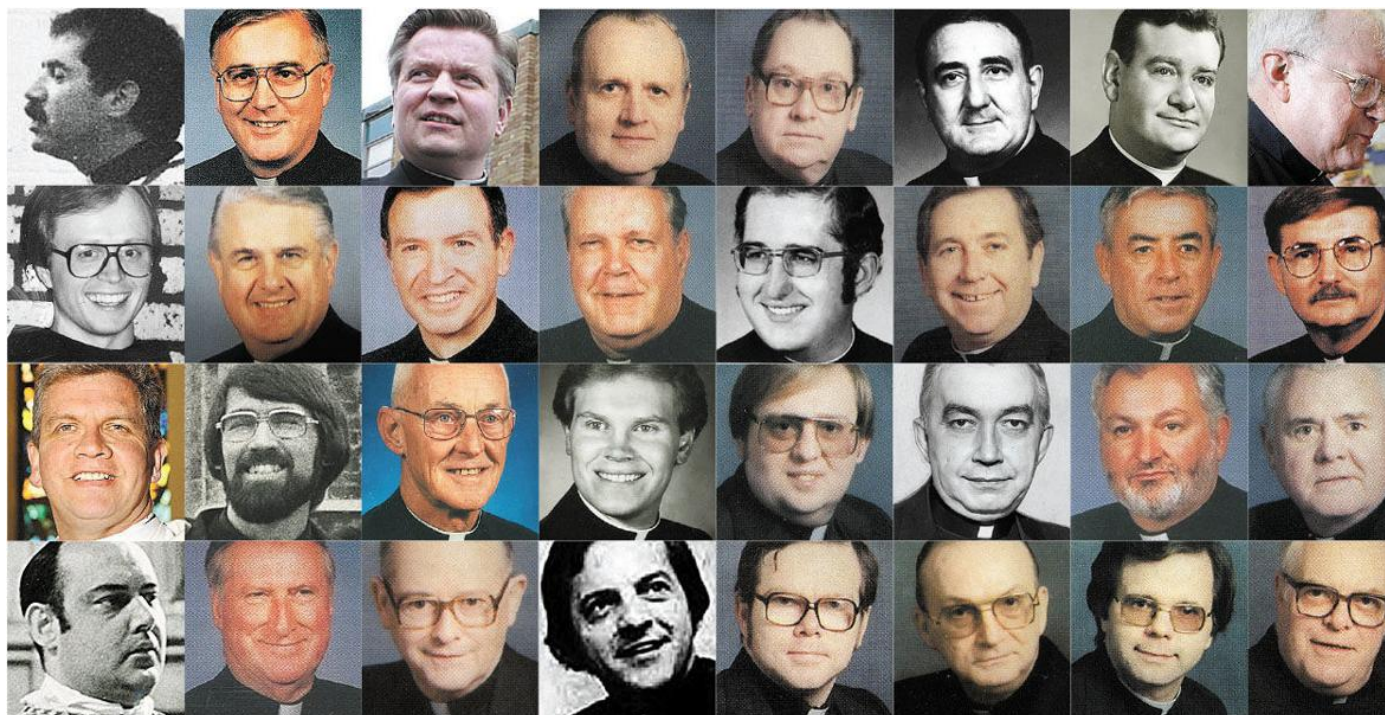


https://buffalonews.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/a-year-later-more-than-150-buffalo-priests-linked-to-sex-allegations/article_27d38dec-0ccd-5ab1-ae10-aa8e7751372d.html

A year later: More than 150 Buffalo priests linked to sex allegations

By Mike McAndrew, Aaron Besecker
Feb 28, 2018

Support this work for \$1 a month



Some of the Catholic priests who served in the Buffalo Diocese and were accused of molesting children.

By Mike McAndrew, Aaron Besecker

It started with a victim holding a news conference on a street corner and a Buffalo News reporter knocking on a retired priest's door.

One year ago, in February 2018, the **Rev. Norbert F. Orsolits admitted** to reporter Jay Tokasz that he had molested “probably dozens” of boys, sparking a scandal that has continued to roil the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo.

Michael Whalen’s news conference, where he accused Orsolits of sexually abusing him, prompted dozens of other victims to accuse priests of abuse, the diocese to publicly identify priests credibly accused of abusing children for the first time, and eventually calls for Bishop Richard J. Malone’s resignation.

More than 150 priests who worked in the Buffalo area have been publicly linked to sex allegations, according to Buffalo News reports, public records and lists of abusers prepared by the diocese and religious orders.

Only a handful were arrested. Even fewer were sent to prison. Very few of the victims successfully sued.

Under pressure, the Buffalo Diocese publicly identified 80 priests in 2018 who it said it determined were credibly accused of sexual misconduct with a minor. On Jan. 15, 2019, a Jesuit Province identified eight Jesuit priests who served in the Buffalo Diocese and had been credibly accused of sexually abusing minors.

Malone has declined to release any information about the specific allegations or the victims.

The diocese has **paid \$17.5 million** to 106 childhood victims of clergy sexual abuse through a compensation program it established in 2018, The News reported in May 2019.

Here are the priests who have been publicly accused.

1. **Mark S. Andrzejczuk** — The Franciscan priest who taught at Cardinal O'Hara High School was accused in 2019 in two Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting female students. Gail Holler-Kennedy **sued the diocese and the Franciscan order** for \$300 million alleging Andrzejczuk abused her between 1978 and 1981. A second

former student alleged Andrzejczuk molested her when she was 16 on seven occasions at the school, in 1978 and 1979. Andrzejczuk died in 2012. The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him.

2. John R. Aurelio – Aurelio admitted to Niagara County law enforcement in 1993 that he and the Rev. Bernard M. Mach **sodomized young boys** in a house the priests shared in East Aurora. The abuse happened 15 to 20 years prior, Aurelio told authorities. As of 2002, Aurelio was no longer functioning as a priest. He died in 2009. Malone said in March 2018 that Aurelio had been credibly accused of sexual misconduct with a minor. Aurelio was accused in 2019 in Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting two children, **an 11- or 12-year-old altar boy** in 1968 and 1969 at St. Gerard Church in Buffalo and **a 9- or 10-year-old child** in 1980 at St. Catherine of Siena Church in West Seneca.

3. Ramon Aymerich - The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him. Aymerich left the Catholic church in 1982 and became an Episcopal priest. He was **working as an Episcopal priest** in Mooresville, N.C. as recently as 2015.

4. Philip Badame - He was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a 13- to 15-year-old child from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church from 1973 to 1975.

5. Gary J. Bagley - Bagley was accused in 2019 in a Child Victims Act lawsuit of sexually abusing a 16- to 17-year-old child from 1979 to 1981 while at St. Gregory the Great Church in Williamsville.

6. Lehr Barkenquest - Barkenquest, an Oblates religious order priest and former wrestling coach at St. Francis De Sales High School in Lockport, was accused in 2019 in a Child Victims Act lawsuit of molesting a boy who was 13 to 16 years old, from 1971 to 1975, at the school. The plaintiff alleged he told the school principal about the abuse but it continued.

7. **Benedict P. Barszcz** – The assistant pastor of St. Peter's in Lewiston, he was charged in 1999 with exposing himself to two teenage girls in Buffalo. Subsequently, he was **no longer allowed to publicly celebrate Mass**. Malone said in November 2018 that Barszcz, a religious order priest, had been credibly accused.

8. **James Bartnik** - The priest was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 12- or 13-year-old child in 1977 while he worked at St. John Kanty Church in Buffalo.

9. **Francis X. Baumgarten** - The priest was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 13- to 14-year-old child in the mid-1950s while at Nativity of Our Lord Church in Orchard Park.

10. **Donald W. Becker** – The Buffalo Diocese confirmed in March 2018 that **Becker was removed from active ministry** in 2003 because of credible allegations he sexually abused minors. Three men told The News that Becker molested them as children. One of the men, Harry King, who said **Becker raped him** when King was 13 years old in the late 1970s, was offered a \$140,000 settlement from the diocese. Another, John A. Polvino of Amherst, said he received notice from the diocese that **he was not eligible for an award** because he had not complained about the abuse before March 1, 2018, the diocese's deadline. Becker told The Buffalo News he has never sexually abused children. He said he left active ministry because he had Parkinson's disease. Becker was accused in 2019 of molesting children in **nine Child Victims Act lawsuits**.

11. **Ron Becker** – Becker, who was a seminary student in Buffalo, was identified in November 2018 by Malone as having been credibly accused. Becker was a priest in the Trenton (N.J.) Diocese. He was charged with a felony sexual assault charge involving his niece in 2007 but died in 2009 before a trial. The Trenton Diocese paid \$325,000 to Becker's niece to settle her claims that he **sexually assaulted her at church** during the 1980s when she was 5 to 11 years old. The Trenton Diocese also **paid \$1,025,000** in 2011 to settle lawsuits filed by five men who alleged Becker abused them as altar boys at Incarnation Church in Ewing, N.J.

12. **Valerio A. Bernardo** - The monsignor, who was pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Dunkirk for about three decades, was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a girl, beginning when she was 5, from 1964 to 1968, at Holy Trinity School. Bernardo died in 1979.

13. **David M. Bialkowski** – A former altar server accused Bialkowski of **inappropriate touching** in 2011. Two more accusers came forward shortly after that and Bialkowski was put on leave from St. John Gualbert in Cheektowaga and ordered not to perform any priestly duties. Malone said in March 2018 that Bialkowski was credibly accused. Bialkowski was one of at least eight credibly accused priests who **resided within blocks of a school**, The News reported in March 2018. He lived across the street from a playground and near Buffalo's William J. Grabiarz School of Excellence on Lawn Avenue. Bialkowski was accused in 2019 in **two Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children.

14. **Robert J. Biesinger** – Biesinger was **accused in a 1995 lawsuit** of sexually assaulting a 15-year-old girl in August 1974 during a drill-team competition in Chicago, as well as at Buffalo locations. Biesinger resigned as pastor of a Cheektowaga parish in 1994 and retired before the diocese **settled the lawsuit** in 1996. Malone said in March 2018 that Biesinger was credibly accused. He died in 2012. Biesinger was accused in 2019 in two Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting two Baker-Victory High School students, a 15-year-old in 1971 and a 15- to 17-year-old from 1972 to 1974.

15. **Richard John Bohm** - The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him. Bohm died in 1984.

16. **George Brennan** - Brennan was accused in 2019 in Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting two children he met at Holy Family Church in Buffalo. One child was 10 to 11 years old in 1976 and 1977 when the abuse allegedly occurred; the other was 10 to 14 years old in 1979 to 1983 when the alleged abuse occurred.

17. **Aurelian Brezeczniak** - He was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually assaulting a 7-year-old boy visiting St. Francis High School in 1977, along with Revs. James Smyka and Patrick Mendola.

18. **James Burson** — Malone said in November 2018 that Burson, a religious order priest, was credibly accused. Kevin J. Koscielniak told police in 2018 that **Burson molested him in 1979** when he was a 15-year-old Cardinal Dougherty High School student and Burson was the school librarian. Koscielniak filed **a Child Victims Act lawsuit** against the diocese in 2019.

19. **Cornelius J. Carr** — Carr, a Jesuit, was credibly accused in 2005 of sexually abusing minors in 1989-90, the **Jesuit Northeast Province said** in January 2019. Carr worked at Buffalo's Canisius High during those years. A Louisiana newspaper, **The Advocate, reported** in September that another province of the Jesuits paid \$450,000 to a Louisiana man in 2012 to settle his claim that Carr and a janitor at a Jesuit high school in New Orleans sexually abused him as a child at the school between 1976 and 1980. The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him.

20. **Secondo Casarotto** — The diocese in 2012 **reached a financial settlement** with a 37-year-old woman who accused Casarotto of groping her inside the rectory of St. Anthony Church in Buffalo in 2009. Casarotto was removed as a priest.

21. **Charles Cassetta** — Cassetta was **accused in a lawsuit** filed around 2003 of sexually assaulting a 17-year-old girl in 1971 and 1972 in Palm Beach County, Fla. Cassetta, who left the priesthood in 1975, worked as a priest in Buffalo before Florida.

22. **Gerald Collins** - Collins was accused in 2019 in Child Victims Act lawsuits of sexually abusing two children at Buffalo churches. One was 12 to 18 years old when the abuse allegedly occurred from 1962 to 1968 at St. Joseph University Parish. The other lawsuit alleges Collins and Rev. Joseph Garin abused an altar boy in 1962 at St. Brigid Church.

23. **Robert P. Conlin** — Wayne Bortle, 53, **publicly accused Conlin** of sexually abusing him in the rectory of St. Mary Church in Pavilion more than three decades ago, when Bortle was about 16. Bortle's attorney said he notified the Buffalo Diocese in

January 2018. Malone said in November 2018 that Conlin was credibly accused. The diocese offered Bortle less than \$20,000 as compensation. Conlin died in 1997. Bortle filed a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** against the diocese in 2019.

24. **Peter Conroy** — Malone said in November 2018 that Conroy was credibly accused. Conroy worked at Canisius High School in Buffalo from 1965-1968 and at Canisius College from 1980-1984 and 1994-2002. The **Jesuit Northeast Province** said in January 2019 that Conroy, a Jesuit, was credibly accused in 2002 of sexually abusing minors in 1972.

25. **Paul R. Coppola** — Malone said in November 2018 that Coppola was credibly accused. He retired as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Portville in 1983. Coppola died in 2006. Coppola and Rev. Gerald Green were accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 14- to 16-year-old Bishop Turner High School student from 1971 to 1973.

26. **James H. Cotter** — The Buffalo Diocese was **accused in a 2007 lawsuit** of transferring Cotter to San Diego, where he was accused of molesting a 7-year-old boy in the late 1980s. The diocese did not contribute to a settlement paid to victims by the San Diego Diocese. He died in 1991. Malone said in March 2018 that Cotter was credibly accused.

27. **Thomas Denny** — Denny, a Jesuit, was credibly accused in 2002 and 2012 of sexually abusing minors in the 1960s and 1970s, the **Jesuit Northeast Province** said in January. Denny worked in New York City schools during most of the 1960s and 70s and worked at Canisius High School in Buffalo from 1993-1995.

28. **Louis S. Dolinic** — The Buffalo Diocese in October 2018 announced that Dolinic, who retired as pastor of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church in North Tonawanda in 2010, was **put on leave** as the diocese investigated a complaint of sexual abuse. In September 2019 it said the investigation **substantiated the allegation**. Dolinic was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 9- to 10-year-old in 1977 and 1978 while assigned to St. Joseph Church in North Tonawanda.

29. **Kevin Downey** — The Franciscan Friars provincial office permanently **removed Downey from all public ministries** in 2017 after finding an allegation of misconduct with a minor was credible. Downey was assigned at the time to a church in Triangle, Va. He had been pastor at St. Bonaventure Church in Allegany from 2000 to 2002.

30. **John S. Doyle** - The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him. The founding pastor of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Orchard Park was accused in 2019 in **Child Victims Act lawsuits** of sexually abusing two children he met there: a 10-year-old child in 1967 and a 7- to 8-year-old from 1970 through 1972.

31. **Daniel G. Duggan** - Duggan was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a child who was 8 to 13 years old, from 1966 to 1971 at St. Stephen Church in Middleport.

32. **Donald S. Fafinski** — Malone said in March 2018 that Fafinski was credibly accused. A Boston, Mass., man told The News that **Fafinski sexually abused him** in the 1970s when he was a student at Archbishop Walsh High School in Olean. Steve Lilly-Weber reported the abuse in 1994 and two years later reached a \$28,000 settlement with the diocese.

33. **Douglas F. Faraci** — Malone said in March 2018 that Faraci was credibly accused. Faraci was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a child for about four years, from age 12 to 16 in 1974 to 1978, while assigned to Annunciation Church in Buffalo and its school.

34. **John L. Farrand** — Farrand, a Jesuit, was credibly accused in 1961 of sexually abusing minors that year, the **Jesuit Northeast Province said** in January. At the time he was assigned to schools in New York City. Farrand worked at Canisius High School in Buffalo from 1946-1949.

35. Ralph P. Federico - He was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 12- to 14-year-old child from Our Lady of Pompeii Church in Lancaster from 1968 to 1970.

36. Duane G. Fimbel - The priest was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 14- to 15-year-old child, from 1976 to 1977, while at Sacred Heart Church in Portville.

37. Fred G. Fingerle — Malone said in March 2018 that Fingerle was credibly accused. He died in 2002. Fingerle was accused in 2019 in **five Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children.

38. Michael R. Freeman — Malone said in March 2018 that Freeman was credibly accused. In August, a **Pennsylvania grand jury report** on clergy sexual abuse criticized the Buffalo Diocese's handling of allegations against Freeman. Freeman was moved from Buffalo churches to parishes in Pennsylvania after the Buffalo Diocese learned in 1981 that he had been involved in “criminal behavior” and “admitted inappropriate sexual behavior” with young men and children during five assignments in the Buffalo area, the grand jury alleged. Freeman was removed from the priesthood in 1989. Freeman died in 2010. The Buffalo Diocese offered a **\$650,000 settlement** to a man who accused the priest of **aiming a gun at his head** and molesting him when he was a child in the 1980s, The News reported. **James Bottlinger** rejected that offer. Freeman was accused in 2019 in **six Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting Bottlinger and five other children, aged 11 to 18, from 1976 to 1988 at three churches: Sacred Heart in Niagara Falls, St. Christopher in Tonawanda and St. Mary in Lancaster.

39. Joseph P. Friel – Friel was named in a **July 1994 lawsuit** filed by Christopher Szufliita, who said he was molested by the priest as a teenager in the late 1960s at Fourteen Holy Helpers Church in West Seneca. Friel died in 1995 and Szufliita's lawsuit was dismissed. Malone said in March 2018 that Friel was credibly accused. Shortly after that, Michael Stockmeyer of the Town of Tonawanda told The News he was a **10-year-old altar boy** at St. Aloysius Church in Cheektowaga when Friel molested him

in 1962. Szufflita in 2018 filed a **new complaint** with the diocese seeking compensation. Friel was accused in 2019 in **Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting Szufflita and six other children.

40. **Mark M. Friel** – Malone said in March 2018 that Friel was credibly accused. Friel was accused in 2019 in **two Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children: a 9- to 11-year-old in 1971 to 1973 at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Lackawanna and a 15 to 17-year-old in the mid-1980s at Holy Apostles Church in Jamestown.

41. **Dennis A. Fronczak** – The diocese pulled Fronczak without public explanation from Our Lady of Pompeii parish in Lancaster in 2015. In a June 2018 story published by The News, Kristen Lovullo, the wife of Arizona Diamondbacks manager Torey Lovullo, **accused Fronczak** of fondling her when she was 9 to 12 years old at St. Stephen's School on Grand Island. The diocese announced in June 2018 its investigation **substantiated allegations** of sexual misconduct against Fronczak. Fronczak was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 10- to 11-year-old child from 1986 to 1988 while assigned to St. John the Baptist Church in Lockport.

42. **Raymond Fullam** – Fullam, a Jesuit, was credibly accused in 2009 of sexually abusing minors in 1954 and 1965, the **Jesuit Northeast Province said** in January 2019. Fullam worked at Buffalo's Canisius High School from 1953-1958. He was in New York City parishes in 1965. The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him.

43. **Joseph Gambino** - The pastor of Holy Cross Church for more than 50 years was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 5-year-old boy at the parish school. He died in 1975.

44. **Joseph Garin** - Garin and Rev. Gerald Collins were accused in 2019 in Child Victims Act lawsuit of sexually abusing an altar boy in 1962 at St. Brigid Church in Buffalo.

45. **Joseph C. Gatto** – The Buffalo Diocese said in September 2018 it was investigating a **misconduct complaint against Gatto**, the president and rector of Christ the King Seminary, who was accused of making a sexual advance on an adult male he was counseling in 2000. The diocese placed Gatto on administrative leave. Gatto told The News he was taking of leave of absence to recover from the rigors of the job. In May 2019, the diocese said the allegation against Gatto **did not rise to the level that would require removal** from active ministry.

46. **Samuel T. Giangreco Jr.** – Giangreco was **put on leave** in November 2018 as the Buffalo Diocese investigated a complaint against him of sexual misconduct with an adult woman. He was an associate pastor at Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna. In May 2019, the diocese said the allegation against Giangreco **did not rise to the level that would require removal** from active ministry.

47. **James Gould** – Malone said in November 2018 that Gould was credibly accused. The **Jesuit Northeast Province said** in January 2019 that Gould, a Jesuit, was credibly accused in 2011 of sexually abusing a minor in 1977-78, when he was at St. Ann Church in Buffalo. Gould was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 13 to 14 year old in 1975 or 1976 at St. Ann.

48. **Gerald Leo Green** – Malone said in November 2018 that Green, a monsignor, was credibly accused. Green died in 2012. Green and Rev. Paul Coppola were accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 14- to 16-year-old Bishop Turner High School student from 1971 to 1973.

49. **Thomas G. Gresock** – Malone said in March 2018 that Gresock was credibly accused. Gresock was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a child, aged 14 to 18, from 1985 to 1990 while at St. James Church in Depew and St. John Church in Depew.

50. **John P. Hajduk** – Malone said in March 2018 that Hajduk was credibly accused. Hajduk was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting in 1980 a 15- to 16-year-old child he met at Holy Family Church in Buffalo.

51. Michael J. Harrington – Malone said in March 2018 that Harrington was credibly accused. Harrington died in 1989. Angelo J. Ervolina told The News in 2019 that **Harrington molested him** in a hotel room on a 1965 trip to New York City when he was 10. He said he told Bishop James A. McNulty about it at the time, but Harrington spent 25 years as pastor of Immaculate Conception Church before retiring in 1985. He was accused in 2019 in Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting Ervolina and five other children.

52. Brian M. Hatrick – Malone said in March 2018 that Hatrick was credibly accused. Monica Lesniak, of Cheektowaga, told The News in September that she told her parish pastor in the early 1980s that Hatrick had molested her teenage son. Six Buffalo Diocese bishops or auxiliary bishops **allowed Hatrick to remain in parishes until 2007**. Hatrick was accused of molesting two children in two Child Victims Act lawsuits filed in 2019.

53. James P. Hayes – Malone said in March 2018 that Hayes was credibly accused. He died in 1988. The diocese initially identified **the wrong James Hayes** as being the priest who was accused. James P. Hayes was accused in 2019 in **eight Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children.

54. Louis J. Hendricks – Malone said in March 2018 that Hendricks was credibly accused. In 2018, former altar boy Timothy J. Clark said **Hendricks repeatedly abused him** when he was a teenager in the 1980s and he reported the abuse to the diocese in 2010. Hendricks died in 1990. Hendricks was accused in 2019 in **Child Victims Act lawsuits** of sexually abusing four children aged 5 to 16 from 1964 to 1982 at St. Joseph Cathedral and St. Martin of Tours in Buffalo.

55. Linus Hennessy – The Franciscan friar who had taught at Bishop Timon High School **was accused in 2015** by Tino Flores of sexually abusing him for five years in the 1970s, beginning when Flores was 10 years old. The Buffalo Diocese referred the complaint to the Order of Friars Minor. Flores provided to The News a 2013 letter from the Holy Name Province of the Order of Friars Minor stating that it did not know if

Flores was abused "or the extent of any abuse on the part of Fr. Hennessy." The letter referenced the possibility of a \$50,000 financial settlement. Hennessy died in 1983. Flores filed a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** against the diocese in 2019.

56. **Roy Herberger** – The Buffalo Diocese announced in June 2018 that Herberger, a retired priest who was the former pastor of SS. Columba-Brigid Church, was put on leave as the diocese investigates a complaint of sexual abuse. Herberger sent parishioners and friends a **letter denying that he sexually assaulted** a young boy in the 1980s at St. Ann's Church in Buffalo. The diocese announced in December 2018 **it determined the allegation to be not credible** and Herberger was returned to ministry. The accuser filed a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** against the diocese in 2019, alleging Herberger abused him for three years, beginning in 1985 when he was 8.

57. **J. Grant Higgins** – Malone said in March 2018 that Higgins was credibly accused. He died in 2016. Higgins was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 9- or 10-year-old child in 1990 or 1991 at Most Precious Blood Parish in Angola.

58. **Francis T. Hogan** – Malone said in March 2018 that Hogan was credibly accused. He died in 2010. Hogan was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 9- to 10-year-old child in 1948 and 1949 at St. John Church in Jamestown.

59. **Sylvester J. Holbel** – A former superintendent of Catholic schools from 1941 to 1961, **Monsignor Holbel was accused by Thomas Travers of raping him** when he was 9 to 11 years old in the 1970s, when Holbel was pastor of Nativity of Our Lord Church in Orchard Park. Travers said he first reported the abuse to the diocese in 2015 and the diocese has offered him compensation for the abuse.

60. **Stanley Idziak** – Idziak was **accused in 1988 by two brothers**, Rick and Bill Larango, of sexually abusing them while serving as a priest at their parish, Our Lady of Czestochowa Church in North Tonawanda, in the 1970s. After the Larango family moved to Atlanta, Ga., Idziak arranged to be transferred to their new parish and continued to abuse the younger Larango brother, according to their mother, who

confronted Idziak in 1988 after the priest was accused of molesting two other children near Atlanta. The Atlanta Archdiocese paid \$570,000 to settle a 1991 lawsuit brought by the other Georgia family. Idziak died in 2017. Malone said in November 2018 that Idziak, a Pallottine order priest, had been credibly accused. Idziak was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** against the Buffalo Diocese of molesting a former North Tonawanda boy from the age of 5 to 15, from 1963 to 1973, while Idziak was at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church and the Catholic Apostolate Center.

61. **Fred D. Ingalls** – Ingalls pleaded guilty to child pornography charges in June 2004. He was an administrator at St. Joseph in Varysburg and St. Cecilia in Sheldon. **He was sentenced** to three years and one month in prison for viewing child pornography images on his church rectory computer. The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him. Ingalls was accused in 2019 in two Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting children.

62. **Pascal D. Ipolito** – The Buffalo Diocese announced in June 2018 that Ipolito, a retired priest, was **put on leave** as the diocese investigated a complaint of sexual abuse. The diocese announced in July 2019 that a review board **substantiated the allegations** and Ipolito will remain on leave until the diocesan investigation is reviewed by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican in Rome. Ipolito was accused in 2019 in **two Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting two children.

63. **Clement Jarnot** - Jarnot, a Franciscan priest who was a guidance counselor and director of admissions in the early 1970s at St. Francis High School in Athol Springs, was accused in 2019 in a Child Victims Act lawsuit of molesting a 14- to 15-year-old student in his office at the school in 1972 and 1973.

64. **Florian A. Jasinski** – Malone said in March 2018 that Jasinski was credibly accused. Jasinski died in 1983. Jasinski was accused in 2019 in **three Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children.

65. Gerald C. Jasinski – Jasinski, who was a priest at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Lancaster, **was arrested** June 7, 1986, on felony charges of sodomy and sexual abuse and a charge of unlawfully dealing with a child by the Wyoming County Sheriff's Office. Jasinski was accused of having sexual contact with two boys, aged 15 and 18, at a cabin in the Town of Sheldon. Jasinski pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of attempted sexual abuse and was sentenced to five years on probation. Malone said in March 2018 that Jasinski was credibly accused. Jasinski was accused in 2019 in **three Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children.

66. Donald J. Joyce - The religious order priest was accused in 2019 in **Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting two children at Bishop Fallon High School in the 1960s. One plaintiff was 11 to 13 years old when abused from 1964 to 1966, according to a suit. The other child was 15 to 18 years old at the time, from 1962 to 1965. The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him.

67. Richard P. Judd – Malone said in March 2018 that Judd was credibly accused. Nick D'Amico told the Niagara Gazette that **Judd abused him** when he was a student at an elementary school in 1975. He first went public with the allegations in 2002. Judd died in 1988. Judd was accused in 2019 in **three Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children at three churches from 1975 to 1978: St. Teresa of the Infant Jesus Church in Niagara Falls, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin in Buffalo and St. Teresa Church in South Buffalo.

68. Michael P. Juran – Juran was suspended in October 2018, as the Buffalo Diocese investigated a complaint of sexual abuse against him. In May 2019, the diocese said it had **substantiated the allegation** and forwarded to the Vatican a case against Juran. Since 2008, he has been listed in the diocese directory as living in Valrico, Fla.

69. Edward L. Kazmierczak - The monsignor was accused in 2019 in **a Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 12- to 13-year-old child from 1975 to 1976 while at St. Casimir Church in Buffalo.

70. **Paul Keeling** – Malone said in November 2018 that Keeling, a religious order priest, was credibly accused. The former vice principal at Bishop Turner High School in Buffalo was accused in 2019 in a Child Victims Act lawsuit of sexually abusing a 15- to 17-year-old male student from 1983 to 1985.

71. **Timothy J. Kelley** – Kelley was accused in a **2003 lawsuit in Florida** of abusing a former altar boy who was a student at a Dunkirk school in 1983. Malone said in March 2018 that Kelley was credibly accused.

72. **Thomas L. Kemp** – Malone said in March 2018 that Kemp was credibly accused. Kemp was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a 5- to 9-year-old child from 1976 to 1980 at St. Mary Parish in Holley and St. Mark in Kendall.

73. **John Kempczynski** - He was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a 6- to 7-year-old child in 1971 or 1972 at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Forestville.

74. **Richard J. Keppeler** – Malone said in March 2018 that Keppeler was credibly accused. He died in 2011. Keppeler was accused in 2019 in **two Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children, a 16-year-old student at Notre Dame High School in Batavia and a 14-year-old at All Saints Church in Buffalo.

75. **Theodore Kocian** – Malone said in November 2018 that Kocian, a religious order priest, was credibly accused.

76. **Michael Kolodziej** – Kolodziej was a teacher at Bishop Turner in Buffalo and St. Francis in Athol Springs, and a principal at a third school, Cardinal O'Hara in Tonawanda, in the 1970s and 1980s. In 2013 the Archdiocese of Baltimore and Order of Friars Minor Conventual announced he was **removed from public ministry** because a former student at a Baltimore school where Kolodziej taught from 1975 to 1979, alleged Kolodziej had molested him. Kolodziej was ordained as a Buffalo Diocese priest before he joined the Franciscan order in 1974. Kolodziej was accused in 2019 in

two Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting students - a 17-year-old boy and a 15- to 16-year-old - at Cardinal O'Hara in 1982 and 1983. The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him.

77. **Linus E. Kopczewski** – Malone said in November 2018 that Kopczewski, a religious order priest, was credibly accused.

78. **Paul J. Kowalewski** - An Episcopal priest in Palm Springs, Calif., Kowalewski formerly served as a Catholic priest in the Buffalo Diocese. Kowalewski left the Catholic priesthood in 1976. He and the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles **were sued** in California in July 2019 by Patricia Harner, a Florida resident who alleged he sexually abused her in 1971 at St. Amelia Church in the Town of Tonawanda when he was preparing to be a Catholic priest. Kowalewski was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a girl from St. Amelia Church in the Town of Tonawanda from 1971 to 1973, beginning when she was 16. The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him.

79. **William Lanphear** - Lanphear was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 14- to 18-year-old child from 1971 to 1974 while Lanphear was at St. Bernard Parish in Buffalo. Lanphear died in 2008. He was ordained by the Buffalo Diocese but later became a priest in a religious order, the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him.

80. **Frederick R. Leising** – A monsignor and former pastor at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Clarence, Leising was **suspended from ministry** by the Buffalo Diocese in November 2018 over a complaint from Stephanie McIntyre, who alleged the priest grabbed her in 1988, forcibly kissed her and stuck his tongue in her mouth when she was 19. Leising denied any wrongdoing. The diocese cleared Leising and **returned him to ministry** in December 2018.

81. **John D. Lewandowski** – Malone said in March 2018 that Lewandowski was credibly accused. He died in 1982. Lewandowski was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 13- to 14-year-old boy in 1962 and 1963 at Ss.

Peter and Paul Church in Jamestown.

82. Michael Lewandowski – Lewandowski, who taught students at two Buffalo-area Catholic high schools for more than a decade, was **suspended from any public ministry** in 2014 after he was accused of sexually abusing a minor. Lewandowski was a Franciscan friar in a parish in Davidsville, Pa., when the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese suspended him. The misconduct allegedly occurred during the 1980s, when he was teaching at St. Francis High School in Hamburg and at Cardinal O'Hara High School in the Town of Tonawanda. Lewandowski was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a teenage male student at St. Francis High in 1979.

83. Bernard M. Mach – A civil lawsuit filed Dec. 9, 1993, accused Mach of **sexually abusing a 12-year-old boy** in the rectory of St. Mary's Church in Lockport two years before. The matter was brought before a grand jury, but it did not indict Mach. The diocese later settled a \$2 million lawsuit. The Rev. John R. Aurelio told police he and Mach sodomized young boys in an East Aurora house in the 1970s. Malone said in March 2018 that Mach was credibly accused. He died in 2004. Mach was accused of molesting children in **three Child Victims Act lawsuits** filed in 2019.

84. Louis Mako – Malone said in November 2018 that Mako was credibly accused. The **Scranton (Pa.) Diocese** said that a priest named Louis Mako in August 2018 had been credibly accused of sexual abuse while serving in that diocese.

85. Thomas R. Marshall – Malone said in November 2018 that Marshall, a religious order priest, was credibly accused.

86. Loville N. Martlock – Martlock was placed on "medical leave" in April 1994 after being **accused of abusing a boy** between 1974 and 1978. He was no longer functioning as a priest, the diocese said in 2002. **He died in 2014.** Malone said in March 2018 that Martlock was credibly accused.

87. Fabian J. Maryanski – Diocese officials were told in 1995 by Stephanie McIntyre that Maryanski began having sexual contact with her in the 1980s, when she was about 15 or 16 and attending St. Patrick Church in Barker. The allegations did not publicly

surface until May, when **The News reported** that the diocese had allowed Maryanski to continue to serve in churches for more than a decade. Maryanski initially denied having any sexual contact with McIntyre, but then said he had sex with her when she was in her 20s. The diocese offered McIntyre a **\$400,000 settlement** in December 2018. The diocese **added Maryanski to its list** of credibly accused priests in January 2019 and said **Maryanski will remain on administrative leave** as the Vatican reviews its investigation.

88. **Rene Maynard** – Malone said in November 2018 that Maynard, a religious order priest, was credibly accused. Maynard in 2019 was accused in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a Bishop Timon High School student from 1957 to 1958.

89. **Thomas J. McCarthy** – Malone said in March 2018 that McCarthy was credibly accused.

90. **Francis McKenna** – Malone said in November 2018 that McKenna was credibly accused. He died in 1997.

91. **Joseph M. McPherson** - The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him. The monsignor died in 1982.

92. **Patrick Mendola** - He was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually assaulting a 7-year-old boy visiting St. Francis High School in 1977, along with Revs. James Smyka and Aurelian Brezezniak.

93. **Ronald B. Mierzwa** – The Buffalo Diocese said in September 2018 that it suspended the longtime pastor of Holy Name of Mary Church in Ellicottville while it investigates a sexual abuse complaint. In March 2019, the diocese said **it had substantiated the allegation** and forwarded to the Vatican a case against Mierzwa.

94. **Michael Miller** – Miller, a Franciscan priest who taught for several years at a Catholic high school in Athol Springs, was **sentenced to five years in prison** in 2013 in Connecticut on charges of possessing child pornography, obscenity and risk of injury to a minor. Miller was a pastor of a church in Kensington, Conn., when police charged him. **The Hartford Courant reported** that Miller had inappropriate

Facebook chats with seven Connecticut teenagers, including inviting one boy to come over and watch a "dirty movie" and writing detailed descriptions about sex acts he would perform on the boy, according to court documents. Miller previously taught at St. Francis High School in Athol Springs in 1993 and again from 2000 to 2003. Officials from the Buffalo diocese said at the time of Miller's arrest that they were not aware of any allegations of misconduct against Miller during his time at St. Francis.

95. Vincent Mooney – Mooney, the former president of Buffalo's Canisius High School, was credibly accused in 2002 and 2018 of sexually abusing minors in 1959 and 1968-1970, years when he was at Canisius, **the Jesuit Northeast Province said** in January 2019. **One accuser told WKBW-TV** that Mooney raped her in his Canisius office when she was 16 in the late 1960s, getting her pregnant, and she had an abortion. Mooney died in 1981. The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him.

96. Robert Moss – Malone said in November 2018 that Moss was credibly accused. Moss died in 2018.

97. Terrence N. Niedbalski - The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him. It said Niedbalski was removed from ministry in 1975. He died in 1997.

98. Paul Nogaro - He was one of four priests and two lay teachers accused in 2019 in **a Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting the same boy. Nogaro, the pastor at St. Stephen Church on Grand Island, denied the allegations. The lawsuit alleges he molested the boy when he was in eighth grade in 1972-73 at St. Mary of the Sorrows School in Buffalo.

99. Loren Nys – A Salvatorian priest, Nys taught at St. Mary's High School in Lancaster from 1969 to 1987. In 2014, the Society of the Divine Savior removed him from ministry because of two complaints from 43 years before about Nys' engaging in **inappropriate conduct with children**. The complaints would have been from around 1970 or 1971, when he was at St. Mary's High. In March 2018, Robert Swierat

told The News that **Nys had molested him** when he was a teenager living at the St. Mary's rectory. Malone said in November 2018 that Nys was credibly accused. Nys was accused in 2019 in **two Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children: a 16-year-old in 1969 at St. Mary's High and molesting another St. Mary's student who was 14 to 17 in the late 1960s.

100. **Basil A. Ormsby** – Malone said in March 2018 that Ormsby was credibly accused. He died in 1997. Ormsby was accused of molesting children in **six Child Victims Act lawsuits** filed in 2019.

101. **Norbert F. Orsolits** – On Feb. 27, 2018, Michael Whalen of South Buffalo publicly accused Orsolits of **sexually abusing him in 1979 or 1980**, while Orsolits was at St. John Vianney parish in Orchard Park. Orsolits admitted the same day to The Buffalo News that he had sexual contact with **"probably dozens" of teenage boys**. Two brothers told The News that Orsolits **sexually abused them in the late 1960s** when he was at St. John the Baptist Church in Alden. Orsolits said the diocese sent him to Southdown Institute twice for treatment. The diocese removed Orsolits in 2003 from active ministry. Malone said in March 2018 that Orsolits was credibly accused. Orsolits was accused in 2019 in **Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting six children between 1965 and 1981 at four churches.

102. **Daniel J. Palys** – The Buffalo Diocese announced in June 2018 that Palys, a retired priest, was **put on leave** as the diocese investigates a complaint of sexual abuse. The diocese announced in July 2019 that a review board **substantiated the allegations** and Palys will remain on leave until the diocesan investigation is reviewed by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican in Rome. Palys was accused in 2019 in **a Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a child in 2001 at St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Elma.

103. **Martin L. Pavlock** – Malone said in March 2018 that Pavlock was credibly accused. Pavlock told The Buffalo News that he had **"crossed the line"** once and then spent seven months in counseling at Southdown Institute. He declined to reveal any further information about the incident. He said he was not involved in any other sexual misconduct after that. The diocese removed him from public ministry in 2002.

104. **Joseph Persich** - A religious order priest, Persich was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a 14-year-old male student at Canisius High School, where he taught.

105. **David J. Peter** - David J. Harvey of Buffalo **alleged Peter raped and repeatedly molested him** in the 1980s when Harvey was an altar boy at St. Edmund Church in the Town of Tonawanda. Harvey said he was around age 8 when the abuse started and it continued for about a year. Some of it happened at St. Edmund Church, prior to Masses, he said. Peter died in 2017. Harvey sued the diocese in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act case** that named Peter as his abuser.

106. **Theodore "Ted" Podson** – Podson, a priest of the Piarist order, taught for several years in the late 1970s and early 1980s at Calasanctius School for gifted children in Buffalo. In 1994, Podson's name was included on an Archdiocese of Philadelphia list of priests guilty of sexual misconduct with a minor, **according to a 2012 Philadelphia Inquirer story**. The Inquirer reported that Podson relocated to the Philippines after allegedly sexually assaulting a 13-year-old boy. The Piarist order told the newspaper later that **Podson was removed from active ministry** and placed in a residential therapy center. In Buffalo, Podson was known at Calasanctius for leading weekslong field trips across the country with students. Malone said in November 2018 that Podson was credibly accused. Podson was accused in 2019 in two Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting a 12-year-old student and a 13-year-old student while he taught at Calasanctius.

107. **Peter Popadick** - The monsignor, who served as priest secretary for former Buffalo Diocese Bishop Edward D. Head, was one of four priests and two lay teachers accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting the same boy. Popadick allegedly had sexual contact with the boy when he was 16 to 17 in 1973 and 1974 at Bishop Fallon High School gym showers. Popadick was pastor of St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church when the lawsuit was filed.

108. **Michael Raimondo** – Malone said in November 2018 that Raimondo was credibly accused.

109. **James F. Rapp** – Rapp grew up in Lockport and worked as a priest in 1979-80 at DeSales High School there. After being **accused in 1987 of molesting two students** at a Catholic high school in Jackson, Mich., he was sent for psychological treatment by his religious order, the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. Then he was assigned as a parish priest in Duncan, Okla. He was **charged with molesting two teenage boys** in Oklahoma in 1999, pleaded no contest to lewd molestation, and was sentenced to two consecutive 20-year prison terms. The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City paid **\$5 million to settle one lawsuit** filed by a teen molested for five years and \$1 million to settle another. In 2016, he was sentenced to **20 to 40 years in prison in Michigan** after being charged with molesting six students at a high school in Jackson in the 1980s.

110. **Joseph Rappal** – Malone said in November 2018 that Rappal was credibly accused. Jeffrey Shaw alleged that **Rappal abused him in 1981**, when he was 11 and Rappal was an associate pastor at in St. Peter Church in Lewiston. The diocese rejected Shaw's application for compensation, declaring him ineligible because he had not complained about the abuse before the diocese's March 1, 2018, deadline. Rappal was accused in 2019 in **two Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting Shaw and another child.

111. **Leo Reddy** - Reddy was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 12- to 13-year-old child in 1960 while assigned to St. Patrick Church in Lockport.

112. **Dennis G. Riter** – The diocese **suspended Riter** in March 2018 from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Dunkirk as it investigated a sexual misconduct complaint. Malone ruled the allegations were not substantiated and **returned Riter to the parish** in June 2018. Matthew Golden had alleged Riter molested him between 1996 and 1999, when Golden was 10 to 13 years old and attending Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Buffalo. Golden **sued the diocese** in August 2018, alleging it employed child molesters and covered up their crimes. The suit was dismissed. Riter was accused in 2019 of molesting two children in **Child Victims Act lawsuits**.

113. **David V. Roche** - Roche was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a 10- to 11-year-old child while assigned in 1973 and 1974 to St. Agatha Church in Buffalo.

114. **Charles S. Rochford** - Rochford was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 9- or 10-year-old child in 1978 or 1979 at Holy Family Church in Buffalo. Rochford died in 1980.

115. **Roy K. Ronald** – Malone said in March 2018 that Ronald was credibly accused. He died in 2013. Ronald was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting an 11- to 14-year-old child who attended St. Mary Church in Belmont, from 1982 to 1986.

116. **Luke Rutter** - The Franciscan order priest, who taught at St. Francis High School in Athol Springs in the 1980s, was **accused by Matthew “Scott” Heldwein of molesting him** when Heldwein was a student living in the high school’s residence hall. Heldwein, of Palmetto, Fla., said Rutter abused him when he was a freshman and a sophomore, and he first reported the alleged abuse to the diocese around 2000. Heldwein filed a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** against the diocese in 2019.

117. **John M. Ryan** – The Buffalo Diocese said July 2018 that Ryan, a retired monsignor and former superintendent of the diocese's Catholic schools, was **put on leave** as the diocese investigates a complaint of sexual abuse. The News reported in July 2019 that **two people had accused Ryan of abuse**. The accusers were a Lockport man who alleged Ryan sexually abused him when he was 11 or 12 in the 1980s and an altar boy at St. Benedict in Amherst and Ann Fossler of Landenberg, Pa., who said Ryan molested her from age 6 to 11 in the late 1950s when she attended Queen of Heaven Church in West Seneca. Ryan, who retired in 2001 from St. Benedict parish in Eggertsville, denied abusing both. Malone in July 2019 announced he would allow Ryan to return to ministry, saying a diocese review board was **“unable to substantiate” the allegations**. Both of Ryan's accusers filed Child Victims Act lawsuits against the diocese in 2019.

118. **Ronald P. Sajdak** – Sajdak, the pastor of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Clarence, was **suspended from ministry** in November 2018 after a man accused Sajdak of blackmailing him in the 1970s into an abusive sexual relationship that began when he was 13. Sajdak was also a teenager when it started, the accuser alleged. The diocese determined **the allegation was unsubstantiated** and returned Sajdak to ministry in December 2018.

119. **John J. Sardina** – The diocese announced in September 2018 that the retired priest had been placed on administrative leave as it investigates a sexual misconduct complaint against him. In March 2019 the diocese announced **Sardina was cleared of wrongdoing** by a diocese investigation.

120. **William Scanlon** – Scanlon, a Jesuit, was credibly accused in 1994 of sexually abusing minors in 1985-94, the **Jesuit Northeast Province said** in January 2019. Scanlon served in a parish in Nigeria during that period. He worked at Buffalo's Canisius College from 1976 to 1980.

121. **Maurice Scheier** – Malone said in November 2018 that Scheier, a religious order priest, was credibly accused.

122. **Joseph E. Schieder** – Monsignor Schieder advised Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy on youth issues. In the 1950s and '60s, he was arguably Buffalo's most renowned Catholic priest, regularly traveling the country and abroad to speak at youth conferences. Malone said in March 2018 that Schieder was credibly accused. At least **five men have accused Schieder of sexually abusing them** when they were minors. One of the accusers accepted a \$340,000 settlement offer from the diocese for abuse in the early 1960s, The News reported. **He died in 1996**. Schieder was accused in 2019 in **three Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children.

123. **Joseph A. Schuster** – Mark Lynch of Youngstown accused Schuster of **sexually abusing him when Lynch was 13** in 1968 at the Our Lady of Mount Carmel rectory in Niagara Falls. Lynch said he sent the diocese a complaint March 12.

Schuster took a leave of absence from the priesthood in 1991 and resigned as executive director of the Catholic Worker Center he founded in Niagara Falls. Malone said in November 2018 that Schuster was credibly accused. He died in 2007.

124. **Gerald Sheehan** – Malone said in November 2018 that Sheehan was credibly accused. Sarah A. Shiley said the **diocese offered her \$360,000** in December to compensate her for years of being abused by Sheehan in the Nativity of Our Lord Church rectory in Orchard Park and at cottages when she was 7 to 14, in the late 1970s and early 1980s. **Sheehan died in 2006**. Sheehan was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a 7-year-old child in 1973 while Sheehan worked at St. Martin of Tours Parish in Buffalo.

125. **Ronald Silverio** – Three brothers from South Buffalo **publicly accused Silverio** in July 2018 of molesting them when they were boys in the 1970s at Holy Family Church in South Buffalo and at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Niagara Falls. Silverio had his priestly faculties removed in 1981 when he became executive director of a Planned Parenthood office in Niagara Falls. Malone said in November 2018 that Silverio was credibly accused. P.A. Kane, one of the Kane family brothers, said the diocese **offered him \$160,000** as compensation in December. Silverio was accused in 2019 in three Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting four children: a 12- to 14-year-old at Holy Family Church from 1972 to 1974; from 1973 to 1982 at Holy Family and Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Niagara Falls, a child who was 9 to 18; and two brothers at Holy Family Church in Buffalo.

126. **Herbert Skurski** - The Franciscan priest was accused in 2019 in Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting two children he met at Most Holy Rosary Church in Buffalo. One child was 7 to 9 years old when allegedly abused from 1955 to 1957; the other was 12 to 13 years old when allegedly abused from 1959 to 1960. The Buffalo Diocese in 2019 said allegations of sexual abuse of a minor were substantiated against him.

127. **Howard Slack** – Malone said in November 2018 that Slack was credibly accused. Slack died in 1976. Slack was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a child about 15 years old in 1964 or 1965 at Immaculate Conception Church.

128. **Arthur J. Smith** – The diocese pulled Smith from Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta parish in Depew in April 2018 over **a complaint of childhood sexual abuse**. In June 2018, the diocese announced its investigation had **substantiated allegations** against Smith. Malone said in November 2018 that Smith was credibly accused of sexual misconduct with a minor. Malone's former priest secretary, the Rev. Ryszard Biernat, told diocese officials in 2004, when he was a seminary student, that **Smith had sexually assaulted him** - an act Smith denied although he admitted laying in bed next to Biernat. Smith was **accused in a Child Victims Act lawsuit** filed in 2019 of molesting a 16-year-old boy in 1976 during a school field trip to Washington D.C.

129. **Robert J. Smith** – Smith, who was expelled from a Buffalo-area seminary in 1959, was sued separately in 1993 and 1994 by two former altar boys over alleged sexual abuse in Santa Fe.

130. **Gerald A. Smyczynski** – Malone said in March 2018 that Smyczynski was credibly accused. He died in 1999.

131. **James Smyka** – Malone said in November 2018 that Smyka, a religious order priest, was credibly accused. Smyka was **working in the Syracuse Diocese** as a hospital chaplain until shortly before the Buffalo Diocese's announcement. Smyka was accused in 2019 in **Child Victims Act lawsuits** of sexually assaulting a 7-year-old boy visiting St. Francis High School in 1977 and abusing a 15 to 16 year old St. Francis student in 1978 and 1979.

132. **Clatus E. Snyder** – Malone said in November 2018 that Snyder, a religious order priest, was credibly accused. **Snyder died in 2001.**

133. **James A. Spielman** – A 1994 settlement about a sexual assault complaint against Spielman was **revealed by The News in 2002**. The alleged abuse happened in the 1970s. Spielman resigned from the priesthood. In 2016, the **diocese paid \$1.5 million** to settle a lawsuit filed in Hawaii by a Texas man who alleged that Spielman molested him when he was an Archbishop Walsh High School student from 1979

through 1982, The News reported in March 2018. Malone said in March 2018 that Spielman was credibly accused. Spielman was accused in 2019 in **four Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children.

134. **Bernard Splawski** – Splawski was accused in 1986 of **fondling an 18-year-old male student** at Bishop Timon High School. He resigned in 2003 as pastor of a New Jersey parish due to renewed complaints from the former student's family. Malone said in November 2018 that Splawski, a religious order priest, was credibly accused of sexual misconduct with a minor. Splawski was accused in **a Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School student for three years, from 1967 to 1970, beginning when the student was 15.

135. **Chester S. Stachewicz** – Malone said in March 2018 that Stachewicz was credibly accused.

136. **Henry Stachewicz** - The monsignor was accused in 2019 in **a Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a 6- to 8-year-old child in 1988 to 1990 at St. Andrew Parish in Sloan. Stachewicz died in 2008.

137. **William G. Stanton** – Malone said in November 2018 that Stanton was credibly accused. **Stanton died in 2004**. Stanton was accused in 2019 in **three Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting children.

138. **Robert A. Stolinski** – The Buffalo Diocese announced in June 2018 that Stolinski, a retired priest, was **put on leave** as the diocese investigates a complaint of sexual abuse. In March 2019 the diocese announced **Stolinski was cleared of wrongdoing** by a diocese investigation.

139. **Harry Richard Strassberger** - Malone said in November 2018 that Strassberger was credibly accused. **Strassberger died in 1999**.

140. **Robert O. Thornberry** - He was accused in 2019 in **a Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a boy he met at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Corfu in 1973 and 1974.

141. **Marion M. Tolczyk** - The former principal of St. Francis High School in Athol Springs was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting a teenage boy over several years in the late 1960s at the school. Tolczyk died in 2013.

142. **Edward Townsend** – Gary Astridge said he was 7 when **Townsend first molested him** outside of Cardinal Dougherty High School in Buffalo, where Townsend taught from 1963 to 1969. He said Townsend later raped him inside the school and in Crystal Beach, Ont. He complained to the Buffalo Diocese in 2006. Another man who grew up in Buffalo in the 1960s told The News that Townsend sexually abused him at Cardinal Dougherty when he was 7 and 8. Astridge sued the diocese in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** naming Townsend as his abuser.

143. **Franklin J. Tuchols** - Tuchols, a chaplain at Children's Hospital in the 1990s, was one of four priests and two lay teachers accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of molesting the same boy. Tuchols allegedly abused the boy when he was about 16 to 18 years old from 1973 to 1975 at St. Mary of Sorrows Church in Buffalo. **Tuchols was arrested twice** in 1995 while trying to purchase crack cocaine in Buffalo. He was sentenced to one year on probation.

144. **Samuel J. Venne** – The diocese **suspended Venne from public ministry** in April 2018 over a complaint of childhood sexual abuse. Venne, who is retired, had been celebrating Masses at St. Stephen Church on Grand Island. In June 2018, the diocese announced that its investigation **substantiated allegations** against Venne. Malone said in November 2018 that Venne was credibly accused.

145. **Joseph J. Vogel** – The founding pastor of Queen of Heaven Church in West Seneca, **Vogel was accused by a woman of molesting her when she was 12**. She told The News in February 2019 that the diocese had recently offered her \$75,000 compensation. She said the abuse happened in 1970 in the Queen of Heaven rectory.

146. **Edward J. Walker** – Malone said in March 2018 that Walker was credibly accused. Denis Riley, a former Dunkirk resident living in Florida, told The News that **Walker sexually abused him** multiple times in the sacristy of St. Joseph's parish in Fredonia where he was an altar boy. He said he told Buffalo Diocese officials about the

abuse in 1999. Walker, a Monsignor, served as pastor at Holy Name of Jesus in Buffalo until he retired in 1981. He died in 2002. Walker was accused in 2019 in two Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting children.

147. **William G. Ward** – Malone said in March 2018 that Ward was credibly accused. He died in 2008. Ward was accused in 2019 in two Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting children: a 13-year-old altar boy in 1955 and 1956 at Our Lady of Victory Church in Lackawanna and a 12- to 17-year-old boy at St. Charles Borromeo Church and Prince of Peace Church in Niagara Falls. Ward was accused in 2019 in two Child Victims Act lawsuits of molesting children.

148. **Charles M. Werth** – Werth was charged in 1994 and 2004 after incidents in Ellicott Creek Park. In the earlier case, he was charged with sexual abuse and **pleaded guilty to exposure**, a violation. In the latter incident, the then-retired priest was charged with public lewdness and afterward removed from active ministry. The diocese said neither allegation involved young people. Malone said in November 2018 that Werth was credibly accused. **He died in 2017.**

149. **William F.J. White** – White was placed on leave in February 1993 after he was **accused of sexual abuse**. He was no longer functioning as a priest, the diocese said in 2002. Malone said in March 2018 that White was credibly accused. He died in 2016. What was accused in 2019 in **Child Victims Act lawsuits** of molesting five children.

150. **Mark J. Wolski** – The Buffalo Diocese announced in May 2018 that Wolski, who served at SS. Peter & Paul Parish in Hamburg before retiring in 2012, was **put on leave** as the diocese investigates a complaint of sexual abuse. Wolski used to serve on a diocesan board that reviewed sexual abuse allegations and determined settlement amounts. The diocese **added Wolski to its list** of priests credibly accused of sexually abusing minors in January 2019 and said **Wolski will remain on administrative leave** as the Vatican reviews the investigation.

151. **Robert W. Wood** – Wood was removed as pastor of St. Joseph in Varysburg in 2003 after being accused of sexually abusing a minor. At the time, he said it involved an alleged incident that happened 16 years prior. Malone said in March 2018 that Wood was credibly accused. Wood was accused in 2019 in a **Child Victims Act lawsuit** of sexually abusing a 15-year-old child in 1978 at Church of the Annunciation in Elma.

152. **Robert Yetter** – Yetter resigned in 2018 as pastor of St. Mary's Church in Swormville after the diocese received a **misconduct complaint against him that “may involve a minor.”** A report by **WKBW-TV** included internal church documents showing that Yetter was previously accused of making unwanted sexual advances on two adult men. The report prompted two diocese deacons and a handful of Catholic politicians to **call on Malone to resign** as bishop in August 2018. The diocese said in May 2019 that a child sexual abuse allegation against Yetter was **not substantiated** but he will remain on administrative leave as it investigates allegations of adult sexual abuse .

Contact Mike McAndrew at mmcandrew@buffnews.com or (716) 849-3448.

How a priest's admission to a News reporter sparked clergy sex abuse scandal