

Archdiocese of Boston
Secretary for Ministerial Personnel

File Search – Reverend Philip C. Breton – 1909–1984

Personnel File and File in Father Daly's Office – no documentation

Archives:

Assignments	1936 – one month Granitesville
	1936 – three months St. Joseph, Quincy
	1936–40 – St. Joseph, Waltham
	1940–43 – Sacred Heart, Amesbury
	1943–46 – Howard Chaplain School
	1946–50 – St. Louis de France, Lowell
	7/50–9/50 – Sick leave (suspension)
	9/50–11/50 – St. Joseph, Everett
	11/50–4/51 – St. Mary's, Marlboro
	4/26/51–7/18/51 – Suspended (Retreat – Canada)
	7/51–10/57 – Cambridge City Hospital
	1957 (July) – Sick leave (Suspended)
	1957–60 – St. Bridget's, Maynard
	1960–62 – St. Anne's, Salem
	1962–78 – St. Alphonse, Beverly – Retired

File #1:

July, 1950 – Fr. Breton was suspended by the Archbishop. Immoral acts at Hampton Beach with male minor(s) (under 10) were observed by someone who recognized the priest. Ecclesiastical endorsement for military chaplaincy was withdrawn.

April 26, 1951– An accusation made by [REDACTED] of Marlboro was reported by the Pastor, Rev. F.X. Lariviere. Fr. Breton was suspended.

May 6, 1951 – Fr. Duplessis, Pastor of St. Louis de France, Lowell (1949–62) wrote to the Chancellor that Fr. Breton's presence is a source of scandal... and a menace to the boys of the parish. In 1951, Fr. Breton made a retreat in Canada.

July 22, 1957 – Mrs. [REDACTED] (widow) came to Rev. Francis G. O'Sullivan. Her seventeen year old son had been charged with indecent exposure by some young woman. He told his mother that at age 13 he was subject to indecent actions which went on for two years. (Cambridge assignment)

July 27, 1957 – Fathers Sennott and O'Sullivan interviewed [REDACTED] with his mother present.

July 27, 1957 – Fr. Breton was suspended. He was "pleading for mercy for a case about which we knew nothing." Fr. Breton was told to contact Msgr. Riley and to obtain a good psychiatrist.

File #2:

- July 14, 1962 – Strong letter of recommendation for a pastorate given to Fr. Sennott by Fr. Eugene Vincent of St. Anne's, Salem.
- November 27, 1977 – The custodian and fundraiser for St. Alphonse Parish, George Nadeau, asked the pastor several times to retire because he was hearing complaints and feared scandal.
- March 2, 1978 – ██████████ of Beverly reported about the recently retired Fr. Breton from St. Alphonse Parish. He had concerns because Fr. Breton was taking young boys to his home in New Hampshire. He said that Fr. Breton "should have some sort of mandated professional help." Interview of Fr. Breton by Bishop Daily who offered help.
- Other notes – Without names or dates
Actions described by a Cambridge printer while a senior at Don Bosco High School
A cousin from Canada

Current – Rev. Philip C. Breton – 1909–1984

1. ██████████, sixty years. Call by Sr. Catherine Mulkerrin on February 3, 1993, not claiming any personal harm, but remembering that his parents warned ██████████ to stay away from Fr. Breton. Lengthy conversations about his religious dilemmas. St. Louis de France, Lowell
██████████ met with ██████████ near March 25, 1993 once
In January of 1994, ██████████ called Sr. Catherine Mulkerrin seeming to recollect some touching by Fr. Breton when he had to be brought back from an outing because he had broken a tooth. April 15, 1994, ██████████ still not quite sure, but reconsidering going back to a therapist.
2. ██████████, fifty-two years. Initial call February 4, 1993 concerning sexual abuse by Fr. Breton when ██████████ was attending Cambridge High and Latin 1956–57. Subsequent phone calls and one appointment to deal with ██████████ reports, his background and arrangements for counseling, also the general breakdown he was experiencing. Dr. Mendola, PhD, letter dated April 11, 1993. "I expect that Mr. ██████████ will need to be involved in therapy on a twice-a-week basis initially due to the severe symptoms of PTSD he is currently experiencing. This is also important to prevent the necessity of hospitalization which can occur early in treatment.

By March, ██████████ is able to say that Fr. Breton was "like an animal in that apartment" and that he left Cambridge and his grandmother, "left sexual abuse to go back to physical abuse."

May 8, 1993 – Appointment at Chancery with Sister Catherine Mulkerrin who shared, without particulars, that there had been allegations in the past.

June, 1993 – ██████████ is hospitalized with pulmonary infections – ultimately has to retire.

3. [REDACTED] - December 13, 1993. Fifty years old. Vermont. Reporting about the time Fr. Breton was stationed in Maynard (1957-60) [REDACTED] was on Fr. Breton's hockey team when he was fifteen and until seventeen. He said that Fr. Breton victimized, fondled, took to bed him (others) on three occasions while on trips. [REDACTED] knew that Fr. Breton was at a hospital in Cambridge. "It becomes apparent that the Church chose to look the other way..." Mr. [REDACTED] did not want to pursue anything else, but he would come if we ever wanted him to speak in an open forum.

CEM:mo'l
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