



Ogdensburg Catholic diocese named in another child sex abuse case

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Jul 23, 2021 — New accusations of child sexual abuse have been made public against the Ogdensburg Catholic Diocese under New York's Child Victims Act. The deadline for people to file a claim of abuse is August 13.



Celia Clarke
Ogdensburg Catholic diocese named in another child sex abuse case

An attorney representing victims in New York State says 43 people from priests, teachers, and lay members of Diocese of Ogdensburg have been named in one or more public claims of child sex abuse.

The newest claim concerns alleged abuse by Rev. John F. McNamara that took place between 1945-1947. According to the *North Country Catholic* newspaper, a priest named John F. McNamara died in July 2017.

Attorney Jeff Anderson says that the New York law is not only about victims of clergy sex abuse.

“There are a number of other defendants from schools to child care institutions, and, ah, public entities, doctors, and hospitals,” he said.

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New York’s Child Victims Act allows adult survivors of child sex abuse to file charges against their alleged perpetrators. The law included what’s called a “look-back period” to allow adults to file charges even if the statute of limitations for the crimes has passed.

That look-back period expires on August 14 but because that is a Saturday, Anderson says the actual last day claims can be filed is on the 13th.

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