

## **'Polka Padre' and known sexual abuse perpetrator Father Kapoun dies at 82**

Father Robert Kapoun, 82, died in Palmetto, Florida, Dec. 10. Ordained a priest in 1964, he was assigned to Most Holy Redeemer, Montgomery (1964-1967); St. Kevin, Minneapolis (1967-1971); St. Raphael, Crystal, (1971-1974); Home of the Good Shepherd, St. Paul (1974-1976); St. Patrick, Cedar Lake (1977-1984); St. Catherine, Spring Lake (1977-1984); St. Scholastica, Heidelberg (1984-1996); St. Joseph, Lexington (1984-1996); and St. Thomas, St. Thomas (1991-1996). Once known as the "Polka Padre," Father Kapoun resigned from ministry in 1996 due to allegations of child sexual abuse. That year, he was the subject of a lawsuit against the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis that resulted in a jury awarding the victim \$1 million in damages, then the largest abuse payout in the state's history. He was the subject of other sexual abuse lawsuits and admitted to at least three accusations. He was removed from active ministry according to the norms of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in 2002. In 2013, the archdiocese included his name among priests with claims of substantiated abuse against them.

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