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 those 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 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 both Rev. John Behnke, safety officer of the Paulist Fathers, at (212) 757-8072, and appropriate law enforcement and child-protective agencies.
LIVING PAULIST FATHERS WITH CREDIBLE CLAIMS

Thomas Joseph Dove, C.S.P.
Date of Birth: 03/02/1934
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/1965-1975
Information Center
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
Portland Arch.                    Nursing Home                          2011-

Allegation Location/Date:          St. Philip Neri Church, Portland, 1964

Allegation Location/Date: St. Philip Neri Church, Portland, 1964-1968
Reported: 2018

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

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 1981-1983
Goleta, California
Norwich Diocese St. Thomas Aquinas Univ. Parish 1983-1987
Storrs, CT
Los Angeles Arch. Indult of Exclaustration 1987-1989
DeSales Hall, 1989-1990
Bellflower, CA
St. John Bosco High School 1990-1991
Bellflower, CA
Columbus Diocese St. Thomas More Newman Ctr. 1991-1995
Leave of Absence 1995-1996

Allegation Location/Date: East Catholic High School, Manchester, CT
Ashford Motel, Ashford, 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:

Boston Archdiocese Park Street Center 1959-1960
Los Angeles Arch. St. Paul the Apostle Church 1960-1962
Chicago Arch. Old St. Mary’s Church 1962-1966
Toronto Arch. St. Peter’s Church/Missions 1966-2002
Senior Ministry 2002-2009
Nursing Home 2009-2012
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:
Nashville Diocese Good Shepherd Parish, Winchester 1938
Salt Lake City Diocese St. Paul the Apostle, Vernal 1938-1941
Charleston, SC, Diocese St. Andrew’s, Clemson 1941
New York Archdiocese St. Paul the Apostle/Mission 1941-1942
Nashville Diocese Missions 1942
Detroit Archdiocese Wayne State Campus Ministry 1942-1943
Salt Lake City Diocese St. Olaf Parish, Bountiful UT 1943-1946
Minneapolis/St. Paul St. Lawrence Church 1946-1952
Toronto Archdiocese St. Peter’s Church 1952-1956
New York Arch. Paulist General Offices 1956-1964
Good Shepherd Parish 1961-1964
Los Angeles Arch St. Paul the Apostle 1964-1970
San Francisco Arch Paulist Res./Special Assignment 1970-1971

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: St. James the Greater Church, Oklahoma City, OK, 1958-1962
Reported: 2018
Allegation Location/Date: Beaumont, TX, 1968-1970
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

Allegations Location/Date:  University Base Community at Relay, MD, 1970.

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
- **Charleston Diocese**  St. Andrew Church, Clemson 1956-1963
- **Washington Arch.**  St. Paul’s College  1963-1964
- **Tucson Diocese**  Spiritual Director  1964-1970
- **Toronto Arch.**  St. Joseph’s College  1970-1972
  St. Peter’s Church/retired  1972.
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
Minneapolis/St. Paul Arch St. Lawrence Church 1957-1966
San Francisco Arch Old St. Mary’s Cathedral 1966-1968
Oakland Diocese Newman Hall/Holy Spirit Parish 1968-1975
Allegation Location/Date: Minneapolis, 1964.
Reported: 2017 as part of the Minnesota Child Victims Act.