

# BishopAccountability.org

## Msgr. Thomas J. Feeney

Ordained: 1937

Sued at least two times. Accused of abuse in 1950s-1960s. This former Vicar General of the diocese died in 1981. Diocese admitted in 5/06 that allegations were credible. Four additional suits filed 5/06. Civil trial began in 9/2006 in a suit filed in 2005. Man testified that Feeney abused him for 6 years, beginning when he was about six years old. July awarded Plaintiff \$1.5 million.

Start	Stop	Assignment	Town/Accusations	State	Position	Notes
1937	1938	<b>St. Ambrose College</b>	Davenport	IA		
						Davenport bishop was Henry Patrick Rohlman (1927-1944)
1938	1941	<b>Catholic University</b>	Washington	DC		
						Baltimore bishop was Michael Joseph Curley (1921-1947)
1941	1942	<b>Vice Chancellor</b>	Davenport	IA		
1942	1948	<b>Iowa Mercy Hospital</b>	Davenport	IA	Chaplain	
						Davenport bishop was Ralph Leo Hayes (1944-1966)
1942	1953	<b>Chancellor</b>	Davenport	IA		
1942	1953	<b>Council of Administration/Diocesan Administrative Council</b>	Davenport	IA		
1942	1946	<b>Diocesan Director Propagation of the Faith</b>	Davenport	IA		
1947	1953	<b>Tribunal Notary</b>	Davenport	IA		
1948	1952	<b>1430 Clay St.</b>	Davenport	IA		The 1949-1952 Directories index Feeney

						as at 1430 Clay St.
1951	1953	<b>Diocesan Director Pontifical Association of Holy Childhood</b>	<b>Davenport</b>	IA		
1952	1953	<b>Mercy Hospital</b>	<b>Davenport</b>	IA		Resident Chaplain
1953  Replacing Hayes as bishop was Gerald Francis O'Keefe (1966-1993)	1968	<b>Sacred Heart Cathedral</b>	<b>Davenport</b>  • Lawsuit in 2005 by a man who claimed having been <a href="#">sexually and physically abused</a> by Feeney beginning when he was 7 years old and continuing until 6 years later when he told his mother (Quad-City Times August 6). The man had been the youngest altar boy at the Cathedral. His mother testified that she <a href="#">reported the abuse</a> to a priest at Sacred Heart, but was told nothing could be done because of Feeney's "high position in the diocese" (Des Moines Register [Iowa] September 15, 2006). In 2006 the diocese acknowledged that Feeney abused children in the 1950s and 1960s. <a href="#">At least six victims</a> had come forward (WCF Courier May 23, 2006).	IA	<a href="#">1/3</a>  Working under Feeney were Revs. Edward C. Greer and Joseph P. <b>Hines</b> 1953-1959. Hines was the third priest until 1959, when he moved to the second spot, where he remained until 1961. Rev. Daniel J. Kelly arrived as third priest in 1959, moving to the second spot in 1967. Rev. Robert G. Mann was second priest 1961-1967. In 1967-1968, third priest was Rev. Lawrence J. Brafman.	The Cathedral had a school with 551-413 students.  <a href="#">Hines</a> has credible allegations against him (Diocese of Davenport Creditors' Committee August 27, 2007).
1968	1981	<b>Vicar General</b>				
1968	1981	<b>St. Anthony's</b>	<b>Davenport</b>	IA	<a href="#">1/3</a> , <a href="#">1/2</a>  Working under Feeney were Rev. James E. Grubb 1968-1979, Rev. Michael J. Morrissey as third priest 1968-1969, Rev. James <b>Janssen</b> 1979-1980, and Rev. Rudolph T.	Feeney died July 26, 1981  <a href="#">Janssen</a> has been accused of abusing many boys over his 42 year career as a priest, including at

					Juarez 1980-1981.	St. Anthony's (BA.org assignment record.)
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**Source:** *Official Catholic Directory* (New York: Kenedy & Sons, 1938-1982).

**Priests in a Parish:** We use the following convention to show a priest's place among the clergy of a parish: 1/2 means that he is the first priest listed in the *Official Catholic Directory* (usually the pastor) and that there is a total of two priests at the parish. The shorthand 3/4 means that the priest is listed third on a four-priest roster. See our [sample page from the Directory](#).

**Note:** The *Official Catholic Directory* aims to report the whereabouts of Catholic priests in the United States on January 1 of the *Directory's* publication year. Our working assumption is that a priest listed in the *Directory* for a given year was at the same assignment for part of the previous year as well. However, Kenedy & Sons will sometimes accept updates well into the year of publication. Diocesan clergy records are rarely available to correct this information. The *Directory* is also sometimes misleading or wrong. We have tried to create an accurate assignment record, given the source materials and their limitations. Assignment records are a work in progress and we are always improving the records that we post. Please [email us](#) with new information and corrections.

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