

**PART I**  
**INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION OF**  
**DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON**  
**REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND**  
**YOUNG PEOPLE BY CATHOLIC CLERGY**  
**AUGUST 14, 2020**

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**INTRODUCTION**

The Diocese of Lexington has undertaken an independent investigation and review of all priest files, victim files and other documents related to sexual conduct involving a minor by any current or former bishop, priest or member of a religious order currently or formerly ordained by or assigned to the territory of the Lexington Diocese. Based on this review, the Lexington Diocese is releasing the names of priests against whom one or more allegations of sexual abuse have been found to be substantiated or credible.

The report also includes the names of priests who served, however briefly, in the territory of the Lexington Diocese and who have been listed by other Dioceses or religious communities as having a credible allegation of child sexual abuse. The report also contains the name of a priest who was accused of child sexual abuse, but the abuse is unsubstantiated because enough evidence exists that the allegation did not occur as claimed.

Currently, there are no pending allegations of child sexual abuse involving any priest in active ministry.

**BACKGROUND**

The Diocese of Lexington was established in 1988 by Pope John Paul II and formed from parts of the Archdiocese of Louisville and the Diocese of Covington, representing 50 counties in Central and Eastern Kentucky. The review included allegations that occurred in the Diocese of Lexington after its formation in 1988, as well as substantiated or credible allegations against priests in either the Archdiocese of Louisville or the Diocese of Covington prior to 1988 who were serving in parishes that are now in the Diocese of Lexington.

## **SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY OF THE INVESTIGATION AND REVIEW**

The Diocese sought a review by independent investigators who were previously unaffiliated with the Diocese or the Catholic Church. The investigators were given full access to diocesan records and personnel files. All complaints submitted to the Victim Assistance Coordinator and the Diocese's Review Board were also reviewed.

Any file review is limited by the material that has been submitted and retained by the organization. In an attempt to obtain all information concerning allegations of sexual abuse, the Diocese published multiple notices in every parish newsletter advising people of the review. The notices provided contact information which allowed individuals to directly communicate with the investigators, with no interaction with any personnel from the Diocese. Finally, an article describing the independent review and requesting any victims to contact the investigators was published in the *Lexington Herald Leader*, the largest newspaper in the Diocese.

The review team conducted interviews, talked with the Victim's Assistance Coordinator, and met with the Diocesan Review Board. In short, the investigators were granted unlimited and unfettered access to all files and documents, all personnel, and all policies and procedures. The files maintained on behalf of those victims and others reporting allegations contained documents related to sexual conduct involving a minor by members of the clergy, whether reported, alleged, suspected, or suggested sexual conduct.

## **COMPILATION OF THE LIST**

For purposes of this review, the investigators broadly construed what constitutes "sexual abuse." For example, sexual abuse includes sexual relations with a minor, physical contact for sexual gratification, exhibitionism, and propositions of a sexual nature. A minor is defined as a person under eighteen (18) years of age.

To be as accountable and transparent as possible, the following list of priests has been divided into four categories. The standards used to determine an individual's placement on this list are defined below. They are: 1) substantiated allegations of

abuse of a minor; 2) credible allegations of abuse of a minor; 3) priests who served in the territory of the Lexington Diocese who are credibly accused of abuse of a minor by other Dioceses or religious communities; and, 4) unsubstantiated allegations of abuse of a minor.

The following lists do not necessarily imply that the priests are guilty of a crime or liable in a civil lawsuit. The United States legal system presumes that a person accused of or charged with a crime is innocent until proven guilty. Similarly, individuals who may be defendants in civil actions are not liable for such claims unless a plaintiff proves by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant is liable for his or her conduct.

Not all allegations of sexual abuse against a priest could be verified to the degree necessary to warrant their inclusion on the lists. In some instances, an anonymous allegation was made, with no supporting evidence. Other times, there was not enough information in the file or elsewhere to determine what had occurred. In other instances, one of the following occurred: the conduct did not involve the sexual abuse of a child; the evidence did not justify a conclusion sexual abuse occurred, the person reporting the alleged abuse did not want the process to go forward or law enforcement determined the allegation was not credible. And, in one situation, inappropriate behavior that appeared to be grooming minors for future abuse was identified, and the priest was removed from active ministry.<sup>1</sup>

#### **STANDARDS USED IN THE LISTING OF PRIESTS**

**Substantiated allegation:** Based on the facts and circumstances, there is a *reasonable certainty* that the allegation is true and that the sexual abuse of a minor occurred. Factors and the combination of factors considered in making this determination include:

- an admission of guilt by the priest;
- a guilty plea accepted by a court;
- multiple allegations by different individuals against a single priest;
- facts disclosed during discovery in a civil suit;
- corroborating testimony by others;
- facts, circumstances and results of a diocesan investigation; and,
- additional corroboration of the report, including whether the priest was laicized.

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<sup>1</sup> The former priest is deceased.

**Credible allegation:** Based on the facts and circumstances, the allegation is capable of being believed; *it is more likely true than not*. In general, there is insufficient information to confirm the report although there are factors that make the allegation capable of being believed. Those factors considered in making this determination include:

- firsthand reporting by the victim;
- a preliminary investigation by a diocesan review board that determines that sufficient evidence of child abuse by a priest exists to forward to the Bishop;
- the amount of detail and accuracy in a statement;
- the appearance of honesty and forthrightness in the statement;
- the possibility that the abuse occurred based on the victim's location, the priest's location, and their proximity to each other at the time of the abuse;
- the relationship between the child and the priest at the time of the abuse;
- the amount of information contained in a civil suit; and,
- *the reason*, if given, that a priest appears on another dioceses' list of abusive priests.

**Publicly Accused Priests:** Priests who served in the territory of the Diocese of Lexington and against whom no allegation of child sexual abuse has been made but are listed by other Dioceses as having a credible allegation of abuse of a minor.

**Unsubstantiated:** Based on the facts and circumstances enough evidence exists, through a criminal, civil or diocesan investigation or otherwise, that the allegation did not occur as claimed.

## **CATHOLIC PRIESTS WITH SUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS, CREDIBLE ALLEGATIONS OR PUBLIC ACCUSATIONS OF ABUSE OF A MINOR<sup>2</sup>**

### **A. LIST OF SUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE OF A MINOR BY PRIESTS**

#### **CHAPPA, RAYMOND OFM**

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<sup>2</sup> An asterisk (\*) is used to denote those priests who were incardinated into the Diocese of Lexington. Incardination is the formal attachment by a priest to a certain Diocese. This gives the Bishop of the Diocese supervision responsibilities and accountability over the priest. Many priests on these lists were not "incardinated" into the Lexington Diocese. Because the Diocese of Lexington was not formed until 1988, many of the listed priests are or were incardinated into the Diocese of Covington.

**DATE OF BIRTH:** August 3, 1948

**ORDAINED:** June 7, 1975 (Franciscan Friars of St. John the Baptist, Cincinnati); assigned as a Mission priest for the Diocese of Covington, 1984-1986

**LIVING**

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington.

**STATUS:** Laicized January 29, 1996

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Mother of Good Counsel Parish, Hazard, Ky. 1984 –1986

**NOTES:** One known victim of abuse that occurred between 1984 and 1986 at the Mother of Good Counsel Parish in Hazard. **Abuse confirmed through** an interview with the victim by Child Protective Services on October 28, 2008; a civil settlement that was reached with the Franciscan Province of Saint John the Baptist on December 2008; and his laicization in 1996. Listed on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

**\*FEDDERS, WILLIAM JOSEPH**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** July 27, 1942

**ORDAINED:** June 1, 1968, for the Diocese of Covington

**LIVING**

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington; transferred to the Lexington Diocese in March 1988, giving the Lexington Diocese supervision responsibilities and authority over him.

**STATUS:** Incardinated into Diocese of Lexington on March 2, 1988; removed from ministry by the Lexington Diocese in June 2002; permanently removed from ministry, September 2004.

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Christ the King, Lexington, Ky. 1981
- St. Clare Missions, Berea, Ky. 1983
- Holy Family, Ashland, Ky. 1984
- St. Patrick, Mt. Sterling, Ky. 1987
- Family Ministries, Lexington Diocese, 1989
- St. Michael Church, Paintsville, Ky. 1992
- Jesus Our Savior Catholic Church, Morehead, Ky., 1997

**NOTES:**

One known victim in early 1980's at Christ the King, Lexington, Kentucky; abuse was first reported in 1994 by letter to the Lexington Diocese; allegations investigated but initially unsubstantiated; civil suit filed in 2002; suit dismissed on statute of limitations grounds, but allegations were substantiated. **Abuse confirmed through** Fedders' admission to a single incident of inappropriate sexual behavior with a minor; and, permanent removal by the Diocese of Lexington from all duties for penalties "in accordance with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People." Incident not reported to authorities until 2004. Listed on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

**FRITSCH, JAMES EDWARD**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** July 25, 1939

**ORDAINED** June 5, 1965, for the Diocese of Covington

**LIVING**

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington.

**STATUS:** Suspended July 5, 1966; laicized January 25, 1969

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- St. William, Lancaster, Ky. 1964

**NOTES:** One known victim of abuse that occurred in 1965. **Abuse confirmed through a** letter from the supervising priest and the supervising priest's deposition from a civil suit filed in 2002; the lawsuit settled as a class in December 2004; his laicization; and, other reported allegations in Northern Kentucky and Owensboro. Listed on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

**\*GALLENSTEIN, STEPHEN FRANCIS**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** August 3, 1948

**ORDAINED:** June 5, 1976, for the Diocese of Covington

**LIVING**

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington and continued after the Diocese of Lexington was formed in 1988; since March 1988, the Lexington Diocese has had supervision responsibilities and authority over him.

**STATUS:** Associate Vocation Director, 1996; Incardinated into the Lexington Diocese on March 2, 1988. Permanently removed from ministry by the Lexington Diocese in September 2003. Laicization had been requested in November 7, 2006, but on November 12, 2015, the Vatican determined that a permanent removal from ministry was appropriate.

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Holy Family School, Ashland, Ky. 1976
- St. Elizabeth, Ravenna & Mission, Ravenna, Ky. 1980
- St. Francis of Assisi, Pikeville, Ky. 1984
- St. Julian, Middlesboro, Ky. 1986-1994
- St. Anthony, Pineville, Ky. 1989-1994
- Church of Jesus Our Savior, Morehead, Ky. 1994-1997
- St. Francis of Assisi, Pikeville, Ky., 1998
- St. Francis Church, Pikeville, Ky., St. Joseph the Worker, Elkhorn City, Ky., St. Luke Church, Salyersville, Ky., and, St. Joseph of the Mountains, Phelps, Ky. 2000
- Good Shepherd Parish, Frankfort, Ky. 2003
- Leave of Absence, July 2003

**NOTES:** One known victim beginning in 1980 at Holy Family Catholic Church, Ashland, Kentucky, and which continued for approximately fourteen (14) years. Covington Diocese Bishop made aware of abuse through letters from the victim's mother in the early 1980's, which were found in the priest's "Death Directives File," in 1993; Lexington Diocese wrote the Boyd County Commonwealth Attorney in January 2004. **Abuse confirmed through** the priest's written admission; handwritten letters from the priest to the victim; a 2003 civil suit that

was filed and settled; and, the permanent removal of the priest. Listed on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

### **HOWLIN, CARROLL**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** April 6, 1934

**ORDAINED:** May 27, 1961, for the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois

**DATE OF DEATH:** May 5, 2015

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred in the Lexington Diocese by a priest from the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois.

**STATUS:** Archbishop of Louisville gave Howlin permission in 1976 to serve as a mission priest for three years in Kentucky, but Howlin served for over 25 years; placed on administrative leave from ministry in April 2002; permanently removed from ministry after a canonical trial in 2010.

#### **ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Good Shepherd Catholic Chapel, Whitley City, Ky. 1977-2002
- Diocese of Joliet, Ill., does not know priest's location from 2003-2012

**NOTES:** Two known abuse victims from Whitley City, Ky., which occurred in the 1990's and reported in 2003. **Abuse confirmed through** one of the victim's accounts to his mother and grandmother in 1998; the Diocesan Review Board's finding of credibility in 2004; multiple allegations of child sexual abuse beginning in 1972; two credible allegations found by the Diocese of Joliet; named in multiple civil lawsuits; and his removal from the ministry in 2010. Appears on Diocese of Joliet's List of Priests with Credible Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse.

### **JABLONOWSKI, ANTHONY THOMAS**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** April 18, 1937

**ORDAINED:** May 16, 1970, for the Diocese of Covington

**LIVING** and has been released from prison.

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington; left the Covington Diocese in 1976 and served on loan with Glenmary Home Missions.

**STATUS:** Served in the Archdiocese of Atlanta, the Diocese of Charlotte, the Diocese of Cheyenne, the Diocese of Salt Lake City; the Diocese of Tucson and finally the Diocese of Steubenville. Laicized in 2006

#### **ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- St. William, Lancaster, Ky., 1970
- Lexington Catholic High School, Lexington, Ky., 1971
- Christ the King, Lexington, Ky., 1971
- St. Peter Claver, Lexington, Ky., 1971

**NOTES:** One known victim from Lexington Catholic High School in the early 1970's that was reported by letter to the Fayette County Attorney in 2003;

**Confirmed through** the number of abuse allegations; a no contest guilty plea in 2004 in Cheyenne Wyoming, to one count of taking indecent/immoral liberties with a 17 year old boy; and, his listing as having credible allegations of child



sexual abuse by the Diocese of Cheyenne, the Diocese of Tucson, the Diocese of Steubenville, Glenmary Home Missions and the Diocese of Covington.

**MODICA, BALTHASAR JOHN**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** September 19, 1921

**ORDAINED:** September 22, 1945, for the Diocese of Covington

**DATE OF DEATH:** October 30, 2015

**STATUS:** Retired in 2000. Suspended in 2002.

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE**

- Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary, Lexington, Ky., 1974

**NOTES:** One known victim from Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary, Lexington, Ky., between 1974 and 1978. Multiple victims in other locations. **Abuse confirmed through** Diocese documents that demonstrate Modica was warned several times for his behavior between 1974 and 1978 and then sent to Jemez Springs, New Mexico for treatment for sexual misconduct; civil litigation in 2002; and, a guilty plea in 1978 related to smuggling drugs into a Kentucky prison to a young, male inmate. Named on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

**\*MUENCH, JOSEPH NICHOLAS**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** March 30, 1955

**ORDAINED.:** May 23, 1981, for the Diocese of Covington

**LIVING**

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington; transferred to Lexington Diocese in March 1988, giving the Lexington Diocese supervision responsibilities and authority over him.

**STATUS:** Incardinated into the Diocese of Lexington in 1988; Suspended by the Lexington Diocese in July 2009 and allegations were reported to authorities the same day. Resigned in 2010 as pastor of Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary. Case remanded to the Vatican in 2011. Vatican contacts Bishop April 2018 for an update. Case updated for Vatican, May 2018.

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Good Shepherd, Frankfort, Ky., 1984
- St. Martha, Prestonsburg, Ky., 1986
- Our Lady of the Way, Martin, Ky., 1986
- St. Luke's, Salyersville, Ky., 1986
- St. Andrew's, Harrodsburg, Ky., 1994
- St. Mary's, Perryville, Ky., 1994
- Good Shepherd, Frankfort, Ky., 2003<sup>3</sup>
- Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary, Lexington, Ky., 2006

**NOTES:** Diocese first notified by letter in 2009 from an attorney representing three clients alleging abuse at Good Shepherd in Frankfort, Ky. At least five

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<sup>3</sup> Muench served as a "priest moderator," at Good Shepherd in Frankfort, Ky. This assignment means he was the pastor in terms of oversight but was not actually on-site in residence or ministry during that time. He continued at Saint Andrew's in Harrodsburg and Saint Mary's in Perryville throughout that time.

known victims during the 1980's while at Good Shepherd. **Abuse confirmed through** 2009 civil litigation; the similar pattern of abuse; a finding that the allegations were credible by the Lexington Diocese Review Board; eight

witnesses who said the abuse occurred; and, a guilty plea (Alford plea)<sup>4</sup> entered on April 1, 2010, to one felony count of unlawful imprisonment and one misdemeanor count of criminal attempt to commit sexual abuse. Named on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

**NIENABER, LEONARD BERNARD FRANCIS**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** February 17, 1907

**ORDAINED:** May 27, 1934, for the Diocese of Covington

**DATE OF DEATH:** November 19, 2006

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington.

**STATUS:** Retired 1979; Confined after a guilty plea (Alford) in 1994, to the Servants of the Paraclete, in Dittmer, Missouri for the remainder of his life.

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- St. Paul, Lexington, Ky., 1934
- Veterans Hospital, Lexington, Ky., 1946
- St. Paul, Lexington, Ky., 1947
- St. Margaret Cortona Home, Lexington, Ky., 1952
- Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary, Lexington, Ky., 1960-1979

**NOTES:** Multiple victims of child sexual abuse while at Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary, Lexington, Ky. **Abuse confirmed through** a guilty plea (Alford plea) on October 5, 1994, to ten (10) counts of child sexual abuse; sentence suspended; sent to Servants of Paraclete where he died in 2006; and, a December 2003 settlement with the Covington Diocese where he accounted for 20 of the 24 named victims. Listed on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

**\*PILGER, JOSEPH J.**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** April 30, 1925

**ORDAINED:** May 28, 1955, for the Covington Diocese

**DATE OF DEATH:** December 5, 2003

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington; transferred to Lexington Diocese in March 1988, giving the Lexington Diocese supervision responsibilities and authority over him.

**STATUS:** Incardinated into the Diocese of Lexington on March 2, 1988; Retired in 1990.

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- St. Mark, Richmond, Ky. 1955
- St. William, Lancaster, Ky. 1956

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<sup>4</sup> An Alford plea is a plea to a crime in which the defendant does not admit the act and asserts innocence, but admits that there is strong factual evidence of actual guilt with which the prosecution would likely prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty.

- St. Leo, Versailles, Ky. 1960
- St. Paul, Lexington, Ky. 1960
- St. Joseph Hospital, Lexington, Ky. 1982

**NOTES:** One known victim in the Lexington Diocese at St. Paul's in Lexington, Kentucky in 1962; reported to the Fayette County Commonwealth Attorney, June 2007. Multiple victims in other locations. **Abuse confirmed through** a guilty plea (Alford plea) on December 12, 1994, for sexually abusing two brothers and their cousin in Owensboro, Kentucky; a lawsuit filed and settled in 2003; and the letter written to the Fayette County Commonwealth Attorney. Named on the Diocese of Owensboro's List of Substantiated Allegations with thirteen (13) substantiated allegations, and the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

## **B. LIST OF CREDIBLE ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE OF A MINOR BY PRIESTS**

### **Broering, Raymond Leo**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** March 8, 1927

**ORDAINED:** May 30, 1945, for the Diocese of Covington

**STATUS:** Reported abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington. Retired August 1, 1995; Administrative leave on November 10, 2004

**DATE OF DEATH:** March 12, 2013

**HISTORY:** Reported abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington.

#### **ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary, Lexington, Ky. 1964
- St. Paul, Lexington, Ky. 1970
- Sacred Heart, Corbin, Ky. 1981

**NOTES:** One known victim; reported abuse occurred at Sacred Heart in Corbin, Kentucky in 1982. **Credibility determined by** a detailed Victim's report made on November 27, 2018; Named on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

### **KLEIN, ROBERT PAUL**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** June 7, 1927

**ORDAINED:** May 30, 1953 for the Diocese of Covington

**DATE OF DEATH:** June 20, 2005.

**HISTORY:** Reported abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington

**STATUS:** Retired 1992; Suspended in 2002

#### **ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Good Shepherd, Frankfort, Ky., 1964

**NOTES:** One known victim reported he was abused in 1964; reported to the Franklin County Commonwealth Attorney in January 2015. **Credibility determined by** the firsthand report by the victim; a file note that says priest "admitted the abuse;" and, a lawsuit in Boone County by a different victim, which was settled. Listed on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

## **SCHAFFER, CARL CASPER**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** August 5, 1926

**ORDAINED:** May 30, 1953, for the Diocese of Covington

**STATUS:** Retired 1989

**DATE OF DEATH:** July 3, 1993

### **ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE**

- St. Peter Claver, Lexington, Ky. 1957
- Christ the King, Lexington, Ky. 1958
- Good Shepherd, Frankfort, Ky. 1973
- St. Luke, Nicholasville, Ky. 1983

**NOTES:** Allegation that brothers were molested by Schaffer at Good Shepherd, Frankfort, Ky., in the 60's and 70's. Committed suicide a day after being questioned by State Police on April 2, 1993, about a decades old possible "abuse allegation." Whether the abuse being investigated by the police was physical or sexual, could not be determined. **Credibility determined** based on the facts and circumstances surrounding the suicide; and, a class action lawsuit and settlement by the Covington Diocese. Named on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

## **WALSH, PATRICK J. MSC**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** Unknown

**ORDAINED:** 1952 (Priest of the Order of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Ireland.)

**DATE OF DEATH:** 2011

**HISTORY:** Because Walsh belonged to a religious order, there is no personnel file to review. These allegations were based on the victims' statements.

**STATUS:** Suspended from ministry by his Order, 2004

### **ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Christ the King, Lexington, Ky., 1971-1974
- Lexington Catholic High School, Ky., between 1971 and 1974

**NOTES:** There are two and possibly three known victims from Christ the King and Lexington Catholic High School. **Credibility determined** based on a common pattern of abuse, which includes taking the children to a house at Lake Herrington, Kentucky; also listed on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

## **C. LIST OF PRIESTS WHO SERVED IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE WHO ARE PUBLICLY ACCUSED OF ABUSE OF A MINOR BY OTHER DIOCESES<sup>5</sup>**

### **ARBOGAST, PAUL MARION**

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<sup>5</sup> Brothers from Religious Orders are not included within the scope of this investigation as there are no personnel files to review and other files are incomplete. However, two brothers from Glenmary Home Missioners who served in the Lexington Diocese have been publicly accused. Neither have an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor in the Lexington Diocese. Al Behm, is named on the Glenmary Home Missioners Credibly Accused List and on the Diocese of Charlotte's and the Diocese of Nashville's, Bill Early is named on Glenmary's Credibly Accused List and on the Diocese of Nashville's.

**DATE OF BIRTH:** March 6, 1930

**ORDAINED:** May 28, 1955, for the Diocese of Covington

**DATE OF DEATH:** October 16, 2013

**STATUS:** Leave of Absence 1973; laicized, April 27, 1993; married, July 8, 1993; terminated by the Covington Latin School in 2003.

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Served as principal of Lexington Catholic High School from 1981-1986.

**NOTES:** There is no allegation of abuse of a minor in the Lexington Diocese.

Arbogast is named on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

**RICHARDSON, PETER**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** June 16, 1958

**ORDAINED:** 1986, for the Glenmary Home Missioners

**STATUS:** Removed from ministry, 2010

**DATE OF DEATH:** March 26, 2014

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Prince of Peace, West Liberty, Ky., 1994-2004
- St. Julie, Owingsville, Ky., 1994-2004

**NOTES:** No allegation of sexual abuse against a minor documented anywhere in the Lexington Diocese files. The Morgan County Attorney and Commonwealth Attorney declined to bring charges for an allegation that occurred in 2004 and was reported in August 2005. Named on the credibly accused lists of the Diocese of Jackson, the Diocese of Cincinnati, Glenmary Home Missioners, and the Diocese of Nashville.

**SCHILDER, DAVID**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** About 1942

**ORDAINED:** 1968

**STATUS:** Retired 2004; Removed from ministry 2004.

**LIVING**

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Chaplain at the Ashland Federal Correction Institution, Ashland, Ky., 2001-2004.

**NOTES:** There is no allegation of sexual abuse against a minor in the Lexington Diocese. Is listed as a credibly accused clergy for the abuse of a minor in the Diocese of Columbus, Ohio; two allegations are listed. Note that federal prison chaplains are hired by the federal government.

**SPINE, WILLIAM SJ**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** June 15, 1941

**ORDAINED:** 1973, by the Chicago Province Jesuits; now the U.S.A. Midwest Province Jesuits

**STATUS:** Removed from active ministry in 2006

**LIVING**

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- St. Paul's, Lexington, Ky., 2001-2006

**NOTES:** There is no allegation of sexual abuse against a minor in the Lexington Diocese. Listed by the U.S.A. Midwest Province Jesuits as having an Established Allegation of Sexual Abuse of a Minor. The Midwest Province list states that there are allegations of multiple victims, which include Lexington, Kentucky in 1975-1976. However, Spine was not assigned to the Lexington Diocese until 2001.

**WILLIAMS, JAMES KENDRICK**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** September 5, 1936

**ORDAINED:** May 25, 1963, for the Archdiocese of Louisville, Ky.

**Living**

**HISTORY:** The Report on Sexual Abuse in the Archdiocese of Louisville., Ky., dated February 2019, lists Bishop J. Kendrick Williams of the Lexington Diocese. The report does not reach a conclusion on whether the allegations are substantiated because the case has been referred to the Vatican. The Bishop is not listed on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List.

**STATUS:** Auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese of Covington, Ky., 1984-1988; Founding Bishop, Diocese of Lexington, Ky., March 2, 1988. Resigned, June 11, 2002. Bishop Emeritus for the Lexington Diocese. Case referred to the Vatican.

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- Founding Bishop, Diocese of Lexington, Ky., 1988-2002.

**NOTES:** There have been at least two allegations of sexual misconduct with minors in Louisville; a civil suit was filed by both individuals and the cases were settled as part of a large class action. The Bishop has denied all allegations. No criminal charges have ever been filed.

**WOLKE, IRWIN CHARLES**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** October 6, 1935

**ORDAINED:** June 11, 1960, for the Diocese of Covington, Ky.

**STATUS:** Deceased.

**DATE OF DEATH:** December 14, 1978

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- St. Peter Claver, Lexington, Ky., 1960
- Lexington Catholic High School, Lexington, Ky., 1960
- Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary, Lexington, Ky., 1962 through 1965

**NOTES:** Named on the Diocese of Covington's list of Substantiated Allegations. Northern Kentucky victims said that they had heard of similar behavior at Lexington Catholic High School.

**D. UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATION OF ABUSE OF A MINOR BY A PRIEST**

**POOLE, WILLIAM G.**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** September 12, 1935

**ORDAINED:** June 1, 1953, for the Diocese of Covington, Ky.

**STATUS:** Incardinated into the Diocese of Lexington, Ky., 1988. Appointed Associate Vocation Director, 1996. Suspended July 2003. Reinstated December 2003. Retired, January 2004.

**DATE OF DEATH:** December 28, 2018

**HISTORY:** Abuse occurred while part of the Diocese of Covington; transferred in March 1988 to Lexington Diocese, giving the Lexington Diocese supervision responsibilities and authority over him. Was arrested in Jacobson Park, Lexington, Ky., in 1990 during a prostitution sting; arrested again in Jacobson Park and convicted of Disorderly Conduct on May 18, 2001. Neither offense involved children.

**ASSIGNMENTS IN THE LEXINGTON DIOCESE:**

- St. William, Lancaster, Ky., 1964
- St. Michael Mission, Paintsville, Ky., 1965
- Our Lady of the Way Hospital, Martin, Ky., 1968
- St. Julian, Martin, Ky., 1968
- Pastor, St. Peter Claver, Lexington, Ky., 1981
- Sabbatical
- St. Elizabeth, Ravenna, Ky., 1993
- Our Lady of the Mountains, Stanton, Ky., 1993
- Participated in Apostleship of the Sea, as late as December 2017.

**NOTES:** In June 2003, the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, notified the Diocese of Covington and the Diocese of Lexington about an allegation of child sexual abuse that allegedly occurred in 1973 in Martin, Ky., by William Poole. The St. Paul Archdiocese said the complainant was seeking a financial settlement because of the abuse.

**Response by the Diocese of Covington; Placed on the Diocese of Covington's Substantiated Allegations List**

- *Without notifying Poole of the alleged victim's allegation, the Covington Diocese reached a financial settlement with him on July 16, 2003. Poole was not notified about the settlement until July 28, 2003.*
- The Covington Diocese found the individual to be credible, which was allegedly supported by the St. Paul Archdiocese.
- The complainant negotiated without counsel, so the Diocese also settled to avoid the costly litigation of a civil suit.

**Response by the Diocese of Lexington; Unsubstantiated**

- On July 28, 2003, Bishop Gainer, in accord with the 2002 *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, suspended Poole and initiated an investigation of the allegation so that the allegation could be heard by the Lexington Diocesan Review Board.
- In October 2003, the Review Board unanimously decided there was nothing to substantiate the allegations.
- A letter was written to the Office of Floyd County Department of Community Based Services about the allegation in January 2004.
- **Unsubstantiated** based on the following: the alleged victim repeatedly refused to speak with the Diocese of Lexington's investigator; Poole provided a detailed written statement denying the allegation to the Lexington Review Board; the inaction by the Floyd County Department of Community Based Services; and, the Rev. Kevin McDonough of the St. Paul Archdiocese gave several reasons why he did not find the individual

to be credible. Finally, the complainant's statement that Poole traveled to St. Paul to meet with him on a certain day was untrue.

**Submitted by:**

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