

DIOCESE of ERIE

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Sharing the Catholic faith in northwest Pennsylvania [These screen shots of https://www.eriercd.org/childprotection/disclosure.html were saved on 7/18/18. They show the updates that were made by the diocese that day.]

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Public Disclosure List

Some of the names on the list may be recognizable as a result of a criminal conviction or other public report. Other names are being disclosed publicly for the first time. Some people on this list cannot be convicted of a crime because of the passage of time, legal technicalities, their present whereabouts or mental state, or other factors; nonetheless, these people will not be accepted as employees or volunteers by the Diocese of Erie. Every person named on this list was credibly accused of actions that, in the diocese's judgment, disqualify that person from working with children. Such actions could include the use of child pornography, furnishing pornography to minors, corruption of minors, violating a child-protection policy, failure to prevent abuse that they knew to be happening, and — in some cases — direct physical sexual abuse or sexual assault of minors. Allegations were corroborated by secular legal proceedings, canon law proceedings, self-admission by the individual, or threshold evidence (as defined in the Child Protection Policy). None of the priests listed are permitted to engage in any form of public ministry or to present themselves publicly as priests. Individuals are listed with their current (in the case of priests) or last known (in the case of laypersons) status with the Diocese of Erie or any of the schools or agencies within the diocese.

The individuals on this list are believed to be alive and living in the locations noted:

- Former Fr. Michael J. Amy Niceville, Florida Laicized (removed from ministry and later voluntarily resigned from the clergy)
- Fr. Michael G. Barletta Erie, Pennsylvania Forbidden to function as a priest
- Fr. Robert F. Bower Edinboro, Pennsylvania Forbidden to function as a priest
- Andre C. Butler Rosedale, New York
 Former lay agency employee
- Randolph A. Byrd Crozet, Virginia Former lay teacher
- Former Fr. Dennis C. Chludzinski Erie, Pennsylvania Laicized
- Charles R. Cooper Lanexa, Virginia Former lay teacher
- Megan E. Fecko Cleveland, Ohio Former lay teacher
- Kevin J. Feyas Erie, Pennsylvania Former lay teacher and parish musician
- Former Fr. Chester J. Gawronski Sahuarita, Arizona Dismissed from the clergy
- Timothy G. Hanson, Sr. North East, Pennsylvania Layman prohibited from volunteer work or entering school property
- Former Fr. Barry M. Hudock Albany, Minnesota Laicized
- Fr. Stephen E. Jeselnick Colorado Springs, Colorado Forbidden to function as a priest
- Former Fr. Gary L. Ketcham Erie, Pennsylvania Laicized

- Fr. Thaddeus T. Kondzielski Waterford, Pennsylvania Forbidden to function as a priest
- Kevin S. Kulhanek Erie, Pennsylvania Former lay school volunteer
- Fr. Salvatore P. Luzzi Bradford, Pennsylvania Forbidden to function as a priest
- Eve Minter (née Spangler) Henrico, Virginia Former lay teacher
- David Montgomery Otisville, New York (in federal prison until 2041) Former lay teacher
- Fr. Leon T. Muroski Erie, Pennsylvania Forbidden to function as a priest
- Denise J. (née Geitner) Myers (Meyer) Greensburg, Pennsylvania Former lay teacher
- Hattie B. Nichols Erie, Pennsylvania Former lay agency employee
- Philip J. Pochatko Erie, Pennsylvania Former lay school teacher
- Brian J. Radachy Elkton, Ohio (in federal prison until 2024) Former lay school teacher
- Former Fr. Samuel B. Slocum Bradford, Pennsylvania Dismissed from the clergy
- Former Fr. Thomas E. Smith Erie, Pennsylvania Dismissed from the clergy
- Fr. Daniel J. Taylor Tucson, Arizona Forbidden to function as a priest
- Ron Thomsen Erie, Pennsylvania Former lay volunteer
- Former Fr. Patrick B. Vallimont Union City, Pennsylvania Laicized
- Dennis E. Vickery Erie, Pennsylvania Former lay teacher
- Joseph M. Votino Masury, Ohio Former lay teacher/coach
- Craig T. Ward Erie, Pennsylvania Former lay agency employee

Should an employer have a need for further information about the facts underlying the inclusion of any person on this list, please contact the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth at childprotection@eriercd.org. This list will be updated as necessary.

Additionally, we recognize that some of the individuals who failed our children and other vulnerable populations are now deceased. The list below names those individuals who — but for their death — would be on the above list of people prohibited from employment. In furnishing the names of these deceased individuals, the diocese wishes to acknowledge those victims/survivors who were harmed by their actions, to encourage any other victims/survivors to come forward who have not already done so, and to reaffirm the commitment of the diocese to offer support and assistance to victims/survivors of abuse. Individuals are listed with their current (in the case of priests) or last known (in the case of laypersons) status with the Diocese of Erie or any of the schools or agencies within the diocese.

- Fr. Donald C. Bolton, CSsR Forbidden to function as a priest
- Fr. Edmund S. Borycz, OFM Forbidden to function as a priest
- Msgr. Bonaventure M. Ciufoli Returned to Italy
- Fr. Donald J. Cooper Forbidden to function as a priest
- William (Bill) Couse
 Former lay school employee
- Fr. Kevin E. Cray, SDS Was able to function (abuse reported after death)
- Father G. Matthew Daly Was able to function (abuse reported after his death)
- Fr. David V. Dobrowolski
 Was able to function (abuse reported after his death)
- William P. Garvey Former lay teacher/coach (later served as college president)
- Fr. Herbert G. Gloekler
 Was able to function (abuse reported after his death)
- Fr. Robert E. Hannon
 Forbidden to function as a priest
- Msgr. James Hopkins
 Was able to function (abuse reported after his death)
- Fr. Joseph W. Jerge
 Forbidden to function as a priest
- Fr. Edward W. Jungquist
 Forbidden to function as a priest
- Fr. Thomas C. Kelley Forbidden to function as a priest
- Fr. Gerard (Gerald, Gerry) H. Krebs Forbidden to function as a priest
- Fr. Jerry Kucan, OFM
 Forbidden to function as a priest
- Fr. Fidelis G. Lazar, OSB No longer in ministry
- Msgr. Louis Lorei
 Believed to have died restricted from ministry (records unclear as to final status)
- Msgr. Daniel Martin Restricted from ministry (abuse reported during retirement/physical-health-leave and later, after death)

- Fr. Joseph F. Meisinger
 Was able to function (abuse reported after his death)
- Fr. John L. Murray Forbidden to function as a priest
- Fr. Giles L. Nealen, OSB Was unable to function (was already confined to infirmary when abuse was reported)
- Fr. Andrew W. Pawlaczyk Was able to function (abuse reported after death)
- Fr. John A. Piatkowski Believed to have died with ability to function (records unclear as to final status)
- Former Fr. William F. Presley Dismissed from the clergy
- Fr. John P. Schanz
 Forbidden to function as a priest
- Fr. Charles A. Sheets, Jr.
 Forbidden to function as a priest
- Vincent "Vance" Valentine
 Former lay school employee
- Bishop Alfred M. Watson
 Bishop of Erie (failed to act to stop abuse which was credibly reported to him)

We also find it important to recognize the survivors who have reported abuse, even when the report cannot be investigated fully. Allegations of abuse from decades ago often can be neither proved nor disproved due to a lack of living witnesses or corroborating evidence. The Diocese of Erie is profoundly grateful for the courage demonstrated by the individuals that have come forward to make these allegations known but regrets that — with no way to corroborate these allegations — they cannot be listed here. Nonetheless, the Diocese of Erie always welcomes any additional information that can shed light on past cases of abuse.

These individuals are currently under investigation, and each is presumed innocent unless proved otherwise:

- Jonathan Borkowski Fairview, Pennsylvania
- Fr. Sean P. Kerins Erie, Pennsylvania
- Fr. William A. Rice—retired, Fryburg, Pennsylvania
- John (Jack) E. Tome Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Awaiting trial

Fr. David Poulson

Forbidden to function as a priest

Finally, in some cases, reports were made out of an abundance of caution rather than because of specific abuse that was perpetrated. In these cases, referrals are made to appropriate law-enforcement agencies, as well as analyzed by the Diocese of Erie's investigators. Where both secular law enforcement and diocesan investigators concluded that a report is unfounded, the names of the reported individuals involved will not be publicized.

REPORTING ABUSE

Pastoral care and compassion for victims, as well as the protection of children and vulnerable adults, is a top priority of the Diocese of Erie. The diocese encourages anyone who has experienced sexual abuse or misconduct by a member of the clergy or any employee or volunteer of the church to contact law enforcement. To report abuse to the independent investigators retained by the Diocese of Erie, email ErieRCD@KLGates.com. In addition, victims or concerned individuals can report abuse to ChildLine, an outreach of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, by calling 800-932-0313. The line is open 24/7, and callers may choose to remain anonymous. Victims also are welcome to contact the diocese directly to report abuse at 814.451.1543. Counseling assistance is available for victims and/or their families through the diocesan victim assistance coordinator, Dr. Robert Nelsen, who can be reached at 814.451.1521.

Numerous reports also are made in accordance with the law regarding situations where reason to suspect abuse exists but the perpetrator is not connected to the diocese. For instance, if a parent abuses a child, a Catholic school teacher is required to report that abuse. Those cases are investigated and prosecuted as appropriate, but the names of people involved will not be made public on this website. The federal sex-offender registry may be searched here, and the Pennsylvania sex-offender registry may be searched here. Any person who uses the information contained on this website or linked websites to threaten, intimidate, or harass a listed individual or his/her family — or who otherwise misuses this information — may be subject to criminal prosecution or civil liability.

Connect with Us

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MyDioErie



All employees of the Diocese of Erie—as well as clergy and religious—may access important forms and resources, other internal communications, the Information Bulletin and more.

Get in Touch With Us

429 East Grandview Blvd. Erie, PA 16504

P: 814-824-1111 E: info@ErieRCD.org

