

Diocesan Priests with a Credible Allegation¹ of Child Sexual Misconduct or Abuse² within the Diocese of Charleston

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Ordination Date</i>	<i>Status</i>
Aiken	Roy	06/15/1946	Deceased - 07/04/2006
Bench, Jr.	John	05/09/1964	Deceased – 06/06/2009
Berberich	Peter	03/22/1947	Deceased – 03/20/1997
Burn	William	05/25/1956	Deceased – 05/29/2009
Condon	Eugene	05/26/1956	Deceased – 05/24/2014
Congro	Basil	06/10/1978	Placed on administrative leave 09/23/2002 and not allowed to function as a Catholic priest
DuMouchel	Raymond	05/10/1956	Deceased – 09/10/2006
Evatt	Thomas	12/18/1976	Deceased – 07/18/2003
Goodwin	Justin	06/10/1940	Deceased – 12/25/1995
Hopwood	Frederick	06/09/1951	Deceased – 04/30/2017
Lee	Walter Pringle	05/19/1962	Deceased – April 1981
McLean	Frederick	05/18/1944	Deceased – 08/26/2010
Moynihan	George Frederick	12/07/1974	Deceased – 08/30/2004
Murphy	Daniel Francis	12/08/1945	Deceased – 07/21/1980
Murphy	Joseph	04/24/1943	Deceased – 08/24/1998
Owens-Howard	James Robert	06/12/1957	Deceased – 12/01/2015
Ryfinski ³	Gerald	04/7/1990	Laicized – April 2007
Seitz	Paul	05/17/1958	Deceased – 08/12/2021
Sheedy	Charles	05/16/1937	Deceased – 07/06/1989
Simonin	John	05/25/1947	Deceased – 07/15/2010
Vaverek	Hayden	07/02/1994	Laicized – May 2016
Williamson	Louis	5/26/1938	Deceased – 6/20/1962

¹ According to the Diocese of Charleston’s *Policy Concerning Allegations of Sexual Misconduct or Abuse of a Minor by Church Personnel (2012)*, a credible allegation is defined as “an accusation which at least seems to be true (Canon 1717, Section 1), and/or offers reasonable grounds for being believed. A credible allegation is not manifestly false.”

² According to the Diocese of Charleston’s *Policy Concerning Allegations of Sexual Misconduct or Abuse of a Minor by Church Personnel (2012)*, “Sexual misconduct or abuse of a minor includes sexual molestation or sexual exploitation of a minor and other behavior by which an adult uses a minor as an object of sexual gratification. Consequently, any act or attempt to commit any act of incest, rape, or a sexual offense in any degree, sodomy, or any unnatural or perverted sexual practice, lewd or indecent acts or proposals, including indecent touching or fondling, exploitation, or permitting, encouraging, assisting, or aiding a minor to participate in such acts, constitutes sexual misconduct or abuse of a minor. Sexual misconduct or abuse of a minor includes conduct or interaction with a minor that is external and an objectively grave violation of the Sixth Commandment. Such conduct does not need to be an act of intercourse involving force, physical contact or a discernable, harmful outcome.”

³ Unlike others on the list, this case involved possession of child pornography.

**Religious Order or Visiting Priests with a Credible Allegation
of Child Sexual Misconduct or Abuse within the Diocese of Charleston**

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Ordination Date</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Status</i>
Castano - Mejia	Juan Carlos	01/25/1991	The Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Ipiales, Colombia, S.A.	Served prison sentence and was then deported
Collerett	Roger	06/19/1943	Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers) - Canada	Unknown - believed to have returned to Canada
Gonzalez-Farias	Jaime	09/09/1990	Visiting priest of the Diocese of San Bernardo (Chile)	Pleaded guilty in federal court 8/10/23 and is awaiting sentencing
Johnson	Anthony William	1962	Visiting priest from the Diocese of Camden (NJ)	Deceased – 03/01/2012
Nyhan	James	1973	Visiting priest from the Archdiocese of Boston	Dismissed from ministry by the Archdiocese of Boston
Palatore Belfiore	Cesare	12/03/1967	Visiting priest from the Diocese of San José (Costa Rica)	Unknown – believed to have returned to Costa Rica
Sharples	James	05/30/1946	The Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Rock Hill, SC, USA	Deceased – 11/28/1974

**Diocesan or Order Priests with a Credible Allegation
of Child Sexual Misconduct or Abuse Outside the Diocese of Charleston⁴**

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Ordination Date</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Status</i>
Dux	John	4/14/73	Diocese of St. Augustine	Deceased – 5/13/21
Gallagher	John	5/26/47	The Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Rock Hill, SC, USA	Deceased – 11/14/76
Kelly ⁵	Robert Joseph	07/13/1974	Visiting priest from the Diocese of Altoona- Johnstown	Unknown
Landwermeyer	Francis	1966	Society of Jesus Order (Jesuit)	Deceased – 09/05/2018
Mitchell	John	05/24/1938	Paulist Fathers Order	Deceased – 12/18/1996
Park	Augustine “Austin”	06/14/1955	Society of Jesus Order (Jesuit)	Deceased - 2013
Smith ⁶	Gabriel “Gabe”	12/12/1982	Diocesan priest	Retired from active ministry – 12/31/2018
Spangenberg	Robert	06/15/1974	Congregation of the Holy Spirit Order	Deceased – 12/23/2006
Tierney	Thomas	09/20/1924	Paulist Fathers Order	Deceased – 12/24/1972

⁴ Priests who served in the Diocese of Charleston, with no accusations within this Diocese, but who have credible allegations of sexual abuse of minors that occurred in another jurisdiction.

⁵Not Monsignor Robert Justin Kelly, who was a Diocesan priest.

⁶ The allegation against Father Smith occurred eight years prior to his ordination and did not involve touching the minor. Father Smith voluntarily accepted administrative leave and removal of his ability to act as a priest pending final resolution of the matter. A subsequent decision by the Holy See in March 2004 concluded that Father Smith was not a threat to minors and required that he be returned to ministry.

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