

List

Please click here for a PDF list of priests with substantiated allegations.

Lista de sacerdotes

Priests Who Have Served in the Diocese of Owensboro Against Whom A Substantiated Allegation of Sexual Abuse of a Minor Has Been Made

For purposes of this list, an allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor by a priest is substantiated when there is probable cause for believing the claim is true. The following may be considered as evidence of probable cause: 1) admission of guilt by the accused; 2) accused does not contest the allegation; 3) guilty finding rendered by a court; 4) finding rendered by an investigative process shows cause for believing the allegation is true on an objective basis.

Priests ordained for the Diocese of Owensboro

This section contains the names of priests who were ordained for the Diocese of Owensboro against whom was made at least one substantiated allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor occurring within the Diocese of Owensboro.

Baker, Gerald



Diocese/Order: Owensboro

DOB: 1-25-57

Date of Ordination: 5-21-83

Date of Death:

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

83-85: St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

85-87: St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville with responsibilities at Trinity High School

87-89: Immaculate Conception, Earlington; Holy Cross, Providence; Resurrection, Dawson Springs

89-03: Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

03-12: St. Ann, Morganfield

12-16: St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

13-16: St. John, Fordsville

Clerical State: Removed from public ministry 2016.

Allegation(s): Three allegations deemed substantiated by the Diocesan Review Board.

Greenwell, Paul



Diocese/Order: Owensboro (*originally from Archdiocese of Louisville until Owensboro established in 1937*)

DOB: 10-10-1896

Date of Ordination: 6-2-1928

Date of Death: 11-24-1964

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1932-47: St. Augustine, Reed

1947-56: St. Peter Waverly

1956: Retired to Albuquerque, NM

Clerical State: deceased 1964

Allegation(s): Multiple allegations from the 1940's and 1950's deemed substantiated.

Hancock, Walter



Diocese/Order: Owensboro

DOB: 10-23-1920

Date of Ordination: 5-27-1947

Date of Death: 3-2-2012

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1947-49: St. Anthony, Browns Valley

1949-1952: Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

1952-1959: St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

1959-1965: St. Anthony, Peonia

1965-72: St. Alphonsus

1972-1983: St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

1983-1989: St. Sebastian, Calhoun

1989-1992; Sacred Heart, Russellville

1992-1995: St. Rose, Cloverport and Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington

1995: Allowed to retire

1998: Administrator at Holy Guardian Angels Parish in Irvington

Clerical State: Removed from public ministry 2002. Deceased 2012

Allegation(s): Multiple allegations deemed substantiated.

Henninger, Gilbert



Diocese/Order: Owensboro

DOB: 12-18-1907

Date of Ordination: 5-22-1937

Date of Death: 3-5-1990

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

6/27/37 – 8/16/37: St. Peter, Stanley

8/16/37-9/4/37: St. Rose, Cloverport

1937-38: St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

1938-39: St. Paul, Owensboro and St. Joseph, Owensboro

1939-41: Chaplain at St. Francis Academy, Owensboro

1941-43: student in Ottawa, Canada

1943-62: Chaplain to Ursulines at Mt. St. Joseph

1962-82: St. Martin, Rome

Clerical State: deceased 1990

Allegation(s): Multiple allegations received after his death, but deemed substantiated.

Meredith, John



Diocese/Order: Owensboro

DOB: 12-1-1954

Date of Ordination: 1-12-1980

Date of Death:

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

Jan. 1980 – May 1980: St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

June 1980-June 1983: St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

June 1983 – June 1985: Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

June 1985 – June 1988: St. Edward, Fulton and Sacred Heart, Hickman

June 1988 – June 1995: Christ the King, Madisonville

June 1995 – June 2008: Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

June 2008 – Nov. 2013: Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Clerical State: Removed from public ministry in 2013.

Allegation(s): One allegation deemed substantiated by the Diocesan Review Board.

Piskula, Louis



Diocese/Order: Owensboro

DOB: 1-6-1940

Date of Ordination: 5-10-1975

Date of Death: 10-11-2018

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1975-77: St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

1977-82: Blessed Mother, Owensboro

1982-85: St. Leo Murray and Chaplain at Newman Center in Murray

1985-89: St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

1989-1994: St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

1994-2002: Chaplain at St. Joseph Passionist Monastery in Whitesville

Clerical State: Removed from public ministry in 2002. Deceased 2018.

Allegation(s): Six allegations deemed substantiated. In 2014, he was convicted of child sexual abuse and sentenced to prison.

Speaks, John



Diocese/Order: Owensboro

DOB: 5-25-1947

Date of Ordination: 6-8-1974

Date of Death: 6-11-2019

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1974-77: Blessed Mother, Owensboro

1977-81: St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

1981-82: St. Sebastian, Calhoun and St. Charles, Livermore

1982-83: Christ the King, Madisonville

2/83 – 6/83: St. Alphonsus, Daviess County

6/83 – 1987: St. Joseph, Mayfield

1987-1989: Holy Name, Henderson

1989 – 1994: Hospital Chaplain, Owensboro Daviess County Hospital & Mercy Hospital, Owensboro

1994- 1995: St. Paul, Princeton

Clerical State: Removed from public ministry in 2002.

Allegation(s): One allegation deemed substantiated.

Wheatley, Carroll



Diocese/Order: Owensboro

DOB: 2-11-1945

Date of Ordination: 5-10-1975

Date of Death: 10-7-2013

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

6/75-8/75: St. Mary, Whitesville

1975-81: Chaplain/Teacher: Trinity High School, Whitesville

1977-81: St. William & St. Lawrence, Knottsville

1981-82: St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

1982-84: St. Mary, LaCenter

1985-2011: Chaplain in U.S. Navy

Clerical State: Removed from public ministry in 2011. Deceased 2013.

Allegation(s): Two allegations deemed substantiated.

Wieder, Henry



Diocese/Order: Owensboro

DOB: 9-15-1962

Date of Ordination: 5-27-1989

Date of Death:

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1989-91: Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

1991-94: Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

1994-97: St. Agnes Parish, Uniontown

1997-2003: St. Thomas More, Paducah

Clerical State: Left active ministry in 2003.

Allegation(s): One allegation of sexual abuse received in 2002 involving incident prior to ordination, deemed substantiated.

Priests from another diocese or religious order

This section contains the names of priests either from another diocese or from a religious order who at one time served in the Diocese of Owensboro and against whom was made at least one substantiated allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor occurring within the Diocese.

Alexander, Joseph, OSB 

Diocese/Order: OSB (Order of Saint Benedict). Later became a priest of Diocese of Lafayette, LA.

DOB:

Date of Ordination: 1973

Date of Death:

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro: Early 1960's: Monk at St. Maur's Priory in South Union, Kentucky

Clerical State: Removed from public ministry in 2002 by Diocese of Lafayette in Louisiana.

Allegation(s): Allegation is from years prior to ordination while at St. Maur's Seminary in South Union, Kentucky.

Pilger, Joseph



Diocese/Order: Covington, KY

DOB: ~1925

Date of Ordination: 1955

Date of Death: December 2003

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1963: St. William, Knottsville

1964 – 8/30/65: St. Ann, Morganfield

8/30/65 – 1966: Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

February 1967: St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

August 1967: Immaculate Conception, Earlington

8/67 – 1/69: Holy Name, Henderson

1/69 – 11/27/71: St. Francis Borgia in Sturgis, St. Ambrose in Henshaw and St. William in Marion

12/9/72 – 6/29/76: Cathedral in Owensboro

Clerical State: deceased 2003

Allegation(s): Thirteen allegations deemed substantiated. Convicted of child sexual abuse in 1993.

Telegdy, Louis A



Diocese/Order: Precious Blood Priest (CPPS)

DOB:

Date of Ordination: 1942

Date of Death: 1995

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1972-74: St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis

1974-76: Sacred Heart, Russellville

1976-78: St. Pius X, Calvert City

Clerical State: Deceased 1995

Allegation(s): One allegation received in the Diocese of Owensboro after his death. Three allegations in the Diocese of Davenport, Iowa deemed substantiated.

Waldruff, Raymond



Diocese/Order: Franciscan Third Order Regular (TOR)

DOB: 4-13-1928

Date of Ordination: 7-25-1953

Date of Death: 3-25-1985

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

8/31/67–6/15/68: St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm; St. Charles in Bardwell; & St. Denis in Fancy Farm

6/15/68 – 8/15/68: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Owensboro

Clerical State: Dismissed from Franciscan Order in 1983. Deceased 1985.

Allegation(s): Five allegations received; at least two deemed substantiated.

Allegations Which Occurred Outside the Diocese of Owensboro

This section contains the names of priests who were ordained for the Diocese of Owensboro, as well as priests from another diocese who at one time served within the Diocese of Owensboro, and against whom was made at least one substantiated allegation of the sexual abuse of a minor occurring outside the Diocese of Owensboro.

Haas, Paul F.



Diocese/Order: Nashville

DOB: 12-14-1933

Date of Ordination: 5-23-1959

Date of Death: 6-7-1979

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1966-1969: Immaculate Conception, Hawesville (including Catholic High School in Hawesville until its closure in 1969.)

1969-1977: Owensboro Catholic High School; assisting on weekends at St. William and St. Lawrence parishes; living at Carmel Home.

Clerical State: deceased 1979

Allegation(s): Multiple allegations in Tennessee were deemed substantiated. No allegations received in the Diocese of Owensboro.

***Holmes, Adelbert (Del)**



Diocese/Order: Glenmary Home Missioners (GHM)

DOB: 6/25/1925

Date of Ordination: 6/1/1963

Date of Death: 9/20/2013

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1977-1988: St. Mary, Franklin and Christ the King, Scottsville

Clerical State: deceased 2013

Allegation(s): One allegation in the Diocese of Richmond, Virginia. No allegations received in the Diocese of Owensboro.

***Messick, Severin



Diocese/Order: Order of Saint Benedict (OSB)

DOB: 7/12/1954

Date of Ordination: 5/2/1982

Date of Death: 9/28/2011

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1983: Associate Pastor, St. Mary of the Woods & Trinity High School, Whitesville

1985: Associate pastor, St. Ann Parish, Morganfield and advocate of the diocesan tribunal, Owensboro

1992 Pastor, St. Ann Parish, Morganfield

1996 Administrator, Church of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Clerical State: Deceased, 2011

Allegation(s): One allegation while in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis deemed substantiated.

Odom-Green, William



Diocese/Order: Owensboro

DOB: 5/25/1959

Date of Ordination: 5/25/1991

Date of Death:

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

June 1991 – June 1992: Holy Name Parish, Henderson.

June 1992 – June 1994: Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

June 1994 – June 1995: St. Francis de Sales & Rosary Chapel, Paducah

Dec. 1997 – April 1999: Faculties granted by Diocese of Oakland, CA

April 1999: Faculties removed by Diocese of Oakland

Clerical State: Removed from public ministry in 1999.

Allegation(s): One allegation in the Diocese of Oakland, California in 1999. Convicted and sentenced to prison. No allegations received in the Diocese of Owensboro.

****Poandl, Robert**



Diocese/Order: Glenmary Home Missioners (GHM)

DOB: 5-19-41

Date of Ordination: 5-4-68

Date of Death: 1-15-19

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

April, 1988: Served as Parish Administrator at St. Mary Parish in Franklin for one month.

Clerical State: deceased 2019

Allegation(s): One allegation in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Convicted and sentenced to prison. No allegations received in the Diocese of Owensboro.

****Wolf, Benedict**



Diocese/Order: Glenmary Home Missioners (GHM)

DOB: 1916

Date of Ordination: 1941

Date of Death:

Pastoral Assignments in the Diocese of Owensboro:

1942-1950: Served as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Russellville

Clerical State: Deceased. Left society in 1975

Allegation(s): One allegation in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Pennsylvania. No allegations received in the Diocese of Owensboro.

**Added April 26, 2019.*

***Added October 24, 2019.*

****Added May 18, 2022.*

In a spirit of ongoing transparency, as new information is received in the future, it will be added to www.owensborodiocese.org/accountability.

To report suspected abuse call the **Kentucky Child Protection Hot Line: 1-877-KYSAFE1 or 1-877-597-2331 (Toll Free)** or contact your local **Commonwealth Attorney**.

- [Reporting Requirements & Diocesan Response to Reports \(printable\)](#)
- [Diocesan Review Board](#)

To make a report of sexual abuse of a minor and related misconduct by bishops, go to ReportBishopAbuse.org or call 1-800-276-1562.

To report abuse, current or past, to the diocese, by anyone acting in the name of the Church, please call:

Scott Ingram
Pastoral Assistance Coordinator
270-852-8380 (English)

Para hacer un informe de abuso sexual de un menor y mala conducta relacionada por parte de los obispos, vaya a ReportBishopAbuse.org o llame al 1-800-276-1562.

Para reportar abusos a la diócesis, ya sean actuales o anteriores, por parte de cualquier persona que actúa en nombre de la Iglesia, favor de llamar al:

Miguel Quintanilla
Coordinador de Asistencia Pastoral
270-880-8360 (Español)

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270-683-1545

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