



ARCHDIOCESE OF
CINCINNATI

Our commitment to creating and
maintaining safe environments is
absolute and will not be
compromised.

STATUS REPORT ON SUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE AGAINST CLERICS

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati's **Decree on Child Protection** cites the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' **Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People**. The **Charter** is very clear in regards to Clerics who have sexually abused children:

When even a single act of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest or deacon is admitted or is established after an appropriate process in accordance with canon law, the offending priest or deacon will be removed permanently from ecclesiastical ministry, not excluding dismissal from the clerical state, if the case so warrants.

If the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state has not been applied (e.g., for reasons of advanced age or infirmity), the offender ought to lead a life of prayer and penance. He will not be permitted to celebrate Mass publicly or to administer the sacraments. He is to be instructed not to wear clerical garb, or to present himself publicly as a priest.

When an accusation has been shown to be unfounded, every step possible will be taken to restore the good name of the person falsely accused.

Definitions

Substantiated Allegation – For purposes of the list below, a substantiated allegation is one which, based upon investigation and a review of the available facts and circumstances, is more likely than not to be true.

Laicized – When a Cleric is laicized (permanently dismissed from the clerical state) in accord with canon law at the direction of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican, he is no longer incardinated and is unable to function as a priest anywhere.

Permanently Removed from Ministry – When a Cleric is permanently removed from priestly ministry at the direction of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican, he is prohibited from wearing clerical clothing and publicly presenting himself as a priest. He is expected to lead a life of prayer and penance, and he is still under the authority of the bishop or archbishop and subject to certain priestly responsibilities including celibacy.

Incardinated – This refers to the dedication of a Cleric to ministry in a particular diocese, religious order, or other equivalent institution. All Clerics are incardinated when they are ordained deacons.



I. Status Report of Clerics incardinated in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati against whom a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a child was made and investigated while the Cleric was living.

Name	Ordained	Status
Keith Albercht	Ordained: 1977	Status: Laicized/deceased
John Berning	Ordained: 1934	Status: Removed from ministry/deceased
Thomas Brunner	Ordained: 1974	Status: Laicized
George Cooley	Ordained: 1976	Status: Laicized
Ronald Cooper	Ordained: 1983	Status: Laicized
Geoff Drew**	2004	Laicized
Thomas Feldhaus	Ordained: 1976	Status: Laicized
Ellis Harsham	Ordained: 1968	Status: Laicized
Thomas Hopp	Ordained: 1966	Status: Removed from ministry/deceased
David Kelley *	Ordained: 1974	Status: Died in Process
Thomas Kuhn	Ordained: 1967	Status: Laicized/deceased

Francis Massarella	Ordained: 1941	Status: Removed from ministry/deceased
Daniel Pater	Ordained: 1979	Status: Removed from ministry
Kenneth Schoettmer	Ordained: 1968	Status: Laicized/deceased
Lawrence Strittmatter	Ordained: 1957	Status: Laicized/deceased
Richard Unwin	Ordained: 1979	Status: Laicized

* The laicization case of David Kelley was in process at the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith when he died on June 6, 2009.

**In 2021, Geoff Drew pled guilty to rape. Drew's criminal conduct occurred when he was a lay man, before he entered the seminary.

II. Status Report of Clerics who have ministered in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, but who were not incardinated in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, against whom a substantiated allegation of child abuse was made.

The names on the following list were provided to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and based on investigations conducted by third-parties, such as the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), the Dominican Friars, Glenmary Home Missioners, The Marianists, and the Diocese of Cleveland.

Name	Ordained	Status
Harry Barton** (Jesuit, Midwest Province)	Ordained: 1940	Status: Deceased
Louis Bonacci** (Jesuit, Maryland Province)	Ordained: 1973	Status: Removed from ministry
Robert Broome (Jesuit, Midwest Province)	Ordained: 1943	Status: Deceased
Raymond Chappa** (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1975	Status: Left the Order/Laicized
James Condon (Jesuit, Midwest Province)	Ordained: 1939	Status: Deceased
Barry (Finbar) Coyle (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1958	Status: Deceased
Lambert Dannenfelser** (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1940	Status: Deceased

Frank Davied** (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1976	Status: Left the Order
Thomas Doyle** (Marianist, Cincinnati Province)	Ordained: 1974	Status: Deceased
Robert Erpenbeck (Jesuit, Midwest Province)	Ordained: 1931	Status: Deceased
Mark Finan (Jesuit, Midwest Province)	Ordained: 1948	Status: Deceased
John Finke** (Marianist, Province of Cincinnati)	Ordained: 1937	Status: Deceased
Kent Hajduk** (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1962	Status: Left the Order/Laicized/Deceased
Marcus Hetteberg** (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1954	Status: Deceased
Adelbert Holmes (Glenmary Home Missioners)	Ordained: –	Status: Deceased
Bernard Horst** (Marianist, Province of Cincinnati)	Ordained: 1945	Status: Deceased
Christopher Kerr** (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1979	Status: Left the Order/Laicized/Deceased
Allan Kirk** (Jesuit, Midwest Province)	Ordained: 1965	Status: Deceased
Frank Klamet** (Diocese of Cleveland)	Ordained: 1978	Status: Deceased
Severin Lamping (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1929	Status: Left the Order/Secularized/Deceased
Stephen Lamping** (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1929	Status: Left the Order/Secularized/Deceased
Joachim Lux**	Ordained: 1961	Status: Deceased

(Franciscan Friars,
Province of St. John the
Baptist)

Frederick Mathues**
(Marianist, Province of
Cincinnati)

Ordained: 1952

Status:Deceased

Diego Mazon**
(Franciscan Friars,
Province of St. John the
Baptist)

Ordained: 1960

Status:Deceased

David Meconi**
(Jesuit, Central and
Southern Province)

2003

Left the Order & the Priesthood

Charles Meyer**
(Missionaries of the
Precious Blood, Kansas
City Province)

Ordained: 1931

Status:Deceased

Michael Montgomery
(Franciscan Friars,
Province of St. John the
Baptist)

Ordained: 1983

Status:Left the Order/Deceased

Donald Nastold
(Jesuit, Midwest Province)

Ordained: 1958

Status:Deceased

Edward O'Brien
(Jesuit, Midwest Province)

Ordained: 1962

Status:Deceased

Victorian Ostmeyer**
(Franciscan Friars,
Province of St. John the
Baptist)

Ordained: 1935

Status:Deceased

Mariano Pariente**
(Marianist, Province of the
Pacific)

Ordained: 1990

Status:Laicized 2001

Carter Partee
(Franciscan Friars,
Province of St. John the
Baptist)

Ordained: 1947

Status:Left the
Order/Laicized/Deceased

Juvenal Pfalzer**
(Franciscan Friars,
Province of St. John the
Baptist)

Ordained: 1942

Status:Deceased

Roman Pfalzer**
(Franciscan Friars,
Province of St. John the
Baptist)

Ordained: 1947

Status:Deceased

Edward Pigott
(Jesuit, Midwest Province)

Ordained: 1955

Status:Removed from Public
Ministry/Deceased

Robert Poandl (Glenmary Home Missioners)	Ordained: –	Status: Deceased
Peter Richardson (Glenmary Home Missioners)	Ordained: –	Status: Left society in 2007/Deceased
Thomas Richstatter (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1966	Status: Removed from Ministry
Lorenzo Ruiz** (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1966	Status: Left the Order/Laicized
Lawrence Schreiber** (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1960	Status: Removed from Ministry
Anslem Sippel** (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1929	Status: Deceased
Wilton Skiffington** (Jesuit, Midwest Province)	Ordained: 1936	Status: Deceased
Ed Smith (Glenmary Home Missioners)	Ordained: –	Status: Deceased
Michael Spegele** (Missionaries of the Precious Blood, Kansas City Province)	Ordained: 1941	Status: Deceased
Joseph Tedesco** (Marianist, Province of Cincinnati)	Ordained: 1983	Status: Deceased
Randolph Thompson (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1948	Status: Deceased
Daniel Triulzi** (Marianist, Province of St. Louis)	Ordained: 1981	Status: Removed from ministry 2006/Deceased
John Turnbull (Franciscan Friars, Province of St. John the Baptist)	Ordained: 1955	Status: Deceased
Francis Wendling** (Franciscan Friars,	Ordained: –	Status: Deceased

Province of St. John the Baptist)

Stanley Wisniewski**
(Jesuit, Midwest Province)

Ordained: 1964

Status:Deceased

Benedict Wolf
(Glenmary Home Missioners)

Ordained: –

Status:Left society 1975/Deceased

** The substantiated allegation of child abuse occurred outside the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

REGARDING SUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE AGAINST CLERICS INCARDINATED IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI

Are any priests who have been identified as having a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse still serving in a parish, school or diocesan ministry?



What is the definition of “sexual abuse” for the purposes of this list?



What is the definition of “vulnerable adult?”



In referencing this list of clerics with substantiated allegations of sexual abuse, what do the terms “laicized,” “permanently removed from ministry” and “substantiated allegation” mean?



Have the priests on this list been reported to the civil authorities?



When did the Archdiocese of Cincinnati begin publishing a list of clerics with substantiated allegations of child abuse?



Does the Archdiocese of Cincinnati update this list?



Yes. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati will update the list if or when the archdiocese becomes aware of other reports that meet the criteria for this list.

If a priest who is on this list celebrated a sacrament for me (e.g., baptism, marriage, penance, anointing of the sick), is that sacrament considered valid?



What can the faithful do to support victims of abuse and ensure a safe environment in the Church?



We must continue to support victims, keep them in our prayers and completely commit ourselves to ensuring a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults. We cannot allow ourselves to forget and become complacent — our dedication to these causes must be unwavering and must not cease.

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