



## Credibly Accused Clergy

Listed below are 14 clergy credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor in the Diocese of Charlotte since it was established in 1972. Summarized are the allegations considered credible as a result of action by civil authorities, findings by the diocese's Lay Review Board, or as the result of a comprehensive review of the diocese's personnel and other files by independent investigators in 2019. Included on separate tabs are credibly accused clergy and religious brothers who served in western North Carolina before the Charlotte diocese was established, or were accused of sexual abuse or misconduct elsewhere.

**Diocese of Charlotte**  
Etc. 1972

**Western North Carolina**  
Pre-1972

**Accused Elsewhere**

Listed are clergy credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor in the Diocese of Charlotte since it was established in 1972.

Search Current List



Name	Ordination Date	Affiliation(s)	Location(s) of Alleged Abuse*
<u><a href="#">Donald Philip Baker</a></u> Left ministry	1980	Diocese of Charlotte	St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Lenoir, N.C.
<u><a href="#">Charles Jeffries "Jeff" Burton</a></u> Removed, Deceased	1967	Society of Jesus-Maryland Province (Jesuits)	Youth Ministry Center, Flat Rock, N.C.
<u><a href="#">Eugene D. Corbesero</a></u> Dismissed, Deceased	1962	Consolata Society for Foreign Missions	Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church, Charlotte, N.C.; New Jersey
<u><a href="#">Aloysius Joseph D'Silva</a></u> Deceased	1961	Diocese of Charlotte	St. Bernadette Catholic Mission, Linville, N.C.
<u><a href="#">Richard B. Farwell</a></u> Removed, Convicted	1981	Diocese of Charlotte	Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Salisbury, N.C.; St. Ann Catholic Church, Charlotte, N.C.
<u><a href="#">P. Patrick Gavigan</a></u> Deceased	1963	Diocese of Charlotte	Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Greensboro, N.C.
<u><a href="#">Adelbert "Del" Holmes</a></u> Removed, Deceased	1963	Glenmary Home Mission Society	St. William Catholic Church, Murphy, N.C.; Franklin, Ky.; Diocese of Richmond, Va.
<u><a href="#">Donald J. Joyce</a></u> Removed, Deceased	1968	Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate-United States Province	Sacred Heart Catholic Mission, Wadesboro, N.C.; Lowell, Mass.
<u><a href="#">Michael Joseph Kelleher</a></u> Retired, Removed, Deceased	1963	Trappist-Cistercian religious order Diocese of Raleigh Diocese of Charlotte	Our Lady of the Annunciation Catholic Church, Albemarle, N.C.; Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Charlotte, N.C.; Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Hendersonville, N.C.; Charlotte Catholic High School, Charlotte, N.C.
<u><a href="#">Peter Tan Van Le</a></u> Retired, Removed	1973	Diocese of Vinh Long, Vietnam	St. Joseph Vietnamese Catholic Church, Charlotte, N.C.
<u><a href="#">Damion Jacques Lynch</a></u> Removed, Dismissed	1991	Diocese of Charlotte	St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, Boone, N.C.
<u><a href="#">Justin Paul Pechulis</a></u> Deceased	1968	Diocese of Raleigh Diocese of Charlotte	St. Lawrence Catholic Church (now Basilica), Asheville, N.C.
<u><a href="#">Donald Francis Scales</a></u> Removed, Deceased	1965	Order of St. Benedict (Benedictines)	St. Michael Catholic Church, Gastonia, N.C.
<u><a href="#">Robert Yurgel</a></u> Removed, Convicted, Dismissed	1996	Capuchin Franciscan Friars-Province of the Sacred Stigmata of St. Francis	St. Matthew Catholic Church, Charlotte, N.C.; Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church, Charlotte, N.C.; St. Michael Catholic Church, Gastonia, N.C.

\*"Location(s) of Alleged Abuse" generally refers to where the alleged abuse took place or the parish where the accused cleric was assigned or serving at the time.

Last updated 02/08/2020

Additional information identified during the 2019 file review involving clergy listed here has been referred to the diocese's Lay Review Board for further evaluation. This website will be updated as additional relevant information becomes available. For more information on the list, please see the FAQs. If you have information about child sexual abuse by clergy, please report it to civil authorities and to the diocese using our independent hotline.

Diocese of Charlotte  
Est. 1972

Western North Carolina  
Pre-1972

Accused Elsewhere

Listed are credibly accused clergy who served in western North Carolina before the Diocese of Charlotte was established, when the Diocese of Raleigh oversaw the Catholic Church across North Carolina.

Search Current List



Name	Ordination Date	Affiliation(s)	Location(s) of Alleged Abuse*
<u><a href="#">Andre Anthony Corbin, Jr.</a></u> Removed, Convicted, Deceased	1961	Diocese of Raleigh Diocese of Charlotte	Gibbons Hall for Boys, Asheville, N.C.; Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, Winston-Salem, N.C.; Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Brevard, N.C.; Massachusetts
<u><a href="#">Hugh J. Dolan</a></u> Deceased	1934	Diocese of Raleigh Diocese of Charlotte	St. Pius X Catholic Church, Greensboro, N.C.
<u><a href="#">John Gallagher</a></u> Deceased	1947	Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri (Oratorians)	Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Monroe, N.C.
<u><a href="#">John Joseph Hyland</a></u> Deceased	1942	Diocese of Raleigh Diocese of Charlotte	St. Pius X Catholic School, Greensboro, N.C.
<u><a href="#">William J. Kuder</a></u> Deceased	1933	Diocese of Raleigh	St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, (former location) west Asheville, N.C.
<u><a href="#">Edward William Smith</a></u> Deceased	1943	Glenmary Home Mission Society	Buck Creek, N.C.; Boone, N.C.

\* "Location(s) of Alleged Abuse" generally refers to where the alleged abuse took place or the parish where the accused cleric was assigned or serving at the time.

Last updated 02/28/2020

Listed are clergy and religious brothers who served in western North Carolina with no allegation documented in the Charlotte diocese but were named on lists or publicized by other dioceses and religious orders. Please refer to those other lists for details on the selection criteria used.



Name	Ordination Date	Affiliation(s)	Location(s) of Alleged Abuse*
<b><u>Al Behm</u></b> Left religious order	N/A	Glenmary Home Mission Society brother	Kentucky
<b><u>George C. Berthold</u></b> Removed	1963	Archdiocese of Boston	Woburn, Mass.; Brighton, Mass.
<b><u>Louis A. Bonacci</u></b> Removed, Left religious order	1973	Society of Jesus-Maryland Province (Jesuits)	Columbia, Md.
<b><u>Francis C. Bourbon</u></b> Deceased	1967	Society of Jesus-Maryland Province (Jesuits)	Buckingham, Va.
<b><u>H. Cornell Bradley</u></b> Removed, Left religious order	1969	Society of Jesus-Maryland Province (Jesuits)	Ocean City, Md.; Washington, D.C.
<b><u>Juan Carlos Castaño Mejia</u></b> Removed, Convicted, Deported	1991	Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri (Oratorians)	Rock Hill, S.C.
<b><u>Hugh Clarke</u></b> Retired, Deceased	1960	Carmelite Order Diocese of Raleigh Diocese of Corpus Christi	Corpus Christi, Texas
<b><u>Augusto Cortez</u></b> Convicted, Dismissed, Convicted	2003	Congregation of the Mission-Eastern Province (Vincentians)	Bushwick, N.Y.; Hampton Bays, N.Y.
<b><u>Robert B. Cullen</u></b> Deceased	1968	Society of Jesus-Maryland Province (Jesuits)	Maryland
<b><u>Richard C. Evrit</u></b> Deceased	1973	Diocese of Youngstown	Salem, Ohio
<b><u>Frederick George</u></b> Left religious order, Dismissed	1975	Order of St. Benedict (Benedictines)	Richmond, Va.
<b><u>Anthony Thomas Jablonowski</u></b> Removed, Convicted, Dismissed	1970	Diocese of Covington, Ky. Diocese of Cheyenne, Wyo. Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio On loan to Glenmary Home Mission Society	Guernsey, Wyo.
<b><u>Harold Joseph Johnson</u></b> Retired, Removed, Deceased	1949	Archdiocese of Boston	Weymouth, Mass.
<b><u>Patrick F. Leonard</u></b> Removed	1996	Order of St. Augustine-Province of St. Thomas of Villanova (Augustinians)	New York
<b><u>Gregory J. Littleton</u></b> Removed	1990	Diocese of Metuchen Diocese of Charlotte	New Jersey
<b><u>Harold V. McGovern</u></b> Removed	1970	Oblates of St. Francis de Sales-Wilmington-Philadelphia Province	Delaware
<b><u>James W. O'Neill</u></b> Removed	1967	Oblates of St. Francis de Sales-Wilmington-Philadelphia Province	Wilmington, Del.
<b><u>Kenneth R. Parker</u></b> Retired, Removed	1965	Diocese of Raleigh	Newton Grove, N.C.
<b><u>Gordon John Pillon</u></b> Removed, Deceased	1979	Diocese of Orange, Calif. Diocese of Peoria, Ill.	La Habra, Calif.
<b><u>Peter Raymond Richardson</u></b> Left religious order, Deceased	1986	Glenmary Home Mission Society	West Liberty, Ky.; Aberdeen, Miss.
<b><u>John D. Rutledge</u></b> Deceased	1961	Congregation of the Mission-Eastern Province (Vincentians)	Auburn, Ala.
<b><u>Robert E. Spangenberg</u></b> Deceased	1974	Congregation of the Holy Spirit-Province of the United States (Spiritans)	Pittsburgh, Pa.
<b><u>William Tanguay</u></b> Removed	1969	Diocese of Providence	Providence, R.I.
<b><u>Gino Vertassich</u></b> Left religious order, Deceased	N/A	Glenmary Home Mission Society brother	Connecticut
<b><u>William G. Ward</u></b> Deceased	1960	Diocese of Raleigh Diocese of Buffalo	Lackawanna, N.Y.; Niagara Falls, N.Y.