


Hartford Archdiocese identifies 48 priests accused of sexual abuse

 [courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-news-hartford-diocese-priest-revealed-20190122-iaucgkzqbncjmfz4od3zux6aa-story.html](https://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-news-hartford-diocese-priest-revealed-20190122-iaucgkzqbncjmfz4od3zux6aa-story.html)
By Dave Altamari , Jesse Leavenworth and David Owens



Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair Archbishop of Hartford. (Marc-Yves Regis I / Special to The Courant)

When John T. O'Connor retired in 1997 after 50 years as a priest, parishioners at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Newington named their parish hall after him.

On Tuesday, after the Hartford Archdiocese included O'Connor in a list it made public of Catholic clergymen who have been credibly accused of sexually abusing minors, the current parish priest said O'Connor's name would be stripped from the hall.

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"Certainly we're going to remove his name and anything else with his name attached," the Rev. Shawn Daly of Annunciation Parish said.

O'Connor died in 2003, but the abuse scandal that has battered the Roman Catholic Church continues to preoccupy leaders of the faith and drain organizational finances.

Besides naming 48 priests accused of abuse, the archdiocese also announced it has paid about \$50.6 million to settle more than 140 claims of sexual abuse.

Among the priests identified Tuesday is a member of the Hall of Fame for the Connecticut State Firefighters Association, several priests who worked as chaplains at area hospitals and two who have been arrested on criminal charges.

The archdiocese also announced it would hire a retired state judge to review priest personnel files in an effort, according to Archbishop Leonard Blair, to remove the “dark cloud” that still hangs over the Catholic Church.

“I have been a bishop now for almost 20 years and most of them have been overshadowed by the sin and scandal of sexual abuse and its devastating effect on the victims, survivors and their families, on the morale of our priests and on the faith and even the practice of the faith among the Catholic people,” Blair said in a statement released on the church website. “The lingering unhealed wounds from past abuse continue to cry out for further actions and answers.”

David Gianfredi, now 57, who was allegedly abused by the Rev. Thomas Glynn at St. Clare Church in East Haven, said Tuesday’s release of names is a good first step, but those who allowed the abuse to continue by shuttling abusers to other parishes must be held accountable.

Gianfredi, who now lives in Utah, helped Glynn at the rectory after Mass when he was 12. His job was to answer the phone or the door. Glynn used the opportunity to assault Gianfredi, the lawsuit filed by Gianfredi alleges.

“If they wouldn’t have covered things up over the years and handled it like they’re handling it now, and there was transparency, there would be a lot fewer cases, a lot fewer people getting hurt, me being one of them,” Gianfredi said.

“It’s way late, but it’s a good first step toward credibility,” Gianfredi added. “I think the people that were doing the moving, that knew, they need to be held accountable. It’s great that they’re naming the names. But now what about the hierarchy that allowed this to go on, that knew this was going on? We need to see transparency at the next level.”

The Hartford Archdiocese has released names of priests accused of sexual abuse. Here’s who they are and where they served. »

The priests identified Tuesday include: Gregory Altermatt, Joseph Buckley, Stephen Bzdyra, Herbert Clarkin, Stephen Crowley, Robert Doyle, Ivan Ferguson, Stephen Foley, Glynn, Paul Gotta, John Graham, Philip Hussey, Edward Hyland, Joseph Lacy, Robert Ladamus, Felix Maguire, Terry Manspeaker, Richard McGann, Daniel McSheffery, Peter Mitchell, Edward Muha, Howard Nash, O’Connor, Raymond Paul, Louis Paturzo, Arthur Perrault, William Przybylo, George Raffaeta, Edward Reardon, Adolph Renkiewicz, Joseph Rozint, Robert E. Shea, Kenneth Shiner, Edward Tissera, Felix Werpechowski and Peter Zizka.

Twelve others were identified from other religious orders or other dioceses related to allegations that happened in the Hartford Archdiocese. The six from other dioceses are Roman Kramek, Lucien Meunier, Edward Franklin, Bruno Primavera, John B. Ramsay and Jose Rivera. The six priests from other religious orders that were on assignment in Hartford are William Izquierdo, Michael Miller, Robert Leo Pelkington, John Pryor, John Rudy and John Szantyr.

The former hospital chaplains were Altermatt, Ferguson, Glynn, Hyland, McGann, Mitchell, Paul, Raffeaeta and Rivera.

The archdiocese did not specify how many claims were made against each priest nor did it say when the alleged incidents connected to individual priests occurred.

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Blair said the archdiocese has hired former state Judge Antonio Robaina to conduct a complete review of all the church's files going back to 1953, when the diocese was formed. There was no timetable for when Robaina's report would be completed.

"It is a cause of profound sorrow and of soul-searching for me that we bishops, the Church's pastors, have often failed to grasp the spiritual and moral devastation that results from sexual abuse, either in a misguided attempt to 'save' an abuser's vocation or to shield the Church from scandal," Blair said.

O'Connor served as pastor of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Newington from 1969 until his retirement in 1997. That church was merged with St. Mary Church in 2017 to create Annunciation Parish. Church officials didn't reveal the allegations against O'Connor, other than to say there were multiple claims of abuse. O'Connor was named in a lawsuit against Peter Zizka, another priest named Tuesday, who also was assigned at one point to the Church of the Holy Spirit.

Michael O'Toole, a longtime church deacon, said he knew O'Connor as "a nice guy."

"It would be like finding out that your own father had done something like that," he said.

Among the findings released Tuesday:

- Of the 36 priests from the Hartford Archdiocese, 23 are now dead. None are currently priests. The most recently ordained priest to be accused was Gotta, who was ordained in 2006. He was accused of second-degree and fourth-degree sexual assault in November 2013, but the charges were reduced after the prosecutor cited unfavorable pretrial rulings. He later pleaded guilty in federal court to a felony charge of willfully distributing explosive material to a person younger than 21. Gotta admitted to purchasing two pounds of black powder from Riverview Gun Sales of East Windsor and providing it to a 17-year-old. The teen was subsequently found to be in possession of materials to make pipe bombs.
- Of the 48 priests named who have either had civil lawsuits filed against them or have been the subject of claims that archdiocese officials deemed credible are six priests from other dioceses who allegedly abused a minor while assigned to Hartford and six priests from other religious orders. Almost all of the claims were for abuses that occurred before 1990, and \$35 million was paid out to victims who were abused in the 1970s but didn't file lawsuits until years later.
- The average settlement was just more than \$356,000. While nearly all of the abuse allegations occurred before 1990, nearly all of the settlements weren't resolved until after 2000. The highest settlement paid was \$1.6 million.
- Slightly more than half of the \$50.6 million was paid by the church's insurance carrier and the rest came from the general reserve fund. Of the 142 claims that were settled, about 84 percent involved allegations against nine priests. One priest had 20 credible abuse claims against him that were settled for \$10.7 million.

- Blair said that there are no current priests in the archdiocese who have had credible accusations of sexual abuse made against them. However, the archdiocese is paying about \$1,900 a month to two priests who have been sentenced to a life of prayer and penance and the same amount to two others who have been removed from the ministry.

In the past three years, five priests have been laicized, or permanently stripped of their clerical authority. Those priests are Bzdya, Foley, Hyland, Shiner and Tissera, also known as Edward Wamakulasuriya, who pleaded guilty to misdemeanor sexual assault for touching an 18-year-old man's pubic area while administering confession. The archdiocese identified him Tuesday also as Wamakulasuriya.

Hyland is listed in the Hall of Fame of the Connecticut State Firefighters Association [website](#).

"A native of Waterbury, Father Hyland always maintained a close, lifelong connection with the Fire Service, serving in the role of Department Chaplain in many of the communities, to which he was assigned to a local Parish," the site description says. "Additionally, he served as the Chaplain to the Connecticut Fire Marshals Association, for over 30 years."

The Rev. John Lavorgna of Mary, Mother of the Church parish in Waterbury said he will speak at upcoming Masses about Hyland's inclusion on the archdiocese list. Hyland was pastor at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, one of two churches that constitute the current parish, until he was removed from the ministry in 2002 and laicized in 2016.

"We will be addressing it in a prayerful and pastoral way," Lavorgna said.

John Sarlo of Waterbury, a member of Sts. Peter and Paul since 1964 and an usher since 1980, said Hyland was a friendly, jovial man. Sarlo said he never heard anything about allegations of abuse against Hyland.

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In 2001, when the city of Waterbury was reeling from a state takeover of municipal finances and a mayor jailed on charges of sexually assaulting children, Hyland spoke at an interfaith prayer service on the city green. Hyland was quoted in a Courant story as saying he sympathized with fellow residents' feelings of embarrassment. A waiter in Lancaster, Pa., he said, had heard about the charges against former mayor Philip Giordano.

"Unfortunately, we've made news all over the country," Hyland said.

Among the other priests, Bzdya has been sued multiple times and Foley was the state police chaplain who used his position to lure kids into his car, according to his accusers. There were at least 11 claims made against Foley.

Abusive priest still at the wheel »

A priest currently being sued in Superior Court in Waterbury and not on the list is Walter Vichas, who was a priest for 30 years at the Blessed Sacrament Church in Waterbury. The lawsuit filed by Kevin DiStasio alleges that Vichas sexually assaulted him in 1980 inside the church. The case is pending.

A archdiocese spokesman said that there is an "investigation in process and it has not yet been determined to be a "credible claim."

Thomas McNamara, the [New Haven](#) attorney representing DiStasio, said the diocese's release of names is "long overdue, but just a baby step in the larger picture."

"Nowhere is it mentioned that there are efforts to study the reasons why those with sexual desire for children or adolescents are attracted to the all-boys club of Catholic clerical culture. Why does the Roman Catholic Church attract men and women (nuns) with such a disturbed sense of sexuality?" McNamara said. He has filed several lawsuits against the Hartford diocese, including one against Ivan Ferguson in which a jury awarded the victim \$1 million.

David Clohessy, the former director of a national network of priest abuse survivors called SNAP, said Hartford's decision to release the names is similar to what other dioceses are doing across the country.

"It's horribly irresponsible to keep secret for years or decades about potential dangers to our most vulnerable people. Clearly this is happening now for the same reason that virtually every baby step of the church hierarchy happened regarding abuse, and that is intense public pressure on bishops," Clohessy said. "The first bishops did this in 2002. Literally dozens of Hartford church officials should have pushed for and done this, again, years and years ago."


The push for Catholic bishops to release the names of sexual abusers comes from the 1,400-page grand jury report by Pennsylvania's Attorney General Josh Shapiro. The report named at least 300 priests accused of child sex abuse by more than 1,000 victims throughout the state going back about 30 years. Shapiro called it a "systematic cover-up by senior church officials in Pennsylvania and at the Vatican."

"Naming predators is at least some public acknowledgement that harm was done here," Clohessy said. "Tonight, dozens and dozens of deeply wounded adults will be able to put their heads on their pillows and feel 'now it's harder for my perpetrator to hurt anyone else.'"

Victims can report abuse to the Hartford Archdiocese's victim assistance coordinator, Kathleen D. Nowosadko at 860-541-6475 or Kathleen.nowosadko@aohct.org. In Connecticut, Survivors Network of those Abused By Priests (SNAP) offers support groups. For more information about the support groups, contact either Gail Howard at 203-644-0387 or pennyq99@aol.com; Beth McCabe at 860-335-8187 or thirdmccabe@comcast.net; or Jim Hackett at 203-710-0968 or SNAPCT@cotse.net.

Dave Altimari can be reached at daltimari@courant.com.

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 [courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-news-accused-priests-hartford-archdiocese-20190122-dm2jfdtkzncwtcpuz46ciry4ia-story.html](https://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-news-accused-priests-hartford-archdiocese-20190122-dm2jfdtkzncwtcpuz46ciry4ia-story.html)
By Russell Blair

The Archdiocese of Hartford Tuesday released the names of four dozen clergy who have been credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor dating back to 1953.

Hartford Archdiocese reveals 48 priests accused of sexual abuse »

That includes 36 priests who were part of the Archdiocese of Hartford and 12 more from other dioceses who had assignments in the Hartford region.

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Here is that list, along with which parishes the priests served in, and any action the church took against them.

ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD CLERGY



Gregory Altermatt. (Handout)

Gregory Altermatt

- Assistant Pastor, Incarnation, Wethersfield
- Assistant Pastor, St. Timothy, West Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Ann, Waterbury
- Chaplain, St. Mary Hospital, Waterbury
- In residence, Our Lady of Victory, West Haven
- Chaplain, St. Raphael Hospital, New Haven

Ordained on March 27, 1976. Removed from ministry on Feb. 3, 2012. A civil case is pending.



Joseph Buckley. (Handout)

Joseph Buckley

- Assistant Pastor, St. Vincent, East Haven
- Assistant Pastor, St. Agnes, Niantic
- Pastor, St. Therese, Stony Creek (Branford)
- Administrator, St. Mary, Newington
- Pastor, St. Mary, Newington

Ordained on May 21, 1932. Retired on May 14, 1970. Died in 1975 before the single claim against him was received in 2003.



Stephen Bzdyra. (Handout)

Stephen Bzdyra

- Assistant Pastor, St. Stanislaus, Meriden
- Co-Pastor, St. Francis, New Haven
- Co-Pastor St. George, Guilford
- Temp. Administrator, St. Joseph, Suffield
- Assistant, St. Mary, Milford
- Assistant, St. Rita, Hamden
- Pastor, SS. Peter & Paul, Wallingford
- Chaplain, Cheshire Correctional Institute
- Pastor, St. Hedwig, Union City (Residence)
- Administrator, St. Stanislaus, Waterbury
- Chaplain, Cheshire Correctional Institute (continued), while in residence, St. Hedwig, Union City

- Temporary Administrator, St. Margaret Waterbury
- Pastor, St. Augustine, Seymour

Ordained on Nov. 10, 1979. Removed from ministry on July 8, 2010. Laicized on May 4, 2018.

Herbert Clarkin

- Assistant Pastor, St. Michael, Beacon Falls
- Assistant Pastor, St. Paul, Glastonbury
- Faculty, East Catholic High School, Manchester
- In residence, Mt. St. Joseph Academy, West Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, Immaculate Conception, Waterbury
- Pastor, St. Bernard, Tariffville
- Chaplain, with ministry restricted exclusively to St. Mary Home, West Hartford

Ordained on May 7, 1959. Removed from ministry, subsequent to retirement, on April 29, 2002. Died on Dec. 29, 2010.

Stephen Crowley

- Assistant Pastor, St. Michael, Waterville
- Assistant Pastor, Immaculate Conception, Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Bridget, Cheshire
- Assistant Pastor, Our Lady of Pompeii, East Haven
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Derby
- Temp. Assistant, St. George, Guilford
- Assistant Pastor, St. George, Guilford
- Assistant pastor, St. Francis, Torrington
- Pastor, St. Francis, Torrington
- Pastor Emeritus, and assisting in parishes
- Temp. Administrator, Ascension, Hamden

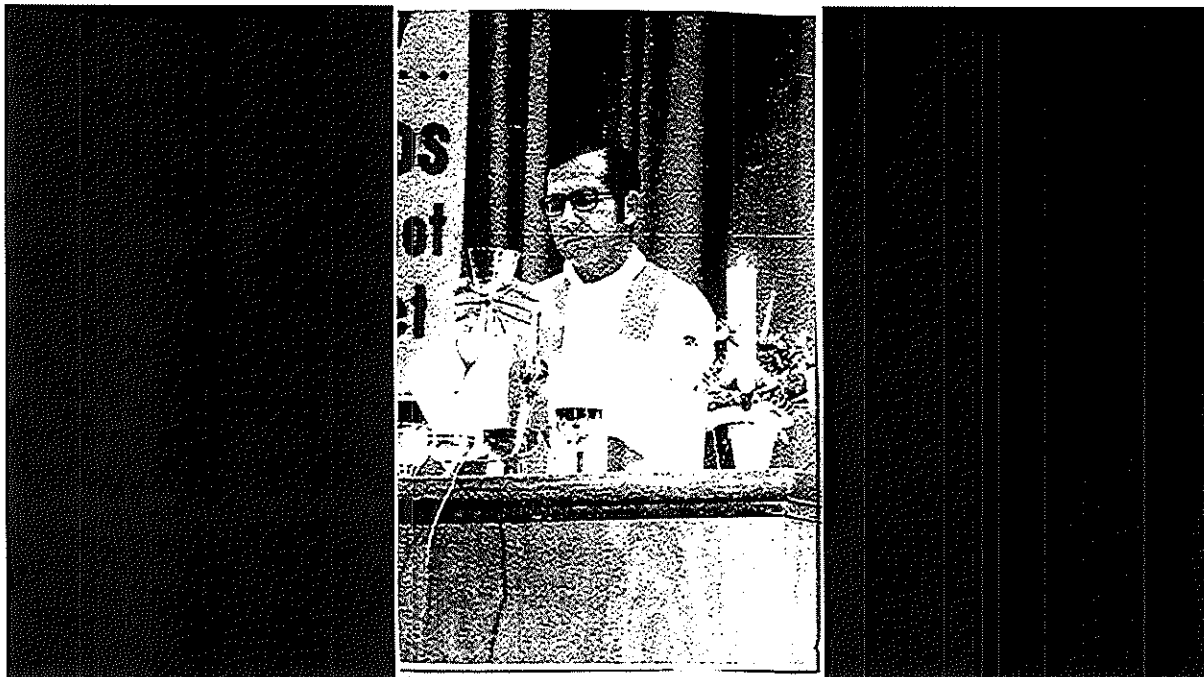
Ordained on May 19, 1955. Removed from ministry on June 11, 2002. Sentence to a life of "prayer and penance" by the Holy See in Rome on Oct. 21, 2015. Died on Aug. 11, 2016.

Robert Doyle

- Assistant Pastor, St. Peter, Hartford
- Associate Superintendent, Diocesan Office of Schools
- Superintendent of Schools
- Pastor, St. Augustine, Hartford
- Pastor, Sacred Heart, Wethersfield

Ordained on May 30, 1935. Died on Dec. 18, 1975 before the single claim against him was received in 2009.

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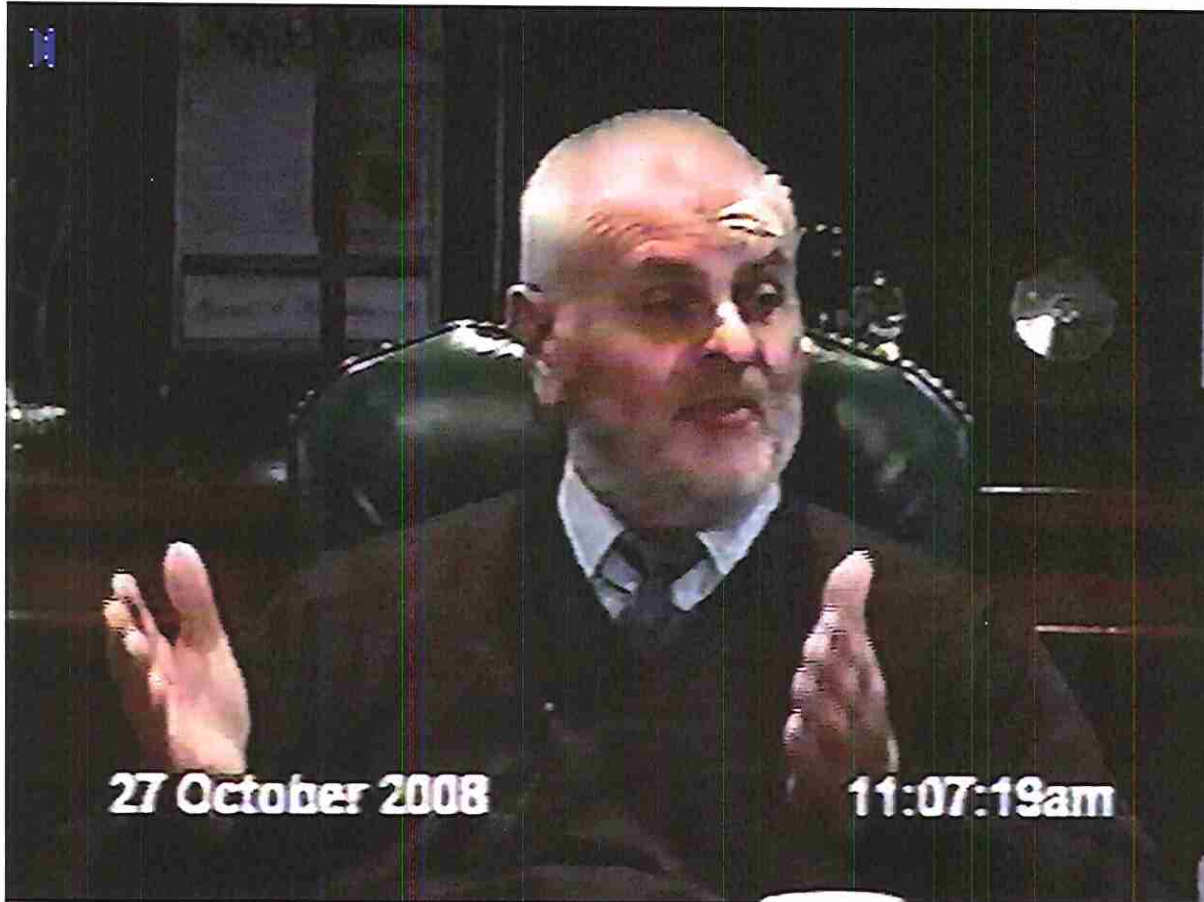


Ivan Ferguson.

Ivan Ferguson

- Auxiliary Priest of the Missionaries of the Holy Apostles in an Apostolic Vicariate in the Diocese of St. Joseph of the Amazon, Peru
- Faculty, Northwest Catholic High School
- In residence, St. Bernard, Tariffville
- Incardinated (became a priest of the Archdiocese of Hartford), Feb. 9, 1979
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Derby
- Assistant Pastor, St. Matthew, Forestville
- Chaplain, Hartford Hospital; in residence at St. Lawrence O'Toole, Hartford

Ordained on May 6, 1970. Removed from ministry on March 4, 1993. Died on Dec. 16, 2002.

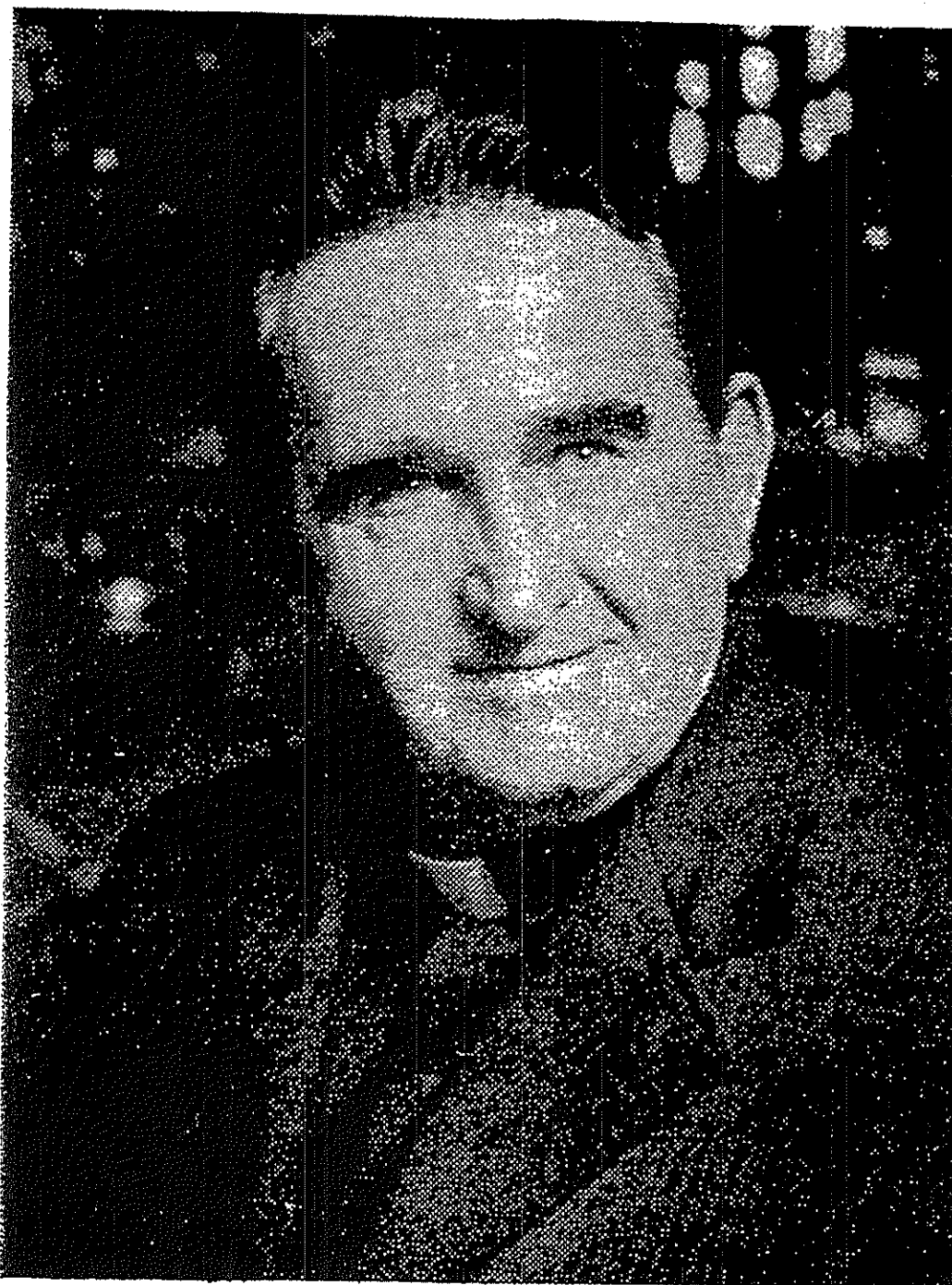


Father Stephen Foley giving a deposition. (Frame Grab off video/Unknown)

Stephen Foley

- Assistant Pastor, Christ the King, Bloomfield
- Assistant Pastor, St. Robert Bellarmine, Windsor Locks
- Assistant Pastor, St. Timothy, West Hartford
- Pastor, St. Dunstan, Glastonbury

Ordained on May 4, 1967. Removed from ministry on Aug. 18, 1993. Laicized on April 29, 2016.



Father Glynn

Thomas Glynn

Thomas Glynn

- Assistant Pastor, Sacred Heart, Wethersfield
- Assistant Pastor, Corpus Christi, Wethersfield
- Chaplain, United States Navy,
- Instructor, Mt. St. Joseph Academy, West Hartford
- Chaplain, House of Good Shepherd, Hartford

- Pastor, St. Boniface, New Haven
- Pastor, St. Matthew, Forestville
- Administrator, Holy Trinity, Wallingford
- Pastor, Holy Trinity, Wallingford
- Administrator, St. Clare, East Haven
- Pastor, St. Clare, East Haven
- Pastor Emeritus, St. Joseph, Meriden
- Pastor Emeritus, assisting in various parishes

Ordained on June 29, 1938. Retired on Nov. 1, 1987. Died on Jan. 25, 1993.



Paul Gotta. (East Windsor Police Department)

Paul Gotta

- Temp. Assistant, St. Margaret, Madison
- Assistant Pastor, St. John the Evangelist, Watertown
- Part-time Chaplain, Sacred Heart High School, Waterbury
- Assistant Pastor, St. Rita, Hamden
- Temp. Administrator, St. Rita, Hamden
- Assistant Pastor, St. Rita, Hamden
- Sacramental Minister, SCSU, New Haven
- Administrator, St. Catherine, Broad Brook/St. Philip E. Windsor
- Pastor, St. Francis of Assisi, Naugatuck – in addition to continuing as Administrator for St. Catherine, Broad Brook/St. Philip E. Windsor

Ordained on May 20, 2006. Removed from ministry on July 12, 2013. A canonical process is underway.

John Graham

- Assistant Pastor, St. Augustine, South Glastonbury
- Assistant Pastor, St. Anthony, Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Joseph, Danbury
- On Leave, One Year
- Assistant Pastor, St. Patrick, Thompsonville
- Assistant Pastor, St. Ann, Hamden
- Pastor, St. Augustine, South Glastonbury
- Administrator, St. Bernadette, New Haven, in residence at SS. Peter and Paul, Waterbury
- Resigned Pastorate
- Assistant Pastor, SS. Peter and Paul, Waterbury

Ordained on Dec. 8, 1931. Retired in 1974. Died on Dec. 11, 1983 before the single claim against him was received in 2003.

Philip Hussey

- Assistant Pastor, Immaculate Conception, Waterbury
- Assistant Pastor, St. Lawrence O'Toole, Hartford
- Pastor, St. Bartholomew, Manchester

Ordained on May 26, 1938. Died on Jan. 17, 1978 before the claims against him were received.

Edward Hyland

- Temp. Chaplain, Hartford, Hospital
- Assistant Pastor, St. Joseph, Bristol
- Assistant Pastor, St. Therese, North Haven
- Chaplain, Hospital of St. Raphael, New Haven
- Appointed Coordinator of the Hospital Apostolate
- Co-Pastor, St. Francis, Naugatuck
- Temp. Assistant Pastor Holy Trinity, Wallingford
- Temp. Assistant Pastor St. Joseph, Bristol
- Co-Pastor, St. Gabriel, Windsor
- Pastor, SS. Peter & Paul, Waterbury

Ordained on May 4, 1967. Removed from ministry on July 26, 2002. Laicized on April 29, 2016.

Joseph Lacy

- Assistant Pastor, St. Ann, New Britain
- Chaplain, United States Army
- Student in Rome
- Chaplain, St. Agnes Home, West Hartford
- Pastor, St. Michael, Hartford
- Chancellor
- Administrator, St. Luke, Hartford

- Pastor, St. Luke, Hartford
- Pastor Emeritus, St. Luke, Hartford

Ordained on March 19, 1938. Retired on Nov. 1, 1987. Died on May 18, 1990 before any claims against him were received.

Robert Ladamus

- Assistant Pastor, St. Francis Xavier, Waterbury
- Assistant Pastor, Our Lady of Victory, West Haven
- Assistant Pastor, St. John Vianney, West Haven
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Milford
- Temp. Administrator, Christ the Redeemer, Milford
- Pastor, Christ the Redeemer, Milford
- Resigned Pastorate, Christ the Redeemer, Milford
- Unassigned for health reasons

Ordained on May 23, 1970. Retired on July 1, 1998 before any claims against him were received. Died on Nov. 8, 2012.



Felix Maguire, is seen here carrying a box from his truck to inside his home Wednesday, July 31, 2002 in Stuart, Fla. (STEVE MITCHELL/AP)

Felix Maguire

- Assistant, St. Augustine, North Branford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Patrick, Mystic
- Temp. Assistant, St. Thomas, Goshen

- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary Magdalen, Oakville
- Assistant Pastor, St. Lawrence, West Haven
- Assistant Pastor, St. Pius X, Wolcott
- Assistant Pastor, St. Augustine, South Glastonbury
- Pastor, St. John Fisher, Marlborough
- On Leave, Three Months
- Pastor, St. Mary Derby
- Pastor, St. Theresa, North Haven

Ordained on May 18, 1950. Retired and removed from ministry in 1992. Died on July 13, 2008.

Terry Manspeaker

(Transitional Deacon – en route to priestly ordination)

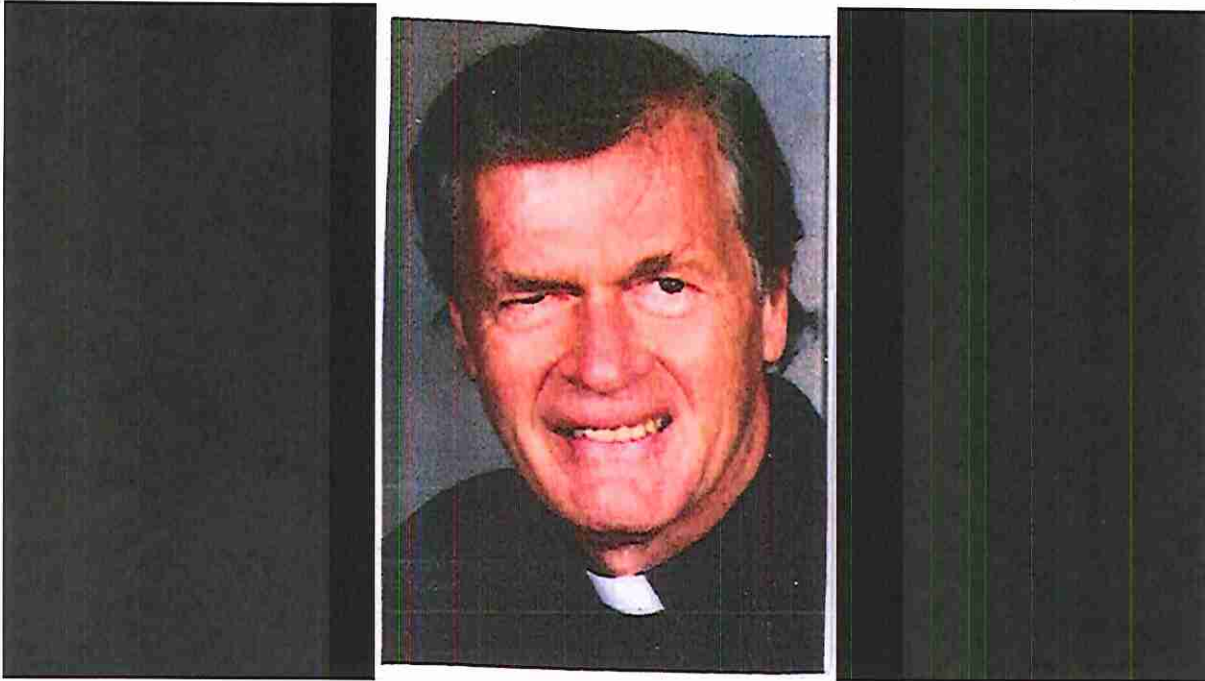
- Released as a seminarian from the Archdiocese of Washington, 1989
- Granted candidacy for Holy Orders in the Archdiocese of Hartford, 1990
- Seminarian assignment, St. Augustine, Seymour
- Deacon, St. Lucy Parish, Waterbury

Ordained on Nov. 24, 1990. Removed from ministry in the Archdiocese of Hartford on May 15, 1992.

Richard McGann

- Assistant Pastor, St. Gregory, Bristol
- Chaplain, Hartford Hospital
- Director Pastoral Ministry, St. Paul High School, Bristol
- Pastor, Our Lady of Mercy, Plainville

Ordained on May 23, 1970. Removed from ministry on June 14, 2005. Sentenced to a life a of “prayer and penance” by the Holy See in Rome on May 24, 2016.



Daniel McSheffery.

Daniel McSheffery

- Temp. Assistant, St. Ann, Avon
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Branford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Augustine, Hartford
- Pastor, St George, Guilford
- Pastor, St. Augustine, North Branford

Ordained on May 10, 1956. Removed from ministry on May 10, 2002. Died on June 15, 2014.



Peter Mitchell

Peter Mitchell

- Assistant Pastor, St. Patrick, Mystic
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Derby
- Leave of Absence for work in Archdiocese of [Santa Fe](#)
- Assistant Pastor, St. John the Evangelist, West Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Aedan, New Haven
- Assistant Pastor, Assumption, Woodbridge
- Pastor, St. Clare, East Haven
- Residence, St. Mary, Branford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Branford
- Chaplain, St. Francis Hospital, Hartford
- Pastor Emeritus, St. Mary, Derby

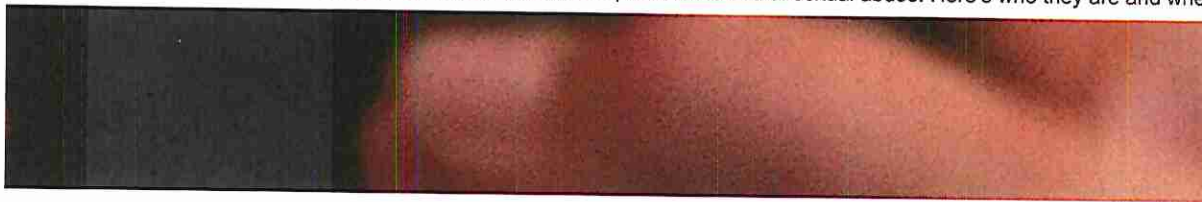
Ordained on May 3, 1951. Removed from ministry subsequent to retirement on Dec. 31, 2001. Died on May 20, 2016.

Edward Muha

- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Newington
- Assistant Pastor, SS Cyril and Methodius, Bridgeport
- Assistant Pastor, Our Lady of Mercy, Plainville
- Assistant Pastor, St. Michael, Waterville
- Assistant Pastor, St. Francis, New Haven
- Pastor, Immaculate Conception, Terryville
- Pastor Emeritus, Immaculate Conception, Terryville

Ordained on Dec. 22, 1945. Died on Feb. 11, 2002 before the single claim against him was received in 2004.



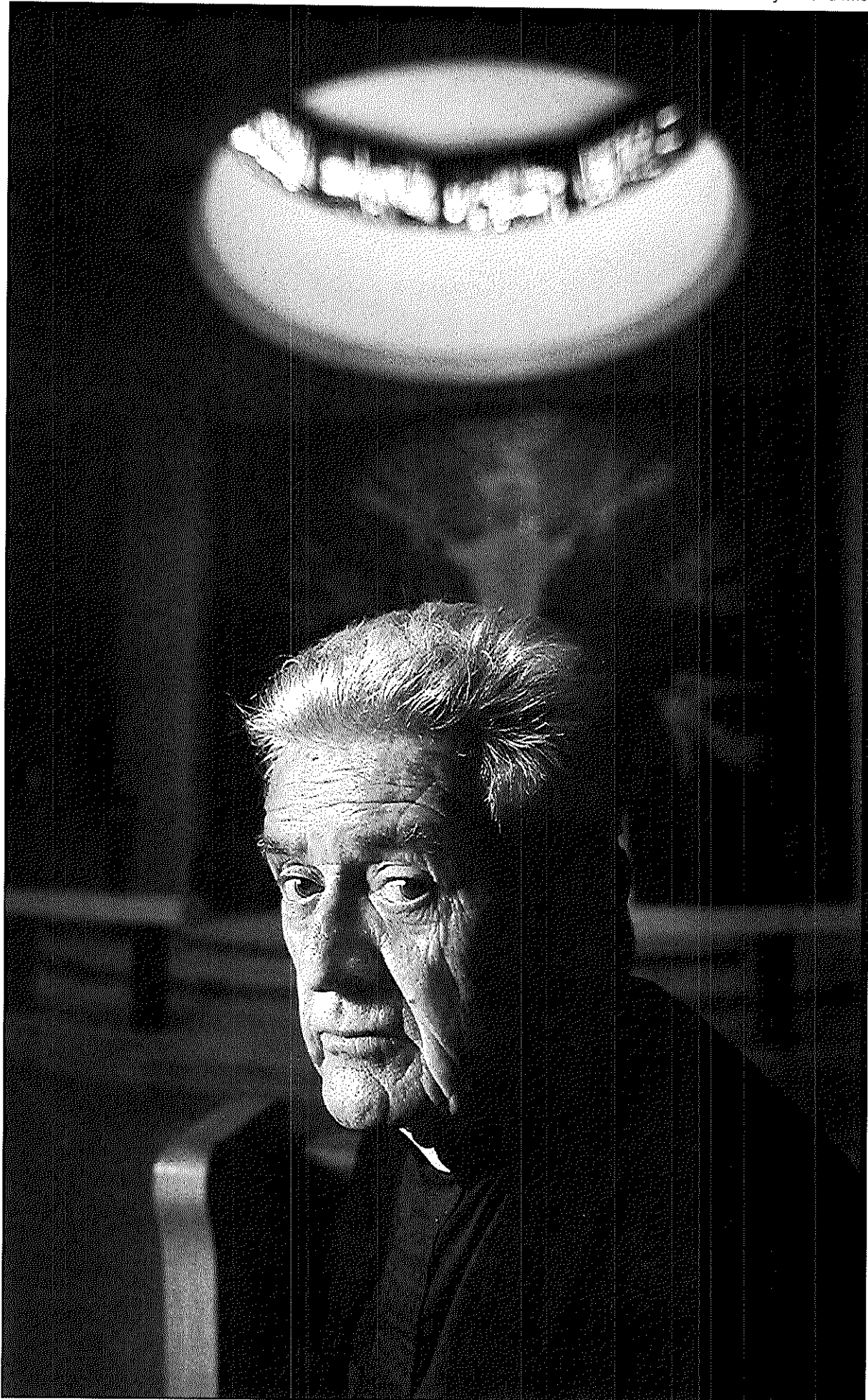


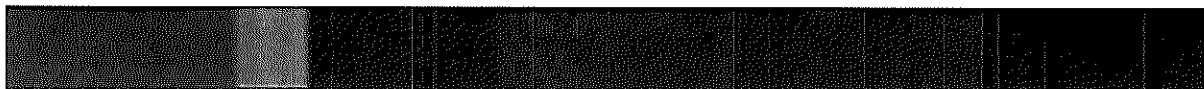
The Rev. Howard Nash at a news conference in a 1977 file photo. (John Clarke Russ/Special to The Courant)

Howard Nash

- Assistant Pastor, Holy Infant, Orange
- Temp Co-Pastor, St. Michael, Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Agnes, Woodmont
- Co-Pastor, St. Bernadette, New Haven
- Temp Administrator, St. Casimir, New Haven
- Administrator, St. Bernadette, New Haven
- Pastor, St. Bernadette, New Haven

Ordained on Jan. 15, 1961. Died on Oct. 28, 2001 before the single claim against him was received in 2003.





The Rev. John O'Connor at Holy Spirit Church in Newington in a 1996 file photo. (STEPHEN DUNN/staff/Hartford Courant)

John T. O'Connor

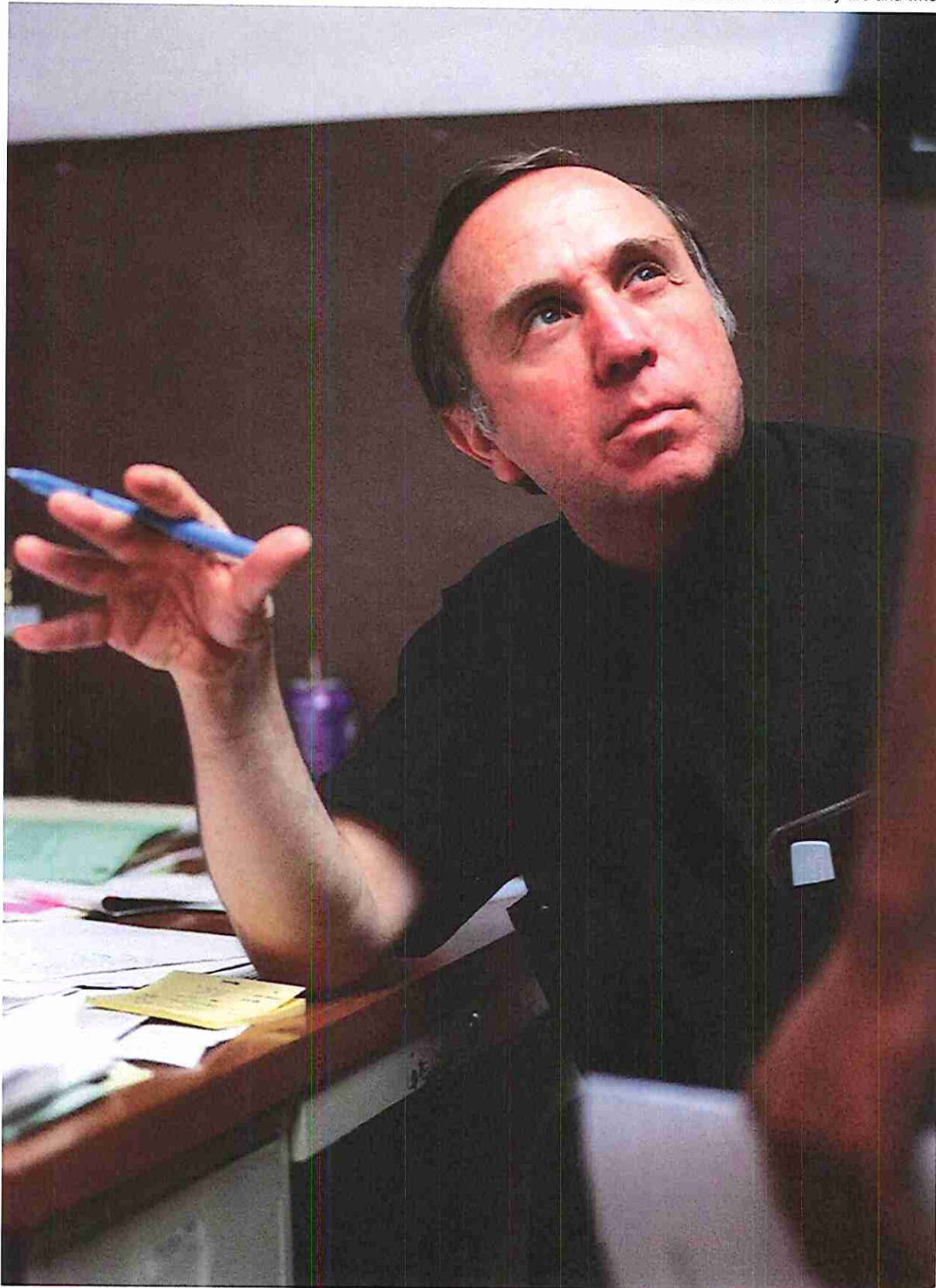
- Assistant Pastor, St. Thomas, Southington
- Assistant Pastor, St. Francis, Torrington
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Newington
- Pastor, Holy Spirit, Newington
- Pastor Emeritus, St. Dominic, Southington

Ordained on June 29, 1946. Died on Dec. 1, 2003 before any claims against him were received.

Raymond Paul

- Assistant Pastor, St. Paul, Kensington
- Assistant Pastor, St. Thomas, Waterbury
- Assistant Pastor, St. Barnabas, North Haven
- Temp. Chaplain, St. Mary Hospital, Waterbury
- Chaplain, St. Mary Hospital, Waterbury
- Assistant Pastor, St. Augustine, North Branford
- Assistant Pastor, St. George, Guilford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Augustine, Seymour
- Assistant Pastor, Holy Rosary, Ansonia

Ordained on May 19, 1955. Removed from ministry on Feb. 21, 1996. Died on July 4, 2008.



Father Louis Paturzo, assistant director of the Student and Family Assistance Center at Quirk Middle School in Hartford, in a May 2000 file photo. (BOB MACDONNELL/Hartford Courant File Photo)

Louis Paturzo

- Assistant Pastor, Sacred Heart, Waterbury
- Assistant Pastor, Blessed Sacrament, Hamden
- Assistant Pastor, Sacred Heart, Hartford
- Temp. Administrator, Sacred Heart, Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Augustine, Hartford
- Temp. Administrator, St. John Evangelist, West Hartford
- On Leave, Two Months
- Assistant Pastor, St Lawrence O'Toole, Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Ann, New Britain
- Assistant Pastor, St. Joseph & St. Anthony, Bristol
- Chaplain, State of CT Department of Corrections

Ordained on May 26, 1973. Removed from ministry in 2002. Laicized in 2008.

Arthur Perrault

- Assistant Pastor, St. Bernard, Sharon
- Assistant Pastor, Blessed Sacrament, East Hartford
- On Leave, Two Weeks;
- Assistant Pastor, St. Joseph, New Haven
- Assistant Pastor, St. Francis, Naugatuck;
- On Leave, Via Coeli, New Mexico

Ordained on May 7, 1964. Removed from ministry in 1965, and sent for evaluation and treatment at a facility in New Mexico.

In 1967, following treatment in New Mexico, Perrault, at his request, was excardinated (ceased to be a priest) from the Archdiocese of Hartford and, at the request of the Archdiocese of [Santa Fe](#), was incardinated (became a priest) of that Archdiocese.



This 1989 file photo shows Father Arthur Perrault in Albuquerque, N.M. Perrault, who fled the U.S. decades ago amid allegations of child sex abuse. (AP/AP)

William Przybylo

- Temp. Assistant, St. Bernard, Sharon
- Assistant Pastor, SS. Peter & Paul, Wallingford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Derby
- Assistant Pastor, Holy Cross, New Britain
- Spiritual Director, St. Paul High School, Bristol
- Vice principal, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, New Britain
- Principal, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, New Britain
- Pastor, SS. Cyril & Methodius, Hartford

Ordained on May 23, 1968. Removed from ministry on Sept. 22, 2008. Sentenced to a life of “prayer and penance” by the Holy See in Rome on Oct. 21, 2015.

George Raffaeta

- Temp. Administrator, Immaculate Conception, New Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes, Waterbury
- Assistant Pastor, St. Bernard, Hazardville
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Derby

- Chaplain, Hartford Hospital, Hartford
- Temp. Administrator, St. Monica, Northford
- Assistant Pastor, St. George, Guilford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Augustine, Seymour
- Pastor, Holy Infant, Orange
- Pastor, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Meriden
- Pastor, St. Clare, East Haven
- Pastor Emeritus, St. Francis, New Britain
- Pastor Emeritus, St. Paul, West Haven
- Pastor Emeritus, St. Agnes, Woodmont

Ordained on May 10, 1956. Retired on Jan. 1, 2001. Removed from ministry on May 23, 2002. Died on May 26, 2010.

Edward Reardon

- Assistant Pastor, St. Anthony, Hartford
- Sick Leave
- Assistant Pastor, St. Joseph, Canaan
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Greenwich
- Assistant Pastor, St. Joseph, New London
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, New London
- Assistant Pastor, St. Thomas the Apostle, West Hartford
- Administrator, St. Bernard, Hazardville
- Pastor, St. Bernard, Hazardville
- Pastor, St. James, Manchester
- Pastor Emeritus, St. James, Manchester

Ordained on May 14, 1931. Retired on June 11, 1979. Died on May 23, 1991 before the single claim against him was received in 2004.

Adolph Renkiewicz

- Assistant Pastor, Sacred Heart, New Britain
- Assistant Pastor, St. Ann, Devon
- Assistant Pastor, St. Casimir, Terryville
- Assistant Pastor, Immaculate Conception, Southington
- Assistant Pastor, Holy Cross, New Britain
- Pastor, St. Adalbert, Enfield
- Pastor, St. Stanislaus, Meriden
- On Leave, Holy Family Monastery
- Chaplain, with ministry restricted exclusively to the Felician Sisters Motherhouse, Enfield

Ordained on May 10, 1956. Died on Aug. 17, 2015.

Joseph Rozint

- Temp. Assistant, St. Mary, Milford

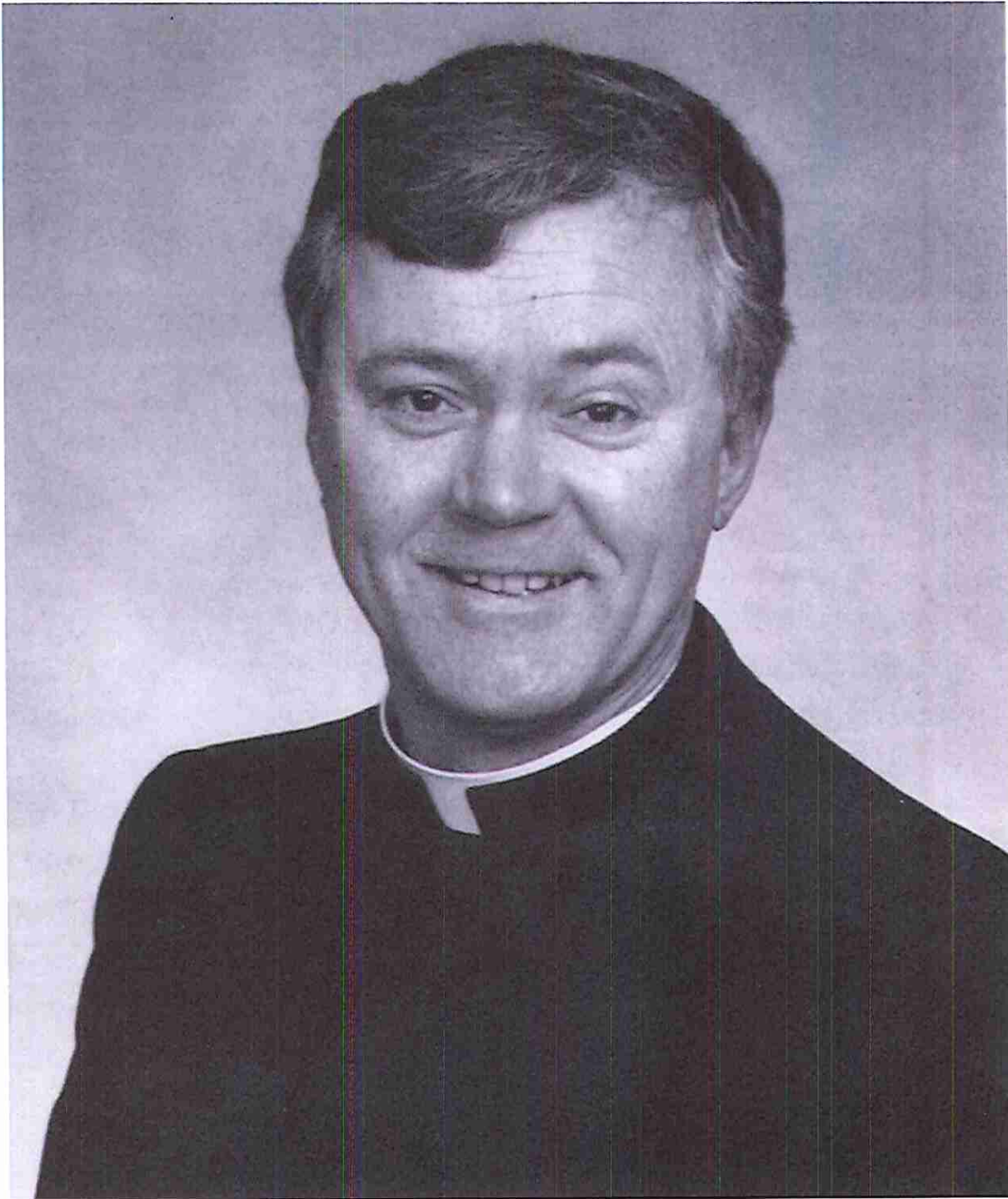
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary, Milford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Paul, Glastonbury
- Co-Pastor, St. Thomas, Waterbury
- Co-Pastor, St. Gertrude, Windsor
- Co-Pastor/Administrator, St. Rita, Hamden
- Pastor, Ascension, Hamden

Ordained on May 4, 1967. Abandoned the ministry in 1993 before any claims against him were received. Died on April 30, 2009.

Robert E. Shea

- Assistant, St. Mary, Portland
- Assistant, St. Patrick, Thompsonville
- Assistant, St. Mary, New Britain
- Assistant, St. Patrick, Waterbury
- Pastor, St. Patrick, Waterbury

Ordained on May 22, 1941. Retired on July 1, 1992. Died on June 21, 1995 before any claims against him were received.



Kenneth Shiner. (Handout)

Kenneth Shiner

- Assistant, Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Brigid, Elmwood
- Assistant Pastor, Our Lady of Fatima, Yalesville
- Co-Pastor, St. Francis of Assisi, New Britain
- Pastor, St. Elizabeth, Branford
- Pastor, St. Mary, Unionville
- Resigned Pastorate, Oct. 30, 2000

Ordained on May 22, 1971. Removed from ministry on June 25, 2001. Laicized on April 29, 2016.



Edward Tissera (Warnakulasuriya).

Edward Tissera (Warnakulasuriya)

- Priest of the Diocese of Chilaw, Sri Lanka
- Assistant Pastor, St. Peter Claver, West Hartford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Martha, Enfield
- Assistant Pastor, St. Joseph, New Britain
- Assistant Pastor, St. Joseph/St. Maurice, New Britain
- Assistant Pastor, St. Patrick/St. Joseph, Waterbury
- Administrator, St. Bernard, Tariffville
- Incardinated (became a priest of the Archdiocese of Hartford), Sept. 29, 2010

Ordained on Jan. 22, 1989. Removed from ministry on July 21, 2011. Laicized on May 29, 2018.

Felix Werpechowski

- Assistant Pastor, St. Augustine, South Glastonbury
- Assistant Pastor, St. Mary Church, Middletown
- Assistant Pastor, Holy Cross, New Britain
- Assistant Pastor, Holy Name, Stamford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Hedwig, Union City

- Chaplain, US Army
- Assistant Pastor, Holy Name, Stamford
- Assistant Pastor, St. Thomas, Thomaston
- Pastor, St. Paul, Greenwich
- Pastor, Holy Name, Stamford

Ordained on May 25, 1929. Retired on May 31, 1971. Died on Jan. 22, 1972 before any claims against him were received.

Peter Zizka

- Assistant Pastor, Holy Spirit, Newington
- Chaplain, Connecticut National Guard
- Assistant Pastor, St. Paul, Glastonbury
- Assistant Pastor, St. Margaret Mary, South Windsor
- Co-Pastor, St. Margaret Mary, South Windsor
- Assistant Pastor, St. Joseph, Suffield
- Pastor, St. Isaac Jogues, East Hartford
- Temporary Assistant, St. Bridget, Cheshire
- Temporary Assistant, St. Jude, Derby
- Pastor, St. Bartholomew, Manchester

Ordained on May 24, 1975. Removed from ministry on March 19, 1999. Laicized in 2001.

RELIGIOUS ORDER PRIESTS AND PRIESTS FROM OTHER DIOCESES

Edward Franklin

- Priest of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, [New York](#)
- Study Leave at Trinity College, Hartford, while residing at Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Plainville, without any record of having been granted the faculties required for priestly ministry in the Archdiocese of Hartford

Ordained in 1962. Removed from ministry by the Diocese of Ogdensburg in 1996. Died on April 16, 2005.

William Izquierdo

- Priest of the Legionaries of Christ, Cheshire
- Served as novice instructor from 1982-1995

Ordained in 1958. Reassigned by the Legionaries of Christ outside the Archdiocese of Hartford in 1995.



In this 2005 file photo, the Rev. Roman Kramek shouts to television photographers, "Show them what you do with Catholic priests!" as he walks into New Britain Superior Court for sentencing for his conviction of sexually assaulting a [teenage girl](#) in 2002. He was sentenced to nine months in prison and ten years probation. (Cloe Poisson/Hartford Courant)

Roman Kramek

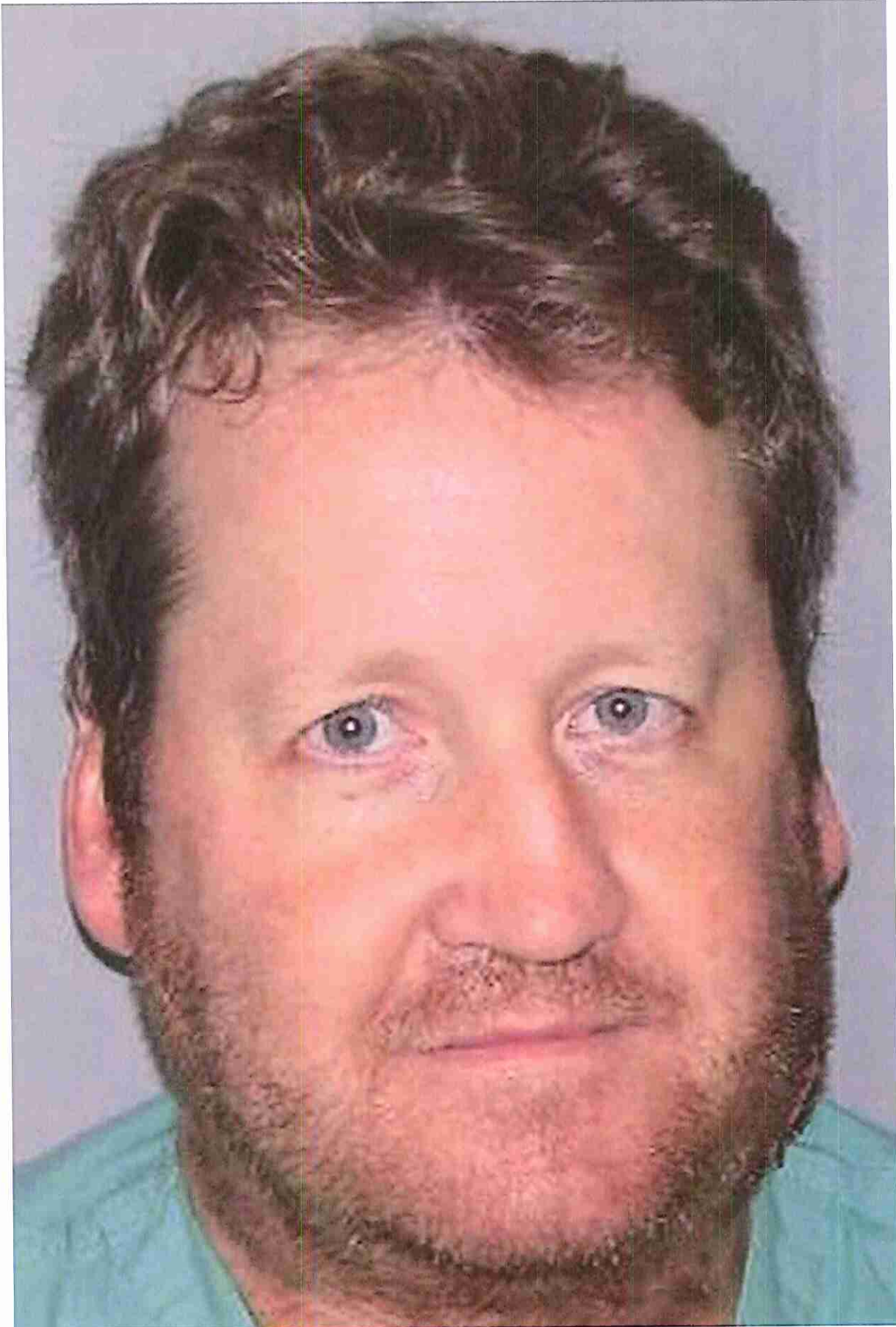
- Priest of the Archdiocese of Warmia, Poland
- "Visiting priest" helping out at Sacred Heart, New Britain in December 2002 without any record of having been granted the faculties required for priestly ministry in the Archdiocese of Hartford

Arrested, removed from ministry on Dec. 12, 2002. Returned to Poland after incarceration in 2005.

Lucien Meunier (aka Luke Meunier de la Pierre; aka Maurice Meunier)

- Priest of the Diocese of Amos in the Province of Quebec, Canada
- "Visiting priest" helping out at St. Francis Xavier Parish in New Milford from 1981 to 1982, without any record of having been granted the faculties required for priestly ministry in the Archdiocese of Hartford

Ordained Aug. 27, 1939. Left the Archdiocese of Hartford many years before any claims against him were received.



The Rev. Michael Miller was sentenced to five years in prison after he admitted in court that he had child pornography on his computer and chatted about sex on the Internet with underage boys. (Handout)

Michael Miller

- Priest of the Franciscan Friars Conventual, St. Anthony of Padua Province
- Parochial Vicar, St. Paul, Kensington/Berlin 2006-2011

Removed from ministry on July 4, 2011 by his Franciscan Superior

Robert Leo Pelkington

- Priest of the Dominican Friars, Province of St. Joseph
- St. Mary, New Haven 1994-1995

Ordained in 1968. Reassigned by his Dominican Superior outside of the Archdiocese of Hartford in 1995. Removed from ministry by his Dominican Superior in 1999. Laicized in 2011. Died in 2015.

Bruno Primavera

- A Priest of the Archdiocese of Toronto, Canada, who ministered in the Archdiocese of Hartford
- Faculty, Northwest Catholic High School, and removed after two months, 1981
- Resided and helped out at St. Adalbert, Enfield, without any record of having been granted the faculties required for priestly ministry in the Archdiocese of Hartford, 1981-1983

Ordained on March 5, 1973. Left the Archdiocese of Hartford in June 1983. Removed from ministry by the Archdiocese of Toronto in 1990. Died on Jan. 17, 2006.

John Pryor

- Priest of the Order of Augustinian Recollects
- "Visiting priest" helping out at St. Bernard, Tariffville in 1967, without any record of having been granted the faculties required for priestly ministry in the Archdiocese of Hartford

John B. Ramsay

- Priest of the Diocese of Norwich
- Volunteered and taught religious instruction classes at St. Adalbert, Enfield, 1978-1979

Died July 26, 1994 before the single claim against him was received.

Jose Rivera

- Priest of the Archdiocese of Tegucigalpa, Honduras
- Chaplain, Saint Raphael Hospital, New Haven 1993-1994

Removed from ministry in the Archdiocese of Hartford on Sept. 9, 1994.

John Rudy

Advertisement

- Priest of the Holy Name Province of Franciscans
- Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph, Winsted, 1993-1998

Removed from ministry by his Franciscan Superior in 1998.

John Szantyr

- Priest of the Congregation of Marian Fathers
- Dismissed from the Congregation of Marian Fathers, 1972
- Assisted in the early seventies at Sacred Heart High School in his hometown of Waterbury, without any record of having been granted the faculties required for priestly ministry in the Archdiocese of Hartford
- Treatment at a facility in Massachusetts, 1975

Ordained on June 8, 1957. Prohibited in 1978 from priestly ministry in the Archdiocese of Hartford after a claim against him was received. Died on May 16, 2014.

All information in this report was provided by the Archdiocese of Hartford.

Russell Blair can be reached at rblair@courant.com.