

Assignment Record – Rev. Patrick J. Conway, s.j.

Summary of Case: Patrick J. Conway was ordained for the Jesuits' Oregon Province in 1934. He was assigned as a Jesuit to parishes in Missoula MT and Lewiston ID, high schools in Tacoma and Spokane WA, and to a mission on the Crow Indian reservation in MT. Conway's name was included on the Province's 2011 list of "perpetrators of sexual abuse"; the Jesuits agreed to post the list on its website as part of its bankruptcy reorganization plan. He was dismissed from the Jesuits circa 1950 and joined the Servants of the Paraclete, working in OH reportedly from the early 1960s. He retired in 1976 to Holy Spirit Retreat in Canton OH and died 3/20/1980. His name is included on the Great Falls-Billings diocese's list 8/21/2018. Per the Jesuits West list 12/7/2018, the sexual abuse of a minor 1945-1949 was reported in 2009.

Ordained: 1934

Died: March 20, 1980

Start	Stop	Assignment	Town/Accusations	State	Position	Notes
1934 San Francisco archbishop was Edward Joseph Hanna (1915-1935)	1935	Alma College	Alma	CA	4th year theology student	
1935 Helena bishop was Joseph Michael Gilmore (1935-1962)	1937	St. Francis Xavier's	Missoula	MT	2/4	St. Francis Xavier's had a school with 133 boys and 113 girls, and Sacred Heart Academy with 101 girls. The 1937 <i>Directory</i> indexes Conway as at this assignment, but he is not listed as there in the Missoula pages.
1937 Boise City bishop was Edward Joseph Kelly (1927-1956)	1938	St. Stanislaus'	Lewiston	ID	3/3	St. Stanislaus' had a school with 152 students.
1938 Seattle bishop was Gerald Shaughnessy, s.m. (1933-1950)	1946	Bellarmino High School	Tacoma	WA		Bellarmino High had 260-297 students, all boys.
1946	1947	Gonzaga University High School	Spokane	WA		Gonzaga Univ. High had 509 students, all boys.
1947 Great Falls bishop was William Joseph Condon (1939-1967)	1951	St. Francis Xavier Mission	Crow Indian Reservation/St. Xavier	MT	1/1	St. Francis had a boarding and day school with 98-81 students, and a religious vacation school with 72 students. Per the Jesuits in 2018, Conway allegedly sexually abused a minor 1945-1949.
1947	1951	Our Lady of Loretto	Lodgegrass	MT		This was a mission of St. Francis Xavier Mission.
1947	1951	St. Anthony's	Wyola	MT		This was a mission of St. Francis Xavier Mission.
1947	1951	St. Denis	Crow Agency	MT		This was a mission of St. Francis Xavier Mission.
1951	Early 1960s					Conway was dismissed by the Jesuits and joined the Servants of the Paraclete.
Early 1960s Youngstown bishop was Emmet Michael Walsh (1952-1968), followed by James William Malone (1968-1995).	1976	St. Mary's	Massillon	OH		Conway worked as a fill-in priest at St. Mary's from the early 1960s. He was appointed assistant pastor in 1976 by Bishop Malone.
1976	1980	Holy Spirit Retreat	Canton	OH		Retired. Conway died March 20, 1980.

Sources: *Official Catholic Directory* (New York: P.J. Kenedy and Sons, 1935-1951)

- [Non-Monetary Commitments, Oregon Jesuits](#), nwjesuits.org, December 7, 2012
- [New assignment for priest](#), Evening Independent (Massillon OH), March 19, 1976

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 and 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.

This assignment record collates Conway's career history as it is represented in the *Official Catholic Directory* with allegations as reported in the media. We make no representation regarding the truth of the allegation we report, and we remind our readers that the U.S. legal system presumes that a person accused of or charged with a crime is innocent until proven guilty. Similarly, individuals who may be defendants in civil actions are presumed not to be liable for such claims unless a plaintiff proves otherwise. Admissions of guilt or liability are not typically a part of civil or private settlements. For more information, see our [posting policy](#).

This assignment record was last updated on January 31, 2024.