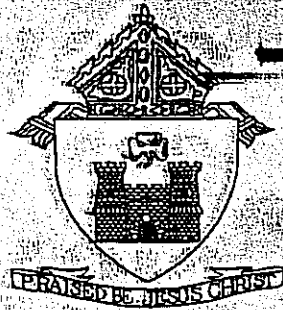


Facsimile Transmission



Diocese of Fort Worth
The Catholic Center - 800 West Loop 820 South
Fort Worth, Texas 76108
(817) 560-3300

From: Name: Rev. Joseph A. Schumacher, V.G.

Fax Number: 817-244-8839

Voice Number: 817-560-2452, ext. 107

E-Mail: jschumacher@fwdioc.org

To: Name: Mr. Michael [redacted]

Company: Catholic Diocese of Dallas

Fax Number: 214-523-2421

Voice Number: 214-528-2240

DOCUMENT IS NOT TO BE REPRODUCED.

Fax Notes:

Two items:

1. 3 page memorandum concerning initial meeting I had with [redacted]. I had FAXed you the other information last week.*

2. [redacted]

I am going to meet with [redacted] to let him talk more about the letter which he sent Bishop Delaney, received May 30, 2000. I'll let you know the outcome of that, if he wants to talk to me. I won't promise him anything.

10-04-04 Order
0163

Date and time of transmission: June 27, 2000 (3:24PM)
Number of Pages including this cover sheet: 9 pages

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CONFIDENTIAL

10-04-04 Order
0164

MEMORANDUM

Confidential

To: Diocesan Files
From: Fr. Joe Schumacher
Date: June 30, 2000
Subject: - -

On June 29, 2000, at 10:34 a.m., a voice message for me left by Mr. Michael Weiss, Business Manager for Diocese of Dallas:

"Don't meet with _____ until you hear from me, _____, the diocesan attorney, Bishop Grahmann, or Bishop Galante."

I heard the message today at 11:45 a.m.

On June 29, 2000, at 4:24 p.m., a voice message from _____

"I am returning your call to me of several days ago. Please call me and we can arrange a meeting."

I heard the message today at 11:45 a.m.

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10-04-04 Order
0165

The Catholic Center

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Joe Schumacher

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2000 6:07 PM
To: Joe Schumacher
Subject: RE: [redacted]

Good luck. I sent duffy copies of every memorandum to the file that the bishop or I had made after talking to a complainant. I am fairly sure that S was not abused by Hoover, but by another priest who was at [redacted] at the time. The dates just don't give.

-----Original Message-----

From: Joe Schumacher
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2000 4:37 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Confidential

Having difficulty in getting Dallas officials on board for a meeting with [redacted]. They are still using their same attorney from Rudy Kos' days. As of this afternoon, I am to meet with them on either July 17 or July 18 for a couple hours for them to peruse the Hoover File. Then [redacted] is to meet with us for 30 min. We will meet at [redacted] -- "neutral ground." Dallas folk [redacted] and I on board.

Mike Weis -- their business manager -- is complaining they knew nothing about all of this, cannot find anything in their files about Bill Hoover, etc. I assured him that Duffy Sandler and along the way John Bell did know about it; we had said that since early on [redacted] hadn't asked for money that we would provide counseling, although if it took place at where he said it did and with whom he said it did it was when we were part of Dallas-Fort Worth Diocese. I got a voice mail from [redacted] who said he had provided the following counseling for

- Beginning May 28, 1997 = 27 sessions in 1997
- 12 sessions in 1998
- 9 sessions in 1999 (last one was Dec. 14, 1999)

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I'll let you know how things go.

CONFIDENTIAL

10-04-04 Order
0166

Joe Schumacher

To: _____
Subject: Confidential

Having difficulty in getting Dallas officials on board for a meeting with attorney from Rudy Kos' days.

As of this afternoon, I am to meet with them on either July 17 or July 19 for a couple hours for them to peruse the Hoover File. Then Tom is to meet with us for ?? time. We will meet at _____ and I on board.

They are still using their same _____
-- neutral ground of Dallas folk.

Mike Weis -- their business manager -- is complaining they knew nothing about all of this, cannot find anything in their files about Bill Hoover, etc. I assured him that Duffy Gardner and along the way John Bell did know about it; we had said that since early on _____ hadn't asked for money that we would provide counseling, although it took place at where he said it did and with whom he said it did, it was when we were part of Dallas-Fort Worth Diocese. I got a voice mail from _____ who said he had provided the following counseling for Tom:

- Beginning May 28, 1997 = 27 sessions in 1997
- 12 sessions in 1998
- 9 sessions in 1999 (Last one was Dec. 24, 1999)

I'll let you know how things go.

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10-04-04 Order
0167

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7/11/00

(1)

[REDACTED]

(2)

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CONFIDENTIAL

*See memo he
works w/*

9/28/99 27
1998 12
1999 9
(last one was
12/14/99.)

10-04-04 Order
0168

Diocese of Fort Worth

MEMORANDUM

To: Diocesan Files
From: Fr. Joseph A. Schumacher
Date: July 19, 2000
Subject: Meeting JAS and Peter M. Flynn had with

We were to meet at _____ offices, _____ at 4 p.m.
_____ arrived at 4:15, having left work early from _____

I explained to him that Bishop Delaney had received his letter about 5 weeks ago and asked me to get in touch with him. Since the incident, according to _____, happened around _____ I again explained that the Diocese of Fort Worth wasn't in existence until fall, 1969, that it was part of the Diocese of Dallas-Fort Worth in the early 1960's. Peter described how each diocese is self-governed, not subject to other dioceses. I told him I had contacted the chancery office in the Diocese of Dallas and had given them all the information he had given me. I explained how we had offered in 1997 to pay for psychological counseling for _____ and that Dallas had agreed at that time, through their Vicar General, _____ said the counseling had helped him very much. In fact he repeated this several times, saying _____ much he had received from _____

I reminded him that our Diocese had paid for the 27 sessions in _____ which began _____ the 12 sessions in _____ and how we continued them with 9 additional ones in _____ when he had asked for them. The last session was _____ was quite settled and articulate, saying he had benefited from the sessions. He has now told _____ about the incident. They and their family live in _____ in _____. He said, though, that on occasion he still had thoughts of what had happened, and it bothered him. I told _____ that we would report this meeting of 35 minutes to the chancery officials in Dallas, specifically Mr. Michael Weis, who is the chief financial officer of Dallas Diocese. Peter explained how the bishop's cabinet in Ft. Worth Diocese is composed of the vicar general, the chancellor, and the chief financial officer with some others and said it was similar to this in Dallas. I also explained that Mr. Weis and Dallas diocesan attorney had wanted to be with us today, but the latter's court work had _____ him from attending. Peter gave the name, address and phone number of Mr. Weis to _____

The meeting ended with all parties in good accord and understanding why _____ should and could talk to the authorities in Dallas. _____ said that he believes the incident which he alleged happened caused him such psychological and ensuing physical disability that it brought about his divorce from his first marriage. That first marriage lasted _____ years. He was single for _____ years and has been married to his present wife for _____ years.

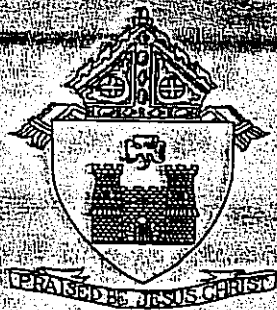
_____ when I read him the last sentence of his letter to us in which he said "Now, I am asking for financial compensation for the suffering I have had and continue to experience," he did not comment in any detail about what he wanted. He is waiting to hear from the Dallas Diocesan Offices.

10-04-04 Order
0169

The Catholic Center
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Facsimile Transmission



Diocese of Fort Worth
The Catholic Center - 800 West Loop 820 South
Fort Worth, Texas 76108
(817) 560-3300

From: Name: Rev. Joseph A. Schumacher, Vic

Fax Number: 817-244-8839

Voice Number: 817-560-3300, ext. 107

To: Name: Mr. Michael Weis

Company: Catholic Diocese of Dallas

Fax Number: 214-528-2242

Voice Number: 214-528-2240

DOCUMENT IS NOT TO BE REPRODUCED.

Fax Notes:

The Diocese of Fort Worth has paid for counseling sessions for _____, as follows:

27 sessions in 1997

12 sessions in 1998

9 sessions in 1999,

at a cost of \$_____ for the 48 sessions.

Date and time of transmission: July 21, 2000 (3:54PM)

Number of Pages including this cover sheet: 2

10-04-04 Order
0170

Diocese of Fort Worth

MEMORANDUM

To: Diocesan Files
From: Fr. Joseph A. Schumacher
Date: July 19, 2000
Subject: Meeting JAS and Peter M. Flynn had with

We were to meet at _____ at 4 p.m.
I arrived at 4:15, having left work early from _____.
I explained to him that Bishop Delaney had received his letter about 5 weeks ago and asked me to get in touch with him. Since the incident, according to _____, happened around _____, I again explained that the Diocese of Fort Worth wasn't in existence until fall, 1969, that it was part of the Diocese of Dallas-Fort Worth in the early 1960's. Peter described how each diocese is self-governed, not subject to other dioceses. I told him I had contacted the chancery office in the Diocese of Dallas and had given them all the information he had given me. I explained how we had offered in 1997 to pay for psychological counseling for _____ and that Dallas had agreed at that time, through their Vicar General, _____ said the counseling had helped him very much. In fact he repeated this several times, saying how much he had received from _____. I reminded him that our diocese had paid for the _____ sessions in _____ which began _____ the _____ sessions in _____ and now we continued them with _____ additional ones in _____ when he had asked for them. The last session was _____ was quite settled and articulate saying he had benefited from the sessions. He has not told _____ about the incident. They and their family live in _____ in _____. He said, though, that on occasion he still had thoughts of what had happened, and it bothered him. I told _____ that we would report this meeting of 35 minutes to the chancery officials in Dallas, specifically Mr. Michael Weis, who is the chief financial officer of Dallas Diocese. Peter explained how the bishop's cabinet in Ft. Worth Diocese _____ composed of the vicar general, the chancellor, and the chief financial officer with some others _____ said it was similar to this in Dallas. I also explained that Mr. Weis and Dallas' diocesan attorney had wanted to be with us today, but the latter's court work had prevented him from attending. Peter gave the name, address and phone number of Mr. Weis to _____. The meeting ended with all parties in good accord and understanding why _____ should and could talk to the authorities in Dallas. _____ said that he believes the incident which he alleged happened caused him such psychological and ensuing physical disability that it brought about his divorce from his first marriage. That first marriage lasted _____ years. He was single for _____ years and has been married to his present wife for _____ years.

When I read him the last sentence of his letter to us in which he said "Now, I am asking for financial compensation for the suffering I have had and continue to experience," he did not comment in any detail about what he wanted. He is waiting to hear from the Dallas Diocesan Offices.

10-04-04 Order
0171

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Diocese of Fort Worth

Message left on my recording machine at the parish, Friday, July 21, 2000.

Friday, 4:46 p.m.
Fr. Schumacher, Hi. This Mike Weis from Dallas 214-528-2240. It's pretty late
Friday-afternoon, about twenty to five. I just received your Fax and you answered part
my questions that I was going to call you about.

even though you had the meeting with _____ we would like to
meet with you and review Father Hoover's file sometime next week. Perhaps Wednesday
or Thursday looks good for us. Perhaps you could arrange one of those days, we would
be happy to meet you at the parish, look at the file and chat with you a little bit, or we
could go to the diocesan offices too one of those two days, but the parish is always the
closer for us. I appreciate the memo very much on the meeting with _____ I will pass it
on to Randy. If you could call back and give us a time, we can do breakfast or lunch or
in between - whatever works for you. Be glad to take you to lunch if you want to do that
or breakfast. Whatever. So, give me a call when _____ change. If those dates don't
work, give me some other times and we'll try to work that out. I'm sorry for all the
delays and appreciate you having that meeting with _____. Still don't understand what we
wants, but we'll proceed. Thank you.

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10-04-04 Order
0172

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MEMORANDUM
Confidential

TO: Diocesan Files
FROM: Fr. Joseph Schumacher
Re: Meeting with Mr. Michael Weis, director of finance for the Diocese of Dallas and Mr. Randy Mathis, attorney representing the Diocese of Dallas
DATE: July 26, 2000, 10:40 a.m.

As arranged we met at _____, for an hour to discuss the William Hoover and _____ material and to allow the two of them to look over the WH file.

They again wondered what _____ wanted. They said they would contact him, since Mike has _____ business phone number.

Nothing new arose that I had not seen in to Mike _____.

Randy pointed out that the establishment of the Diocese of Fort Worth was in reality the separation of the entity into two dioceses: Dallas and Fort Worth. They had no problems dealing with incidents which took place when WH was assigned to work in what is now Dallas Diocese. However, if he were assigned to what is now the territory of Fort Worth Diocese or if the event took place in what is now Fort Worth Diocese, he believed it was to be assigned to us. He made the comparison to a firm splitting into two separate companies and said that unless there was in writing an agreement for the length of time in which the new entity (company) said it would be responsible for actions which took place when they were part of the one firm, they would indeed be responsible for all prior suits - about things which took place in what was now their jurisdiction.

I pointed out that the Diocese of Fort Worth was created, as the Dallas Diocese was changed. If an action such as theft took place in a country area and 8 years later a town was established which encompassed that area, would the new city be responsible for the theft of 8 years previous when there was no such incorporated city. Randy maintained the city would be responsible, unless they had signed an agreement upon establishment that their culpability went only 5 or less years prior to their incorporation. I pointed out there would be a conflict of Canon Law and Civil Law, if he was correct. He said that could possibly be so.

10-04-04 Order
0173

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I foresee Randy Mathis perhaps saying it's our problem, since the action took place (perhaps) while WH was assigned in the territory of what became the Diocese of Fort Worth 8 years later and it actually took place in what was to be the Diocese of Fort Worth.

They went on to say they have no proof the Diocese of Dallas nor Dallas-Fort Worth had liability insurance prior to 1973. He also said that insurance companies don't consider themselves responsible for such an action so long ago. "The Repressed Memory Syndrome is highly questioned these days and being dismissed, frequently," he said.

They said they had settled, monetarily, with at least three plaintiffs involving WH and maybe a fourth they couldn't remember, to wit, the original complainant. They got them to settle, supposedly for counseling, amounting to an aggregate of some \$70,000: \$50,000 in one case, \$15,000 in another and then \$5,000+ in the others. Randy said they had no difficulty in closing the cases with the parties signing a release upon acceptance of such sums of money. They also said that Dallas Diocese has responsibility for the first \$15,000 in each case, even if insurance would have paid.

They asked me to send them a copy of the entire WH file. I asked if this is permissible, especially if something came from

They argued if this would be "in camera," and therefore could be subpoenaed by the court if asked for it and if that was okay. They weren't sure and said they would find out and decide what to accept.

CONFIDENTIAL

10-04-04 Order
0174

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bishop Delaney
FROM: JAS
SUBJECT: William Hoover file
DATE: Tuesday, May 9, 2000

July 27 2000

They have asked for a copy of the entire file.

Question:

1. Can we do this, especially as regards the information from ~~marked confidential~~? If yes, is it to their advantage to have this on hand as they get sued?
2. Attached a memorandum about our meeting today: Weis, Mathis, and me
3. Copies of a Memorandum of yours concerning the case, June 25, 1995 and a copy of another one concerning conversation with Duffy Gardner and your assay of their "buying silence and how it would hold up in court."
4. Copy of a settlement agreement Dallas did with ~~the~~ showing how they included Diocese of Fort Worth in requiring RW to not file claim against us nor the NCCB nor the USCC, in reference to what I said under #2 above and Randy Mathis intimating we might/are responsible for what ~~the~~ does.

DOCUMENT IS NOT TO BE REPRODUCED.

CONFIDENTIAL

Mailed to Michael Weis, Aug. 1, 2000

JAS

10-04-04 Order
0175

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bishop Delaney
FROM: JAS
SUBJECT: William Hoover file
DATE: Tuesday, May 9, 2000

They have asked for a copy of the entire file.

Question:

1. Can we do this, especially as regards the information from ~~marked confidential~~? If yes, is it to their advantage to have this on hand as they get sued?
2. Attached a memorandum about our meeting today: Weis, Mathis, and me.
3. Copies of a Memorandum of yours concerning the case, Jun 25, 1995 and a copy of another one concerning conversation with Duffy Gardner and your assay of their "buying silence and how it would hold up in court."
4. Copy of a settlement agreement Dallas did with ~~...~~ showing how they included Diocese of Fort Worth in requiring RW to not file claim against us nor the NCCB nor the USCC, in reference to what I said under #2 above and Randy Mathis intimating we might/are responsible for what ~~...~~ does.

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10-04-04 Order
0176



Copy

July 28, 2000

Mr. Michael Weis,
Chief Financial Officer,
Diocese of Dallas
P O BOX 190507
DALLAS TX 75219

Dear Mr. Weis,

As you requested, attached is a copy of the file of William R. Hoover as regards the accusations made against him for sexual misconduct. Since all these actions took place before the establishment of the Diocese of Fort Worth, when all the places involved and all the clergy personnel were in the Diocese of Dallas-Fort Worth, it is good for you to have the information on file, although as you will see your diocesan Ordinary personnel initially asked us to handle it. We were happy to do what we could for you.

The file on _____ is separate on top of the rest of the file, since this was what has precipitated the conversation we had with you and your counsel last

Wednesday, July 26, 2000.

DOCUMENT IS NOT TO BE REPRODUCED.

I understand you are going to contact _____ At your direction, this is what I told him when we met, briefly, on July 12, 2000.

I would appreciate your letting me know you received this packet, since the information is of a confidential nature.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Joseph A. Schumacher
Vicar General

Attach.

JS/av

10-04-04 Order
0177

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CITY FINAL

IN SPORTS: Rangers lose in bottom of ninth to Mariners, 4-3...P

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

MONDAY, JULY 3, 1995

Fort Worth, Texas ★ Where The West Begins

25¢ In Tarrant/Dallas counties 50¢

Fort Worth priest resigns, admits abusing child long ago

By Melissa Williams
AND GINGER RICHARDSON
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

of the priest from active ministry. Delaney said the victim came forward three weeks ago.

In accordance with a policy established last year on handling allegations of sexual abuse, the diocese appointed a committee to meet with Hoover and his accuser. When confronted with the accusation, Hoover admitted he had abused a 12-year-old while serving at Dallas parish 38 years ago.

At the close of each morning Mass yesterday, parish council President Kevin Fevy announced that the Rev. William Hoover had resigned and that Bishop Thomas P. Delaney of the Fort Worth diocese would explain why he accepted that night.

Delaney told parishioners who gathered last night that Hoover has been placed on an indefinite leave.

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10-04-04 order
0178

Priest

From Page 1

ing only that the incident was isolated and that the matter is confidential.

"Father Hoover has served the church in an exemplary way since his sad incident and I know this comes as a great shock to those who love him," Delaney said.

A new pastor will be appointed for St. Patrick Cathedral, Delaney said, but he declined to be more specific. Associate pastors Dennis Smith and Al Tyl are on the parish staff now.

In an interview, Delaney said no lawsuit has been filed and that there is no indication that one is being considered. He said this is the first allegation of sexual abuse in the Fort Worth diocese in the 14 years that he has headed the territory and that no criminal charges are being considered against Hoover.

Before last night's meeting, about 500 parishioners had assembled at the church and were reciting the rosary in the summer dusk. As Delaney spoke in the hushed, shadowed church, gasps

respected here and he has touched a great many people."

Hoover, 64, a native of Dallas, graduated from Assumption Seminary in San Antonio and was ordained May 28, 1955. He was appointed pastor of St. Patrick parish June 17, 1987.

Hoover became known for his thoughtful sermons and compassion toward parishioners and their problems.

In May, several hundred parishioners gathered for punch and cookies at a reception in St. Ignace Hall after the 12:30 p.m. Mass, to congratulate the priest and his mother on Hoover's 40 years of church service. He last celebrated Sunday Mass on June 25 at the cathedral.

In his prepared statement, Delaney apologized on behalf of the church.

"I assure that people out deep sympathy and profound apology for the suffering that has been caused by what happened so long ago."

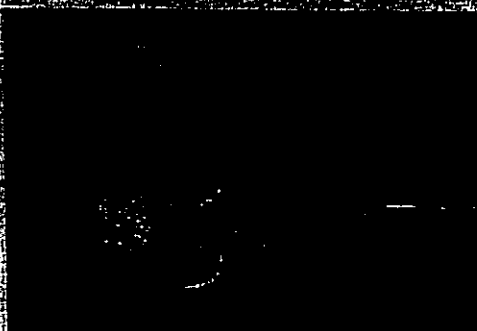
Delaney would not say where Hoover is but said the priest is undergoing a full psychological and spiritual evaluation at "one of the finest places in the world, where he will be treated with the utmost care and respect."

Delaney said that under the diocesan policy, Hoover could return to active ministry in the diocese, conceivably at St. Patrick Cathedral, under two conditions: "That there would be no danger in the future of anything like this happening, and secondly that that parish that he would be assigned to would be aware of all this."

The new diocesan policy was formulated "in response to what's been happening around the country," Delaney said, referring to several other high-profile incidents in which priests have been accused and sometimes confessed to sexual abuse of minors. In 1993, two people filed suit against the Dallas diocese and the Rev. Rudolph "Rudy" Kos alleging sexual abuse.

St. Patrick, the oldest parish in Tarrant County and the seat of the Diocese of Fort Worth, was founded in 1876 by a missionary priest from the Galveston diocese. The cornerstone for the Gothic Revival church building on Throckmorton Street was laid in 1888.

Delaney told parishioners that he had handled Hoover's resignation in the way that he did "to prevent the most terrible thing from coming to the public and the press, in a much more tasteful and dramatic way."



Rev. William Hoover, St. Patrick priest shown in 1987 photo.

Some parishioners said they were puzzled why the person who was abused waited for 38 years to report the incident.

"We just wonder why he waited 38 years," said Kathryn Fial, historian and archivist.

Dyané Alwood, a diocesan staff member, said, "He's one of three priests I can call in the mid of the night to go to any sick Catholic. He's probably one of the toll priests I've ever met."

Staff writer Domingo Ramirez contributed to this report.

PHOTO

PRODUCED.

CO

DOCUMENT

Metropolitan

Tuesday, July 4, 1995

The Dallas Morning News



Associated Press
The Rev. William Hoover, shown in this 1991 photo, will remain a priest in the Fort Worth diocese.

Bishop says priest admitted abusing 12-year-old in '57

The victim, whose identity was not disclosed, reported the abuse to church officials in Fort Worth about three weeks ago, the bishop said. He would not say why the victim had waited so long. "I understand the reasons, but I can't discuss them," he said.

The complainant told church officials that the sexual contact occurred while Father Hoover was assigned to St. James Catholic Church at 2729 Harlandale Ave. in Oak Cliff. The abuse, confined for several months in 1957 and ended when the victim's family left the parish, officials said.

Last month, the Fort Worth diocese appointed a committee to investigate the complaint and meet with the victim, said a diocesan spokesman. The complainant confronted Father Hoover, and after his admission, he was asked to resign. Please see Church on Page 27A.

Sherry Jarrellson, a priest in the oldest Catholic congregation in the area, was forced to resign after acknowledging that he repeatedly sexually abused a 12-year-old parishioner 25 years ago in Dallas, church officials said Monday.

The Rev. William Hoover, 64, resigned June 26 as pastor of St. Patrick's Cathedral in Fort Worth after being confronted about the abuse, said Bishop Joseph P. Delaney of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth. The resignation was announced Sunday.

"He never denied it for an instant and he assured us that it never happened again," Bishop Delaney said. "But if there are other people who have a complaint like this, I want them to come forward."

10-04-04 Order
0180

Church officials say FW pastor admits sex abuse, resigns

Continued from Page 21A

Bishop Delaney said Father Hoover was sent to an undisclosed facility to undergo a three-week psychological evaluation. He will remain a priest in the Fort Worth diocese but his status has not been determined, the bishop said.

"I was astonished and very saddened I have known Father Hoover for 25 years," Bishop Delaney said.

The bishop met with about 500 members of St. Patrick's parish Sunday night and read a brief statement explaining why Father Hoover had resigned. Some church members were angry that the abuse was made public, particularly when it had occurred so long ago.

"When a complaint of this nature is found to be true, the care of the Catholic community requires that a full disclosure be made," said Bishop Delaney, who called it the first allegation of sexual abuse that he has handled since becoming head of the diocese in 1981.

A standing committee in the Dallas diocese also will investigate the incident, said Randal Mathis, attorney for the Dallas diocese.

Several people have sued the Rev. Rudolph Kos and the Dallas diocese over incidents of sexual abuse that allegedly occurred between 1977 and 1992. Law enforcement officials also are investigating possible criminal action against Father Kos, who was suspended from the priesthood in 1993.

At least two other former Dallas priests also are facing lawsuits involving sexual abuse allegations.

He never denied it for an instant, and he assured us that it never happened again. But if there are other people who have a complaint like this, I want them to come forward."

Bishop Joseph P. Delaney

Bishop Delaney said he was uncertain whether there would be any legal action against Father Hoover.

"The victim is an adult, and it will be up to that person to decide," he said.

A Dallas native, Father Hoover was ordained in 1955 at Sacred Heart Cathedral, where he had been baptized. His first assignment was at St. James in Oak Cliff from June 1955 to June 1957.

He worked at Holy Cross Catholic Church from June 1957 to September 1960, at Christ the King from January 1962 to November 1963, St. Cecilia's from February 1964 to July 1965 and St. Edward's from July 1965 to November 1966.

Father Hoover also served at St. Thomas the Apostle in Fort Worth for 12 years, Holy Name in East Fort Worth for 10 years and was assistant pastor at St. Patrick's from 1960 to 1962 before returning as pastor in 1987. He celebrated 40 years in the priesthood in May.

10-04-04 Order
0181

Diocese expands inquiry

Church says priest case opened others involved

BY GINGER RICHARDSON AND JIM JONES
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH — Although Catholic officials say they believe a priest who said he was involved in only one sexual incident, they requested yesterday that any other complainants of the Rev. William Hoover come forward.

So far, no one has.

"Catholic officials and parishioners, who praise Hoover for his record as a priest and as a leader, said they hope he will continue his ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth.

"We are looking into the possibility that there might be other victims," said Bishop Joseph Delaney, leader of the Fort Worth diocese. "We have a request that other victims come forward, but no one has as yet."

Hoover, 64, resigned as pastor of St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church three weeks after an individual accused the priest of sexual abuse 38 years ago. Hoover, pastor at St. Patrick's since 1987, said the allegation was true and that no other such incidents have occurred, church officials said.

Under a policy approved last year by the diocese, a committee appointed by the bishop met with the accuser and Hoover. The priest was an assistant at St. James Roman Catholic Church in Dallas in 1957 when the incident occurred.

(More on PRIEST on Page 20)

Priest

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"Father Hoover acknowledged that it was true," Delaney said in a statement.

Hoover said it was a one-time incident, and Delaney said he believes it was.

"Father Hoover has served the church in an exemplary way since this sad incident," Delaney said.

Priests and parishioners at churches where Hoover has served were adamant yesterday that they never heard any rumors that Hoover had been anything but an exemplary priest.

"Oh, how horrible. I can't believe it," said the Rev. Donald Zimmerman, pastor of Christ the King Catholic Church in Dallas.

Zimmerman said Hoover was his teacher when he was a student at Our Lady of Good Council Academy in Dallas (now Blessed Sacrament Education Center) in the late 1950s.

"I remember him as being such a gentleman and he was not improper in any way to me or anyone else I knew," Zimmerman, now 58, said. "I don't recall any rumors or anything remotely like that."

The victim explained the delay in making the complaint, and the bishop said he could not disclose such confidential information. The diocese is also not disclosing the victim's gender.

"I cannot comment on the victim or any aspect of the incident," Delaney said in an interview. "The person (victim) is an adult now, and if they want to come forward, then they can. But I won't be the

one to invade that person's privacy."

Hoover was straightforward and admitted the abuse occurred, "which is unusual because denial is usually the normal reaction," Delaney said.

"Father Hoover's behavior in dealing to me that it is something he dealt with a long time ago," Delaney said. "Father Hoover is un-dergoing a charitable evaluation, but he will not say where he is now."

"Father Hoover is not mentally ill, but the kind of activity is a kind of illness, and we got him to the help he needed," Delaney said. Hoover was honored May 10 in a diocese-wide devotion in his 10th anniversary as priest.

A native of Dallas, Hoover was ordained at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Dallas where he had been baptized.

He first served in Dallas churches: St. James, 1955-57; Holy Cross, 1957-60; Christ the King, 1962-63; Blessed Sacrament, 1963-64; St. Cecilia, 1964-65; and St. Edward, 1965-66.

In the mid-1960s he also served as president of the Senate of Priests in the Dallas diocese and was the diocese's director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

His work in the Fort Worth diocese began with a brief stint as assistant pastor at St. Patrick's from 1960 to 1962. He served from 1966 to 1977 as pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Fort Worth and was pastor of Holy Name Catholic Church in Fort Worth from 1977 to 1987. He was pastor of St. Francis from 1987 until his

resignation.

Parishioners at St. Ives were in tears Sunday night Delaney told them that had been placed on in leave of absence after the abuse allegation was brought to the diocesan committee.

Parishioner Mike S praised Hoover and said Ives most St. Patrick would accept Hoover if turned as pastor.

Special July 4, 1995

Metros

CITY FINAL

IN SPORTS: Three Rangers homers in 5-2 win over Yankees ... PAGE 1G

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1995

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1995

Accusations against priest grow

St. Patrick pastor resigned after admitting abuse

By JIM JONES AND YVETTE CRAIG
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH — More people have come forward to say they were sexually abused by the Rev. William Hoover, who resigned as pastor of St. Patrick Cathedral after admitting that he abused one person 38 years ago, officials of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth said yesterday.

Meanwhile, parishoners held a special service in support of Hoover and to pray for the original victim, who detailed his allegations

against the priest in an interview on KXAS-TV Channel 3 last night. Many parishoners at the service were unaware of the new allegations.

Walter Hensley, a spokesman for the diocese, held the Fort Worth Star-Telegram's allegations have been several reports of improper behavior by Father Hoover occurring during the time as the original report of about 38 years ago.

"The diocese has taken each step of the new complaints at their work and has offered counseling to them," Hensley said.

(More on PRIEST on Page 19)

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BIOSH

From page 1

"I know there were some received today and several yesterday," Hensley said. He said he could not confirm the genuineness of the new complainants.

The Rev. Robert Wilson, chancellor of the diocese, said he had been told there were five or six more reports of abuse.

"A couple of them felt the abuse was quite serious, and some of the others thought it was not as serious," Wilson said, quoting information from Bishop Joseph Delaney.

"They all claimed that the abuse occurred during that same time frame, all around 1957," Wilson said. The original complainant reported that the abuse occurred when Hoover was a priest at St. James Catholic Church in Dallas.

Hoover has been undergoing counseling at an undisclosed location, church officials said, and has not responded publicly since his resignation was announced Sunday.

In the interview with Channel 5 last night, a 50-year-old man identified as the original complainant

said he was a 12-year-old altar boy at St. James and dreamed of being a priest when he was abused by Hoover for more than a year.

Since then, the man said, his life has been in turmoil. He said he could not keep a job, has been married five times and has sexually abused one of his daughters over a 4 or 5 months.

"I wonder what kind of person I might have become if I hadn't had this, I said to deal with all these years," he said. "There's no way I can do me back that segment of 38 years that have been recovered in my life. But an apology would be a start."

Earlier last night, more than 200 parishioners packed the pews of St. Patrick Cathedral for the special church service to show support for Hoover and to pray for his initial accuser.

The "Holy Hour for Father William Hoover from his parish family" was a somber service, including song, prayer and recital of a rosary.

"Tonight we offer our prayers to both persons in this tragedy," the Rev. Dennis Smith told the congregation. "For nearly 40 years these people have both carried a burden . . . and if there is any point of light shining through the dark-

ness of this tragedy it is that that burden has been lifted from their shoulders."

Parishioners, apparently unaware of more allegations against Hoover, quietly wept and shook their heads in disbelief as Smith tried to dispel any misinformation about the case.

"I have heard all sorts of ideas and theories [about the case], and they are all sheer speculations," Smith said. "If anyone comes to you and says they know something other than what the bishop has released, it's a lie. It's just speculations, and speculations have no fact or basis . . . and it's positively dangerous."

Smith described the service as "a gathering of a family" organized by parishioners.

He stressed that the diocese shared a concern for the victim as well as for Hoover.

"If our blessed Lord were addressing this congregation, he would tell you you must pray for that individual. And if Father Hoover were here, he would tell you the same," Smith said.

Delaney, leader of the diocese, announced Sunday night that St. Patrick's parish officers that Hoover had admitted abusing one individual and had resigned as pastor

Delaney called on any others who felt they had been abused to come forward.

Hoover is undergoing counseling and evaluation at an unnamed location, Delaney told the parishioners.

In last night's TV interview, the man said the abuse began on a Boy Scout camp-out in 1957. He didn't want to reveal it, he said, because he might jeopardize his position as altar boy.

But the man said that after he was abused in a pew of the church, he left and gave up his dream of being a priest.

The man said he was angry when he saw news reports and broadcasts of Delaney praising Hoover and parishioners offering their sympathy for him.

"It's almost like a very short film playing over and over again," the man said.

He said he doesn't believe that they would be as sympathetic to him and probably would not want to live next door to him because of his abuse of his daughter.

"There were some outside influences that have contributed to who I am and what I am today," the man said. "One of those influences is Father Hoover."

PRODUCED.

RECAL

Sacerdote renuncia tras acusaciones de abuso

Por MELISSA WIGGAMS
Y GINGER RICHARDSON
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH — El pastor de la parroquia católica más antigua en el condado Tarrant, St. Patrick Cathedral en el centro de Fort Worth, renunció a su puesto después de admitir el haber abusado sexualmente de un niño de 12 años de edad mientras servía en una iglesia de Dallas hace 38 años.

Al final de cada misa la mañana del domingo, el Presidente del consejo de la Parroquia, Kevin Levy, anunció que el Rev. William Hoover había renunciado y que el Obispo Joseph P. Delaney de la diócesis de Fort Worth explicaría el porqué en una junta especial esa misma noche.

Delaney dijo que hace tres semanas la víctima del abuso confesó lo sucedido.

Cuando se le confrontó con la acusación, "el Padre Hoover admitió que era verdad", dijo Delaney en un comunicado dado a conocer.

En una entrevista Delaney dijo que hasta el momento no se ha presentado una demanda y que no hay

Padre

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indicaciones que se planea hacerlo. Antes de la junta del domingo por la noche, aproximadamente

500 filigreses se reunieron en la iglesia para rezar. Mientras Delaney hablaba a la congregación, sollozos se podían escuchar en toda la iglesia.

"Cuando le pregunté al Padre Hoover si esto se había repetido en sus 38 años, él dijo, no, nada de eso pasó en todo el tiempo que estuvo

en Fort Worth, y yo le creo" mencionó Delaney.

Después de la junta, muchos de los filigreses dijeron que no dejarán de apoyar a Hoover. La parroquia sirve a 1,525 familias.

El periodista Domingo Ramirez contribuyó a este artículo.

Parishes

From Page 1

relied upon Hoover to split his time between St. Patrick and the west Fort Worth mission because of his years. San Mateo has not had an official pastor or resident priest of its own.

Hoover resigned after admitting to sexually abusing a 12-year-old while serving at a Dallas parish 38 years ago.

A priest from St. Andrews Catholic Church lead the service, and an announcement was made that if another priest could not be found for the weekend, Masses would be canceled.

Although Bishop Joseph P. Delaney explained why Hoover resigned during a meeting Sunday night at St. Patrick Cathedral, no announcements was made at San Mateo. Most parishioners found

out from those that attended the meeting, and others read about Hoover's resignation in an article that appeared in Monday's Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Frank Tovar, a San Mateo parishioner, said he was shocked when he saw the article.

"He has done so much for everyone, we love him... it really devastated a lot of people," he said.

Gloria Mosqueda, a parishioner who attended the Sunday meeting, said when she heard the news, she hoped Hoover was retiring rather than resigning.

"My prayers are with Father Hoover and the so-called accuser," Mosqueda said. "It seemed such a shame that with 40 years of service it has to come to an end, hopefully it won't be over." She added that she and her fellow parishioners would welcome his return if such a decision is made by the diocese.

Jeff Hensley, director of communications for the diocese, explained that Delaney would need

some time to find a priest to take Hoover's place at the cathedral and at San Mateo.

"Bishop Delaney doesn't know who would replace Father Hoover," he said. "It would be several weeks before he's replaced."

Hensley explained that arrangements are being made to recruit priests to celebrate Masses at San Mateo.

He also explained why an announcement was not made to the people of San Mateo by saying, "In the rush to deal with this situation that not every consideration was handled in the best possible way," he said.

Hoover's resignation comes at a time when the small parish is undergoing an expansion project and is building a new church at the 2909 Photo Avenue site, where the church has stood since the early '70s. Many parishioners are hoping that with the expansion, the diocese will assign a pastor to the church.

10-04-04 Order
0185

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS Metropolitan

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The Dallas Morning News

More claims of sexual abuse by priest made Man tells why he spoke out

By Monica Soto

Self-Writer of The Dallas Morning News

The Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth confirmed Friday that several people have alleged sexual abuse by a priest who resigned after admitting he repeatedly abused a 12-year-old parishioner 39 years ago in Dallas.

Jeff Hensley, a spokesman for the diocese, wouldn't disclose the exact number of people who have accused the Rev. William Hoover of sexual abuse nor reveal their gender.

Mr. Hensley said the other people reported abuse scenarios that fall within the same time frame as the first victim had reported.

"They were all centered around the same period of time about 38 years ago," Mr. Hensley said. "They're piecing enough detail to make their stories make sense."

Father Hoover resigned June 26 as pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic in Fort Worth after admitting to diocese officials that he abused a child for several months in 1957 at
Please see OTHERS on Page 38A.

10-04-04 Order 0186

Other people have alleged abuse by Fort Worth priest who quit

Continued from Page 33A.

St. James Catholic Church in Oak Cliff.

Fort Worth Bishop Joseph P. DeSapena said last month that Father Hoover assured church officials that the abuse never happened again after the first incident.

The first person reported the abuse to officials at St. James Catholic Church was a priest who quit three weeks ago. He told church officials that the sexual contact occurred for several months and stopped after the victim's family left the parish.

Another victim who contacted Fort Worth diocese officials last week said he decided to notify church officials of his abuse after reading a newspaper article on Father Hoover's resignation.

"I still have extremely mixed feelings about bringing it up," said the 51-year-old Dallas man, who asked that his name not be used. "I was trying to quietly let it go. It's just something now that he obviously lied to the bishop about the number of times that it has happened. He fooled an awful lot of people."

The man said that he lived "a stone's throw" from St. James and was about 13 when the sexual

abuse started in January 1957.

He said that the abuse spanned eight months during church-sponsored Boy Scout camping trips, in a sacristy while waiting for Mass and at a rectory that has since been renovated.

"In the 50s, if someone with authority tells you to do something, you're going to do it," he said. "It was a terrible thing to do to a 13-year-old boy."

The Dallas man said that he told few relatives about the abuse and hasn't aware whether other Scouts in his class were abused.

"I thought I was all alone," he said. "However, this first person is that I came forward, he had to have been in a classroom of mine because we were in the same class. I'd like to find out if he knows that someone else was going through that at the same time."

DeSapena said that all people who have reported accusations have been given counseling but that he wasn't sure whether any had accepted it.

"Our main interest is to treat people with respect to hear them and to respond to them," he said. "Anything beyond that we would start referring to the diocese

of Dallas."

Randy Mathis, attorney for the Catholic Diocese of Dallas, said that only the first person to come forward has filed a report with the Dallas diocese.

"My understanding is there have been five or six other individuals who have now made a report to the Fort Worth diocese," Mr. Mathis said.

"We have consistently asked for any information to notify us because it helps in our investigation," Mr. Mathis said. "This is conduct allegedly occurring a long, long time ago, and it will be very difficult to investigate."

None of the people can file criminal complaints against Father Hoover because too much time has passed under the law.

The 51-year-old Dallas man who says he was abused indicated that he's not what sure what type of action he'll take, but he wants Father Hoover to take responsibility for his actions.

"At this point, he has led a life that is a lie," he said. "He's never asked for anybody for forgiveness, and he has celebrated Mass differently not in a state of grace."

"Unfortunately it's a part of life," he said, humbly stating part of

Action on misconduct complaint in line with new rules, diocese says

By JIM JONES
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH — Bishop Joseph Delaney, head of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth, acted according to a new policy in dealing quickly and sympathetically with a complaint filed against one of the diocese's most revered priests, a church spokesman said yesterday.

A 50-year-old Tarrant County man accused the Rev. William Hoover of sexually abusing him 38 years ago. The man, who asked that his identity not be revealed, said his motive for coming forward was in getting help in straightening out his "messed-up" life.

Delaney spoke with St. Patrick Cathedral parishioners Sunday and announced that Hoover, who had been pastor there since 1987, had resigned after admitting to the wrongdoing.

Hoover is on an indefinite leave of absence to undergo counseling at an undisclosed location.

Jeff Hensley, spokesman for the Diocese of Fort Worth, said

Delaney and the Fort Worth Diocese followed a new sexual misconduct policy that is an outgrowth of the church's heightened awareness of the problem.

"It reflects that the U.S. [Catholic] Church wants to respond quickly and compassionately to those who have been injured," Hensley said. U.S. Catholic bishops, he said, have been focusing on the problem and recommended that each diocese adopt its own policy in dealing with sexual misconduct.

The Fort Worth policy, dated July 1, 1993, was studied in several workshops around the 28-county diocese last year, Hensley said. It dictates that the diocese "will respond immediately and effectively to deal with an accusation of sexual misconduct brought against a church minister or employee."

The complainant first sought help through the Catholic Diocese of Dallas about six weeks ago. The incident occurred at St. James Catholic Church in Dallas.

Randal Mathis, attorney for the

Diocese of Dallas, said his diocese referred the complaint to the Fort Worth Diocese, where Hoover was serving, but also has the option of conducting its own investigation.

Mathis said the Dallas Diocese follows guidelines recommended by U.S. Catholic bishops in handling sexual misconduct cases. The Dallas Diocese is drawing up a new policy in handling sexual abuse complaints, he said.

After bringing his complaint forward in Dallas, the man met with Fort Worth church committee members three people. He then met privately with Delaney.

Complaints against Hoover increased Wednesday and Thursday when Fort Worth Diocese officials received several calls from people who said they were sexually abused by Hoover during the same time period as the original complaint, diocese officials reported.

Hensley said he knew of no additional complaints received Friday. All those who have called with complaints are being offered counseling.

10-04-04 Order
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Parishioners stick by priest in abuse case

FW worshipers forgive pastor
who admitted molesting child

By Linda Stewart

Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

FORT WORTH — Parishioners at St. Patrick Cathedral emerged from noon Mass on Tuesday with love and forgiveness in their hearts for the priest many called Father Bill.

The pastor, the Rev. William Hoover, was forced to resign last week after acknowledging that he sexually abused a 12-year-old church member 38 years ago.

His resignation, announced Sunday, was on the minds of parishioners as they took time from their traditional Fourth of July festivities to kneel and pray in the cool St. Patrick sanctuary.

"All I can say is let he who is without sin cast the first stone. That's what our Lord said," said Maggie Rappich, 73, a lifelong member of St. Patrick parish.

The noon Mass was dedicated to the memory of Ms. Rappich's late husband, Mickey, who died on the Fourth of July in 1985.

The date was special to the Rappichs because they met at a July
Please see PARISHIONERS on Page 17A

Parishioners back priest in sex-abuse case

Continued from Page 15A

Fourth picnic at Benbrook Lake in 1941 and were married at St. Patrick, an ornate white-stone structure in downtown Fort Worth.

Ms. Rappich has seen priests come and go, but she said Father Hoover was "one of the holiest men, the most gentle persons I have ever known. . . . There's kindness written all over his face."

She was one of about 60 church members who attended the 30-minute noon Mass where the words "justice," "peace" and "forgiveness" were sprinkled throughout the Scripture readings.

Afterward, some parishioners expressed sadness for Father Hoover and his victim, whose identity has not been disclosed.

Fort Worth Bishop Joseph P. Delaney has encouraged other people to come forward if they have any pertinent information about Father Hoover.

The sexual contact occurred in 1957 while Father Hoover was assigned to St. James Catholic Church on Oak Cliff. But the victim did not report the abuse to church officials until about three weeks ago, leading some members to say Father Hoover has spent his life making amends.

"For all that we have to pay for our sins, the priests have to pay 10 times more," longtime St. Patrick member Robert Hastings said. "But without them, we wouldn't have a church."

Parishioners painted a picture of Father Hoover as a brilliant but humble priest who wrote a book about St. Patrick's first 100 years.

"We want him back," Kristen Patterson said while her husband carried their toddler to the car. She called Father Hoover a modern-day St. Augustine, a fifth-century bishop known for his *Confessions*.

The abuse, Ms. Patterson said, is a "horrible thing" but it provides a lesson in hope.

"Does God really forgive you?" she asked. "We know he can . . . and this can help us all be more forgiving."



The Rev. William Hoover is on indefinite leave after admitting to sexual abuse.

The Catholic diocese asked Father Hoover, 64, to resign after he admitted the molestation. He is on indefinite leave of absence from active ministry.

During his 40 years in the priesthood Father Hoover, a Dallas native, has served in seven parishes.

Members of St. Patrick, where Father Hoover has been pastor since 1987, say they pray that the report was an isolated one. The parish serves 1,525 families.

"I've never heard anyone say anything bad at any time about Father Hoover," said Cecil Lazure, the church's sacristan. "But now that this is out in the open, we hope that both the victim and Father Hoover can find some kind of peace and live out their lives in some kind of quiet forgiveness."

10-04-04 Order
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toward Lippie tomorrow.
"You can already tell the differ-

Diocese agrees to fund man's abuse counseling

By JIM JONES
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

The Catholic Diocese of Dallas has agreed to provide \$5,000 in counseling assistance to the man who said he was sexually abused by a Dallas priest 38 years ago.

Rey, William Hoover, former pastor of St. Patrick Cathedral in Fort Worth, the attorney for the Dallas diocese said yesterday.

"The individual reported to us several weeks ago that he had been abused as a youngster at a Dallas

"It's been 100 for the last three days," Austin said. "Sunday it was

ST

church," said Randy Mathis, attorney for the Dallas diocese. "We investigated and concluded that it was appropriate to assist him with counseling."

Mathis said that even though the statute of limitations on such complaints is usually two years after the complainant reaches age 18, the Dallas diocese thought it was appropriate to offer the assistance.

"The Dallas diocese has a policy of arranging counseling for those sexually abused

drive schedule. It used to kick off around 8 to 9 a.m.; now the cov-

The Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth has a similar policy of offering counseling to abuse victims.

Several other calls were received last week by the Fort Worth diocese from people saying they were abused by Hoover during the same period referred to by the original complainant, Fort Worth diocese officials said.

Jeff Mansley, spokesman for the Fort Worth diocese, said he had heard of no other complaints this week. The Fort Worth diocese, he offered to provide counseling for

Yorn in March, a signu...
and on Labor Day.

those who say they were abused, he said.

Hoover's accuser, now a 50-year-old Tarrant County resident, said he was a 12-year-old altar boy at St. James Catholic Church in Dallas when he was abused by Hoover in 1957. Hoover admitted the abuse and resigned from St. Patrick late last month. He had been a pastor there since 1987.

The 64-year-old Hoover is undergoing counseling at an undisclosed location.

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CONFIDENTIAL

William Hoover, 65, former St. Patrick pastor

BY JIM JONES

Star Telegram Staff Writer

When you needed a friend, the Rev. William Hoover, former pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic Cathedral, who died yesterday, Saturday, Oct. 19, in New York City, was praised as a pastor and friend by church members and fellow priests yesterday.

When you needed a friend, he was a friend, when you needed a pastor, he was an excellent pastor. Fr. Cyndra Maza, a member of San Mateo Catholic Church in North Whitt, where Rev. Hoover often celebrated Mass.

Rev. Hoover, who collapsed while preaching in his cathedral, was accompanied to a hospital by longtime friends the Rev. Richard Hoover and Fr. Robert Wilson.

He was accompanied by a priest from the diocese of Dallas, Fr. Thomas M. Gallewelle, who said Hoover was a man of great faith and a man who loved his people.

Hoover was a man of great faith and a man who loved his people. He was a man of great faith and a man who loved his people.



The Rev. William Hoover, a man of great faith and a man who loved his people. He was a man of great faith and a man who loved his people.

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He was a man of great faith and a man who loved his people. He was a man of great faith and a man who loved his people.

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