982

Name: Rev. John M. Fiala, SOLT

- **Date of Birth:** 10/14/1960
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/2/1984 (Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity)
- **Current Status:** Criminal conviction (I): 5/17/12
- Criminal conviction (II): 12/2/2014
- Deceased 2017

Name: Rev. Edward J. Horan, SOLT

- **Date of Birth:** 3/1/1918
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/27/1987 (Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity)
- **Current Status:** Retired 1996
- Deceased 1997

Name: Rev. Patrick Koch, SJ

- **Date of Birth:** 11/8/1927
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/12/1957 (Society of Jesus)
- **Current Status:** Left Diocese of Corpus Christi 1966
- Deceased 9/9/2006

Name: Rev. Eusebio ("Chevy") Pantoja, CMF

- **Date of Birth:** Unknown
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 1968 (Claretian Missionaries)
- **Current Status:** Removed from ministry in Diocese of Corpus Christi 1980
- Expelled from Claretian Order 1980

Name: Rev. Alfredo Prado, OMI

- **Date of Birth:** 1930
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 1958 (Oblate of Mary Immaculate)
- **Current Status:** Suspended 1991

Name: Rev. Christopher Joseph Springer, CSSR

- **Date of Birth:** 11/7/1925
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/26/1952 (Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer)
- **Current Status:** Left Diocese of Corpus Christi 1971

CLERICS FROM OR INCARDINATED INTO THE DIOCESE OF CORPUS CHRISTI

Name: Rev. Jerome Caponi

- **Date of Birth:** 9/15/1925
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/11/1960 (Order of St. Benedict)
- Incardinated into Diocese of Corpus Christi 1971
- Excardinated from Diocese of Corpus Christi 1982
- **Current Status:** Left Diocese of Corpus Christi 1982
- Deceased 2/27/2009

Name: Msgr. Hugh Clarke

- **Date of Birth:** 12/30/1924
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 7/16/ 1950 (Dublin, Ireland)
- Incardinated into Diocese of Corpus Christi 8/15/1975
- **Current Status:** Retired 1997
- Deceased 12/16/2002

Name: Rev. William Daly

- **Date of Birth:** 4/21/1924
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/17/1957 (Ordained in Dublin, Ireland for the Diocese of Corpus Christi)
- **Current Status:** Left Diocese of Corpus Christi 1971
- Deceased 11/9/1982

Name: Rev. Domingo De Llano

- Date of Birth: 10/19/1939
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 5/28/1966 (Ordained in Laredo, TX for the Diocese of Corpus Christi)
- **Current Status:** Retired 1999
- Deceased 5/4/2013

Name: Rev. Steven T. Dougherty

- **Date of Birth:** 10/11/1956
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/14/2003 (Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity)
- Incardinated into Diocese of Corpus Christi 7/8/2008
- **Current Status:** Removed from ministry 12/16/2011
- Criminal conviction: 2/28/2018

Name: Rev. John J. Feminelli

- **Date of Birth:** 10/12/1946
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/6/1987 (Corpus Christi, TX)
- **Current Status:** Retired 4/16/2007

Name: Rev. Adelhard M. Francois

- **Date of Birth:** Unknown
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 2/24/1935, Wuerzburg, Bavaria (Mariannahill Missionary Society)
- Incardinated into Diocese of Corpus Christi: 1/14/1950
- **Current Status:** Left Diocese of Corpus Christi 1959

Name: Rev. J. Frank Gomez

- **Date of Birth:** 10/28/1928
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 5/27/1961 (Corpus Christi, TX)
- Excardinated from Diocese of Corpus Christi 1965
- **Current Status:** Left Diocese of Corpus Christi 1965

Name: Rev. Clement Hageman

- **Date of Birth:** Unknown
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/10/1930, St. Meinrad, IN
- **Current Status:** Removed from ministry in Diocese of Corpus Christi April 1939
- Deceased 7/2/1975

Name: Msgr. Michael Heras

- **Date of Birth:** 6/7/1958
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/15/1984 (Corpus Christi, TX)
- **Current Status:** Removed from ministry 6/24/2014

Name: Rev. Jesus Garcia Hernando

- **Date of Birth:** 10/7/1960
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/22/1984, Burgos, Spain
- Incardinated into Diocese of Corpus Christi: 1/10/1994
- Excardinated from Diocese of Corpus Christi: 2/11/2000
- **Current Status:** Removed from ministry 9/15/1994

Name: Rev. Flover Antonio Osorio Herrera

- **Date of Birth:** 10/7/1954
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 3/19/1985 (Diocese of Villavicencio, Meta, Columbia)
- Incardinated into Diocese of Corpus Christi 12/4/2003
- **Current Status:** Removed from ministry 10/29/2007

Name: Rev. Peter J. Hughes

- **Date of Birth:** Unknown
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/10/1956 (Ordained in Carlow, Ireland for the Diocese of Corpus Christi)
- **Current Status:** Left Diocese of Corpus Christi 1963
- Deceased 12/7/1990

Name: Msgr. William J. Kelly

- **Date of Birth:** 10/11/1916
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/24/1944 (Ordained in Dublin, Ireland for the Diocese of Corpus Christi)
- **Current Status:** Deceased 3/12/1983

Name: Msgr. William C. Kinlough

- **Date of Birth:** 8/29/1918
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 6/20/1943 (Ordained in Ireland for the Diocese of Corpus Christi)
- **Current Status:** Retired 1999
- Deceased 9/29/2000

Name: Rev. Msgr. Thomas Meany

- **Date of Birth:** 5/12/1928
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 5/31/1955 (Corpus Christi, TX)
- **Current Status:** Retired 2004
- Deceased 7/20/2008

Name: Rev. Robert Trevino

- **Date of Birth:** 11/10/1958
- **Ordination & Prior Status:**
- **Ordination:** 12/28/1985 (Corpus Christi, TX)
- **Current Status:** Removed from ministry 1995
- Laicized 12/6/2012