



30 New Lawsuits Filed Against Diocese of Rockville Centre Under Child Victims Act

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By Pat Stoneking | July 1, 2020

CONTACTS

Jeff Anderson

O: 646-759-2551

M: 646-499-3364

Trusha Goffe

O: 646-759-2551

M: 646-995-0616

Patrick Stoneking

O: 646-759-2551

M: 646-995-0637

Lawsuits Name More than 20 Clerics Accused of Child Sexual Abuse within the Diocese, Six for the First Time

(Long Island, NY) – Today, attorneys from the law firm of Jeff Anderson & Associates, on behalf of numerous courageous survivors, filed 30 lawsuits under the New York Child Victims Act (CVA) for childhood sexual abuse within the Diocese of Rockville Centre. The firm has now filed a total of 47 lawsuits against the Diocese.

"We stand with the courageous survivors who have chosen to file suit today," said attorney Trusha Goffe. "These survivors join hundreds of others across New York who, after decades of suffering in silence, have access to the Courts for a limited time under the Child Victims Act."

Among the complaints:

- **Six (6) clerics have been publicly identified for the first time.** They include:
 - **Father Daniel Sheridan**, accused of sexually abusing a minor from approximately 1983 to 1984 at St. Barnabus Apostle in Bellmore, NY
 - **Father Hugh Reilly**, accused of sexually abusing a minor in approximately 1969 at Our Lady of Victory in Floral Park, NY
 - **Father Robert Giuntini**, accused of sexually abusing a minor in approximately 1977 at St. Rosalie's in Hampton Bay, NY
 - **Father Valentine Stortz**, accused of sexually abusing a minor from approximately 1963 to 1965 at St. Martin of Tours in Bethpage, NY
 - **Brother William Campbell, S.M.**, accused of sexually abusing a former student in the 1980s at Chaminade High School in Mineola, NY
 - **Brother Rafael Edes, F.S.C.**, accused of sexually abusing a minor from approximately 1965 to 1967 at LaSalle Military Academy in Oakdale, NY
- Four complaints allege abuse by notorious perpetrator [Father Albert Soave](#) at St. Hugh of Lincoln in Huntington Station, where Father Soave was assigned for over a decade in the 1970s and 1980s. Father Soave was also implicated in a lawsuit previously filed by the firm and was previously identified by the media as "Priest T" in the [2003 Suffolk County Grand Jury Report](#) ("GJ Report").
- Two complaints allege abuse by [Father Andrew Millar](#) (publicly identified as "Priest V" in the GJ Report) at St. Raymond's in East Rockaway in the 1980s.
- Two complaints involve [Father James Bergin](#) (publicly identified as "Priest E" in the GJ Report), for his sexual abuse of minors a decade apart. One complaint alleges sexual abuse from approximately 1969 to 1970 at St. Anthony of Padua in Rocky Point, NY and the other alleges sexual abuse from approximately 1982 to 1984 at St. John the Evangelist in Riverhead, NY.
- Two complaints implicate [Father Robert Huneke](#) (publicly identified as "Priest M" in the GJ Report) for sexual abuse at St. Anthony's High School in Smithtown, St. Patrick's in Smithtown and St. Dominic's in Oyster Bay, NY.
- One complaint names [Father Charles Ribaudo](#) (publicly identified as "Priest O" in the GJ Report), for his sexual abuse of a minor at Holy Trinity High School from approximately 1979 to 1980.
- One complaint names [Father Angelo Ditta](#) (publicly identified as "Priest H" in the GJ Report) for abuse at St. Joseph's in Ronkonkoma in the 1990s.
- One complaint alleges abuse by [Father Gerard Chasse](#) (publicly identified as "Priest I" in the GJ Report) at St. Patrick in Bay Shore, NY in the 1970s.
- Three complaints allege sexual abuse by [Father Peter Charland](#), who has been implicated in a lawsuit previously filed by the firm.
- One complaint names [Father John McGeever](#), for his sexual abuse of a minor at St. Patrick's in Huntington, NY.
- One complaint names [Father John Mahoney, O.F.M. Cap.](#), who has been implicated in another lawsuit previously filed by the firm.

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