

JESUITS WEST PROVINCE KEY MESSAGES

Jesuits West Province's Release of Names of Jesuits Credibly Accused of Sexual Abuse of a Minor or a Vulnerable Adult

About the List

- The Jesuits West Province is releasing the names of priests and brothers who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable adults since 1950.
- The Province is issuing this list in the spirit of transparency and accountability. While the vast majority of Jesuits of Jesuits West Province are not on the list, parents should not have to wonder if their children are safe in a church, in a school or in any other setting where a Jesuit may be present.
- The Province hopes that this act of accountability and reconciliation will help victims and their families in the healing process.
- The Province continues to seek forgiveness from all those who have been hurt by this profound betrayal of pastoral care.
- Although there are 111 Jesuits listed over a nearly 70-year period with credible claims, that represents 3 percent of the 3,567 Jesuits during those years. Today, there are seven Jesuits with credible claims, out of 484 Jesuits of the Province, or 1.4 percent.
- Many claims were received after an accused priest was deceased. In those instances, the accused was unable to defend himself or deny the charges. Inclusion on the list simply means a credible claim was made.

How Radical Reform is Making a Difference

- The vast majority of the cases related to the list date back decades. As far back as the 1990s, the Province has had stringent protocols in place to protect minors and, as a result, incidents of abuse have decreased dramatically in recent years.
- Jesuits West has both a zero-tolerance policy for credible claims made against a Jesuit involving a minor or a vulnerable adult and stringent procedures to ensure the safety of minors.
- No Jesuit who has a credible allegation of sexually abusing a minor is allowed to remain in public ministry.
- While even one case is abhorrent, it is consoling to know that the safeguards Jesuits West has put in place are helping to create safe environments.

Toward Greater Transparency and Accountability

While the Province has attempted to be as thorough and accurate as possible in compiling the list, Jesuits West will undergo a review of files in the spring of 2019 to be conducted by former FBI Executive Assistant Director, Dr. Kathleen McChesney, of Kinsale Management Consulting. If additional cases of Jesuits with credible claims of abuse are identified, we will release those names as well.

What to Do If You've Been Victimized by a Jesuit

The Province encourages anyone who has felt victimized by a Jesuit to contact both Griselda Cervantez, Advocacy Coordinator for Jesuits West, at 408-893-8398, and appropriate law enforcement and child-protective agencies.

For Media Inquiries

Tracey Primrose
Jesuits West
(301) 509-0535
tprimrose@jesuits.org