

Diocese of San Jose adds Paul Duggan, former priest, to list of clergy accused of sexual abuse

Duggan was assigned to St. Patrick's Cathedral in San Jose and St. William Parish in Los Altos

By **THY VO** | Bay Area News Group

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SAN JOSE — Paul Emmet Duggan, a former Catholic priest with the Archdiocese of San Francisco, has been added to a list of clergy accused of sexual misconduct for allegedly abusing a child at St. Patrick Parochial School in San Jose during the 1950s.

The Diocese of San Jose, which encompasses Santa Clara County, added Duggan to its public list Tuesday.

Duggan was assigned to St. Patrick's Cathedral in San Jose from 1951 to 1956, and St. William Parish in Los Altos from 1978 to 1981, before the Diocese of San Jose was formed, according to the list. He retired in 1983 and died in 2007 at the age of 82.

According to an obituary published in The Catholic Voice, a

publication of the Diocese of Oakland, Duggan also served as associate pastor at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in San Francisco and St. Jerome Parish in El Cerrito. After leaving St. Patrick in San Jose, he joined the faculty of Serra High School in San Mateo in 1956, according to the obituary.

The Archdiocese of San Francisco removed Duggan as a priest when his alleged abuse was reported in 2002.

“With this updated list, the Diocese acknowledges and expresses our sorrow over the failings of the past and the damage done,” Bishop Patrick J. McGrath said in a statement. “I hope that this list demonstrates our commitment to do everything in the Diocese of San Jose’s power to confront the evil of clergy sexual abuse, to support and help victims, and to prevent abuse from happening in the future.”

Duggan’s name was added to the list following a review of more than 1,000 clergy and religious files that began in November 2018, according to the diocese.

The Diocese of San Jose’s disclosure list includes the names of all clergy assigned to a parish or diocesan ministry in Santa Clara County who faced credible allegations of child sexual abuse.

Tuesday’s announcement also noted the list now includes clergy not affiliated with the diocese who ever ministered within Santa Clara County, whether at an official institution there or not, or who resided at a seminary, religious retirement home or other religious institutions within the county.

Duggan, from Berkeley, was the sixth of seven children. Three

of his siblings also went into religious life: Eugene F. Duggan, William E. Duggan and Claire Duggan, according to The Catholic Voice.

He was a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, and later became a pastor of St. Augustine Parish in South San Francisco, Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Daly City and St. Cecilia Parish in Lagunitas, according to The Catholic Voice.

The list currently includes 16 people affiliated with the Diocese of San Jose and 23 unaffiliated individuals who ministered within Santa Clara County.

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