

## Priest charged with sexual abuse

BEAUMONT (AP) — Jefferson County grand jurors indicted a Catholic priest Thursday on charges of sexually abusing a 7-year-old boy.

The Rev. Jude Sivcoski, 30, Catholic Youth Organization director and assistant pastor at Assumption Catholic Church in Beaumont, has been accused of having deviate sexual relations with the boy at the family's home in Port Arthur Dec. 8.

Sivcoski surrendered to the sheriff's department shortly after the indictment was returned. He was freed on \$10,000 bond set by State District

Judge Leonard Giblin.

The Catholic Diocese of Beaumont made no comment Thursday about Sivcoski, who has been away from the rectory since mid-December. However, Bishop Bernard Ganter has scheduled a news conference for 9:30 a.m. today.

Sivcovski for the past year and a half has been in residence at Assumption, where he combined duties as Catholic Youth Organization director and assistant pastor.

He is a native of Houston.