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.
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: circa September 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

Thomas Joseph Dove, C.S.P.
Date of Birth: 3/2/1934
Date of Ordination: 05/01/61
Suspended from Ministry: 11/2014
Date of Death: 10/02/2020

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 2014-2019
San Francisco Arch. Nursing Home 2019-2020

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

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 1943
Mission Band Information Center 1943-1949
Detroit Archdiocese Paulist Mission Band 1949-1952
New York Archdiocese Paulist Archives 1952-1956
Patterson Diocese Paulist Novitiate 1956-1965
New York Archdiocese Mission Band 1965-1972

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
Left Priesthood & 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:  Ashford Motel/Catholic High School, Storrs, 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 & 1959.  
  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

Robert Paul Michele, C.S.P.
Date of Birth: 12/21/1927
Date of Ordination: 05/03/1955
Date of Death: 09/23/2020
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
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 2011-2020

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

Allegation Location/Date: St. Philip Neri Church, Portland, 1964-1968
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:
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<th>Diocese</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Archdiocese</td>
<td>Old St. Mary's Church</td>
<td>1949-1950</td>
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<td>Portland OR Arch.</td>
<td>St. Philip Neri Church</td>
<td>1950-1956</td>
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<td>Salt Lake City Diocese</td>
<td>St. Rose of Lima Church</td>
<td>1956-1957</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austin Diocese</td>
<td>St. Austin's/Missions</td>
<td>1957-1988</td>
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<td>Toronto Archdiocese</td>
<td>St. Peter's Church</td>
<td>1988-1989</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austin Diocese</td>
<td>Senior Ministry</td>
<td>1989-1992</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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<tr>
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<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<td>Boston Arch.</td>
<td>Park Street Center</td>
<td>1953-1955</td>
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<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>Old St. Mary's Cathedral</td>
<td>1955-1957</td>
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<td>Missions</td>
<td>1957-1958</td>
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<td>Johannesburg, S.A.</td>
<td>Blessed Sacrament Church</td>
<td>1958-1962</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>In Residence (sick leave)</td>
<td>1962-1963</td>
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<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Missions</td>
<td>1963-1964</td>
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<td>New York</td>
<td>St. Paul the Apostle Church</td>
<td>1964-1968</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltimore</td>
<td>St. Peter's Minor Seminary</td>
<td>1968-1969</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>St. Paul the Apostle</td>
<td>1969-1984</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Senior Ministry Status</td>
<td>1984-1988</td>
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Allegation Location/Date: San Diego, 1955-57
Reported: 2003 Part of Los Angeles Settlement

Allegation Location/Date: St. Peter’s Minor Seminary, Baltimore, 1968
Reported: 2020

**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
- 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: 02/24/1938
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
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toronto, Canada Arch.</td>
<td>St. Peter's Church</td>
<td>1951-1952</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austin Diocese</td>
<td>St. Austin's Church</td>
<td>1952-1953</td>
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<td>New York Arch.</td>
<td>St. Paul the Apostle Church</td>
<td>1953-1956</td>
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<td>Charleston Diocese</td>
<td>St. Andrew Church, Clemson</td>
<td>1956-1963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington Arch.</td>
<td>St. Paul's College</td>
<td>1963-1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tucson Diocese</td>
<td>Spiritual Director</td>
<td>1964-1970</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toronto Arch.</td>
<td>St. Joseph's College</td>
<td>1970-1972</td>
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<td></td>
<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
- 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.

**Anthony Joseph Wilhelm**
Date of Birth: 10/11/1924
Date of Ordination: 05/01/1954
Left Priesthood: 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.

At this time there are no living members of the Paulist Fathers who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable person.