List of Paulist Fathers with Credible Claims of Sexual Abuse of a Minor

The Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle, The Paulist Fathers, was founded in 1858. The Paulist Fathers have served in the United States, Canada, South Africa, and Italy in our 160 year history.

This list of Paulist Fathers, living, deceased, and departed, with credible claims of sexual abuse of a minor, dating to 1943, is being published as part of our on-going commitment to transparency and accountability.

Since the revelations of clergy sexual abuse in Boston in 2002, there has been significant effort to reform and change how the Church and the religious communities like ours handle claims of sexual abuse. While even one case is abhorrent, it is important to note that safeguards have been put in place to create safe environments in our ministries for everyone.

This list contains the names of Paulist Fathers who are or were members of the Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle against whom a credible claim of sexual abuse of a minor (under the age of 18) or a vulnerable adult has been made. The list also includes Paulist Fathers listed by other archdiocese or diocese.

Inclusion in this list does not imply that the claims are true and correct or that the accused individual has been found guilty of a crime or liable for civil claims. In some instances, the claims were made several years or decades after the alleged events and were not capable of an investigation and determination.

Some claims were received after an accused priest was deceased. In those instances, the accused was unable to defend himself or deny the charges. The Society was unable to undertake a thorough investigation.

While we attempted to be as thorough and accurate as possible in compiling the list, the Paulist Fathers will continue to undergo a review of our files. If additional cases of Paulists with credible claims of abuse are identified, we will release those names as well.

We encourage anyone who has felt victimized by a Paulist Father to contact Rev. John Behnke, Safety Officer of the Paulist Fathers or Antonia Nedder, Paulist Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 212 757-8072, as well as appropriate law enforcement and child-protective agencies.
PAULIST FATHERS WITH CREDIBLE CLAIMS
Second Update August 2019

Thomas Joseph Dove, C.S.P.
Date of Birth: 
Date of Ordination: 05/01/61
Suspended from Ministry: 11/2014
Current Residence: San Francisco, CA, Safety Plan

Assignments:
Boston Arch. Park Street Center 1961-1962
Salt Lake City Diocese St. Rose of Lima Church 1962-1965
Los Angeles Arch. St. Paul the Apostle Church/Information Center 1965-1975
Toronto, Canada Paulist Information Centre 1976-1985
Notre Dame University Sabbatical 1985
Chicago Archdiocese Old St. Mary's Parish 1985-1992
Memphis Diocese St. Patrick’s Church 1992-1994
San Francisco Arch. Old St. Mary’s Cathedral 1992-2014
San Francisco Arch. In residence 2014-

Allegation Location/Date: St. Paul the Apostle, 1975
Reported: November 2014

Robert Paul Michele, C.S.P.
Date of Birth: 12/21/1927
Date of Ordination: 05/03/1955
Current Residence: Mt. Angel, OR, Nursing Home

Assignments:
San Francisco Arch. Old St. Mary’s Cathedral 1955
Austin Diocese St. Austin’s Church 1955-1958
New York Arch. St. Paul the Apostle Church 1958-1961
Missions 1961-1963
Mobile, AL, Arch. Paulist Information Ctr. 1963-1964
Vancouver Arch. Paulist Information Ctr. 1968-1972
Portland Arch. St. Philip Neri Parish 1972-1973
Boston Arch. St. Ann’s Parish 1973-1979
Toronto Arch. St. Peter’s Church 1979-1981
San Francisco Arch. Old St. Mary’s Cathedral 1981-1986
Baltimore Arch Johns Hopkins Univ. Ministry 1986-1989
Austin Diocese St. Austin’s Church 1989-1991
Senior Ministry 1991-2011
DECEASED AND FORMER PAULIST FATHERS WITH CREDIBLE CLAIMS

Some claims were received after an accused priest was deceased or departed the Society. In those instances, the accused was unable to defend himself, deny the charges, or be reached. The Society was unable to undertake a thorough investigation. Deceased and former individuals are included in this list based upon the fact that an accusation was reported and found credible.

Ronald Francis Burt, C.S.P.
Date of Birth: 10/13/1921
Date of Ordination: 05/01/1951
Date of Death: 10/24/1994

Assignments:
New York Archdiocese       St Paul the Apostle Church 1951-1955
Los Angeles Archdiocese    St. Paul the Apostle Church 1955-1962
Johannesburg, S.A.         Blessed Sacrament Parish 1962-1963
New York Archdiocese       Good Shepherd Parish 1963-1986
Palm Beach Diocese         Paulist Residence, Vero Beach 1987-1992
Cherry Valley, California  Guadalupe Care & Retreat Center 1992-1994

Incident Location/Date: Good Shepherd Parish, 1973-79.
Date Reported: 1986, 2018

David Paul Chandler
Date of Birth: 12/6/1946
Date of Ordination: 05/17/75
Departed Paulist Fathers: 12/17/82
Living: Current Location Unknown

Assignments:
Austin Diocese            (Deacon) St. Austin 1974-1975
Los Angeles Arch.         St. Paul the Apostle Church 1975-1978
Tucson Diocese             St. Cyril’s Parish 1978-1981
Leave of Absence          1981-1982

Allegation Location/Date: St. Paul the Apostle Church, 1982
Reported: 1986, 2004

**Vincent Francis Holden, C.S.P.**
Date of Birth: 04/21/1911
Date of Ordination: 01/29/1937
Date of Death: 08/23/1972

Assignments:
- New York Archdiocese: Good Shepherd Parish, Summer 1937
- Washington Arch.: St. Paul’s College, 1937-1939
- Austin Diocese: St. Austin’s/Campus Ministry, 1939-1942
- New York Archdiocese: St. Paul the Apostle Mission Band, 1942-1943
- New York Archdiocese: Information Center, 1943-1949
- Detroit Archdiocese: Paulist Mission Band, 1949-1952
- New York Archdiocese: Paulist Archives, 1952-1956
- Patterson Diocese: Paulist Novitiate, 1956-1965

Allegation Location/Date: St. Paul the Apostle, New York City, 1943
Reported: 2010, 2019

**Stephan Leslie Johnson**
Date of Birth: 01/04/1953
Date of Ordination: 05/16/1981
Departed Paulist Fathers: 07/12/1996
Living: Current Address Unknown

- Los Angeles Arch: St. Mark’s University Parish, Goleta, California, 1981-1983
- Los Angeles Arch.: Indult of Exclaustration, DeSales Hall, Bellflower, CA, 1987-1989

Allegation Location/Date: East Catholic High School, Manchester, CT, 1985-1987
Reported: 2018

**Thomas Reon Paul Marshall, Jr., C.S.P.**
Date of Birth: 10/30/1928
Date of Ordination: 05/01/1959
Date of Death: 12/24/2012

Assignments:

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<td>Los Angeles Arch.</td>
<td>St. Paul the Apostle Church</td>
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<td>Chicago Arch.</td>
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<td>Nursing Home</td>
<td>2009-2012</td>
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Allegation Location/Date: St. Paul the Apostle Church, Los Angeles, 1959-1960
Reported: 2002
Allegation Location/Date: St. Paul the Apostle Church, Los Angeles, 1960-1962
Reported: 2003
Allegation Location/Date: St. Mary of the Lake, Lake George NY 1956,56 & 59.
Reported: 2008
Allegation Location/Date: St. Teresa Parish, Buffalo, 1982
Reported: 2018
Allegation Location/Date: St. Paul the Apostle Church, Los Angeles, 1961-62
Reported: 2018

John Dennis Mitchell, C.S.P.
Date of Birth: 05/30/1909
Date of Ordination: 02/24/1938
Date of Death: 12/18/1996

Assignments:

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<td>Detroit Archdiocese</td>
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<td>Salt Lake City Diocese</td>
<td>St. Olaf Parish, Bountiful UT</td>
<td>1943-1946</td>
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<td>Minneapolis/St. Paul</td>
<td>St. Lawrence Church</td>
<td>1946-1952</td>
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<td>Toronto Archdiocese</td>
<td>St. Peter's Church</td>
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<td>New York Arch.</td>
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<td>Good Shepherd Parish</td>
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<td>Los Angeles Arch</td>
<td>St. Paul the Apostle</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Francisco Arch</td>
<td>Paulist Res./Special Assignment</td>
<td>1970-1971</td>
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</table>
Allegation Location/Date: St. Paul the Apostle Church, Los Angeles, 1968  
Reported: 1994

Rocco Francis Perone, C.S.P.  
Date of Birth: 05/01/1920  
Date of Ordination: 05/03/1949  
Date of Death: 05/05/1992

Assignments:  
Chicago Archdiocese  Old St. Mary's Church  1949-1950  
Portland OR Arch.  St. Philip Neri Church  1950-1956  
Salt Lake City Diocese  St. Rose of Lima Church  1956-1957  
Austin Diocese  St. Austin’s/Missions  1957-1988  
Toronto Archdiocese  St. Peter’s Church  1988-1989  
Austin Diocese  Senior Ministry  1989-1992

Allegations Location/Date: St. Philip Neri, Portland, 1950-1956, multiple cases  
Reported: 2002  
Allegation Location/Date: Casper, WY, 1956  
Reported: 1956, 2002  
Allegation Location/Date: St. James the Greater Church, Oklahoma City, OK, 1958-1962  
Reported: 2018  
Allegation Location/Date: Beaumont, TX, 1965-1975 (2 Cases)  
Reported: 2019

Edward Augustine Sheehy, C.S.P.  
Date of Birth: 07/30/1912  
Date of Ordination: 05/18/1940  (Diocese of Portland, Maine)  
Date of Reception into Paulist Fathers: 09/08/1952  
Date of Death: 10/03/1988

Assignments:  
Boston Arch.  Park Street Center  1953-1955  
San Francisco  Old St. Mary’s Cathedral  1955-1957  
Missions  1957-1958  
Johannesburg, S.A.  Blessed Sacrament Church  1958-1962  
San Francisco  In Residence (sick leave)  1962-1963  
Los Angeles  Missions  1963-1964  
New York  St. Paul the Apostle Church  1964-1968  
Baltimore  St. Peter’s Minor Seminary  1968-1969  
New York  St. Paul the Apostle  1969-1984  
Senior Ministry Status  1984-1988

Allegation Location/Date: San Diego, 1955-57  
Reported: 2003
Francis Michael Sweeney, C.S.P.
Date of Birth: 07/30/1934
Date of Ordination: 05/01/1961
Date of Death: 08/30/2013

Assignments:
New York Arch. Good Shepherd Parish 1961
Boston Arch. Park Street Center 1961-1962
Minneapolis Arch. St. Lawrence Church 1962-1964
Los Angeles Arch. St. Paul the Apostle Church 1964-1967
Washington Arch. Studies 1967-1971
Columbus Diocese Newman Center 1971-1972
Baltimore Arch. Johns Hopkins Campus Min. 1972-1976
Los Angeles Arch St. Marks University Parish UCSB 1976-1978
Washington Arch St. Paul's College/Vocations 1978-1982
Baltimore Arch Univ. of Maryland Base Comm./Relay MD 1982-1994
Boston Arch. In Residence/Unassigned 1995-2004
New York Arch. In Residence/Unassigned 2004-2013


Allegation Location/Date: University Base Community at Relay, MD, Unknown date Reported: 2018

Thomas Fergus Tierney, C.S.P.
Date of Birth: 07/28/1899
Date of Ordination: 09/20/1924
Date of Death: 12/24/1972

Assignments:
Rome, Italy Santa Susanna Church 1924-1926
New York Arch. St. Paul the Apostle Church 1926-1927
Portland OR Arch. St. Philip Neri Church 1927-1938
New York Arch. St. Paul the Apostle Church 1938-1940
Charleston, SC Diocese St. Andrew Church, Clemson 1940-1941
Austin Diocese St. Austin's Church/Campus 1941-1950
Boston Arch. St. Ann's Church 1950-1951
Toronto, Canada Arch. St. Peter's Church 1951-1952
Austin Diocese St. Austin's Church 1952-1953
New York Arch. St. Paul the Apostle Church 1953-1956
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<th>Diocese</th>
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<td>Charleston Diocese</td>
<td>St. Andrew Church, Clemson</td>
<td>1956-1963</td>
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<td>Washington Arch.</td>
<td>St. Paul's College</td>
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<td>Tucson Diocese</td>
<td>Spiritual Director</td>
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<td>Toronto Arch.</td>
<td>St. Joseph's College</td>
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<td>St. Peter's Church/retired</td>
<td>1972.</td>
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Allegation Location/Date: Austin, Texas 1943.  
Reported: 1993

**DECEASED AND FORMER PAULIST FATHERS NAMED IN DIOCESAN LISTINGS**

Some Catholic Dioceses have previously published lists of accused clergy. In these instances, The Paulist Fathers did not have the opportunity to conduct an independent review. In addition, these claims were received after an accused priest was deceased and thus was unable to defend himself or deny the charges. Consequently, The Paulist Fathers now re-publishes those lists of names already in the public domain.

**Rudolph Thomas Vorisek, C.S.P.**

Date of Birth: 11/01/1928  
Date of Ordination: 05/03/1956  
Date of Death: 05/18/2011

Assignments:
- Boston Arch. Park Street Center 1956 (June-Sept)
- Washington Arch. St. Paul’s College 1956-1957
- Baltimore Arch. St. Peter’s Minor Seminary 1957-1968
- Los Angeles Arch. St. Mark’s Univ. Parish-UCSB 1968-1976
- Grand Rapids Diocese Catholic Information Center 1976-1984
  Senior Ministry 1992-2011

Allegation Location/Date: St. Mark’s University Parish, Goleta, CA, 1970.  
Reported: 2013, by Archdiocese of Los Angeles

**Anthony Joseph Wilhelm**

Date of Birth: 10/11/1924  
Date of Ordination: 05/01/1954  
Departed Paulist Fathers: 8/20/1975  
Date of Death: 7/7/1999

Assignments:
- San Francisco Arch Old St. Mary’s Cathedral 1954-1957
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<tr>
<th>Arch/Diocese</th>
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<tr>
<td>Minneapolis/St. Paul Arch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oakland Diocese</td>
<td>Newman Hall/Holy Spirit Parish</td>
<td>1968-1975</td>
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Allegation Location/Date: Minneapolis, 1964.
Reported: 2017 as part of the Minnesota Child Victims Act.