

2008 CARA SURVEY

SUMMARY OF DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008

The following data represent reports deemed to have the semblance of truth involving sexual abuse of minors against priests and deacons of the Diocese of Manchester. Clergy that are members of religious institutes are not reported here, as they are reported by their religious institutes. This data was reported to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA).

Under diocesan policy in the Diocese of Manchester, all reports of sexual abuse of a minor by Church personnel are reported to the Office for Ministerial Conduct. The Delegate for Ministerial Conduct informs Bishop McCormack and the Office of the New Hampshire Attorney General of every report received, regardless of whether it has the semblance of truth. When Bishop McCormack determines that there is a “semblance of truth” to a report, he immediately provides for the pastoral care of the complainant, initiates a preliminary investigation in accordance with Church law, and places the accused person on precautionary leave pending the conclusion of the preliminary investigation.

The church investigation is conducted by the Delegate for Ministerial Conduct using a professional lay investigator. All investigative material is provided to the Diocesan Review Board with a recommendation from the Delegate and the investigator as to whether or not the report is “probable.” The Diocesan Review Board then advises Bishop McCormack of its findings regarding the probability of the report and makes a recommendation relative to the accused person’s suitability for ministry. Regardless of whether the report is deemed probable, Bishop McCormack forwards to the Holy See all reports of sexual abuse of a minor against priests or deacons that have the semblance of truth, along with his recommendation for its final disposition in accordance with church law.

REPORTS		No.	
Number of reports		5	
Dates when reported abuse of a minor began			
1954 or earlier	0	1985-1989	0
1955-1959	0	1990-1994	0
1960-1964	0	1995-1999	0
1965-1969	1	2000-2004	0
1970- 1974	1	2005	0
1975-1979	1	2006	0
1980-1984	2	Time period unknown	0

THOSE MAKING REPORTS **No.**

Gender of those making reports	Male	5
	Female	0
Who made report to Diocese	Complainant	2
	Family member	0
	Friend of victim	0
	Attorney	2
	Law Enforcement	1
	Bishop or official from another diocese	0
	Other	0
Ages of complainant when reported abuse began	0 – 9 years	0
	10 – 14 years	5
	15 – 17 years	0
	Age unknown	0

THOSE NAMED IN REPORTS **No.**

Number of priests named		4
Deceased, already removed or laicized		3
Were returned to ministry, following resolution of the allegations		1

FINANCIAL EXPENDITURES

Under Bishop McCormack’s leadership, the Diocese has responded to hundreds of requests for financial settlements by survivors of child sexual abuse and has reported annually the total amounts of these settlements. In making any such financial disclosure, the Diocese complies with all requests by complainants that their identities and their individual settlement amounts not be disclosed to the public. Complainants are not asked by the Diocese to observe any disclosure restrictions.

In calendar year 2008, the Diocese entered into settlements with four individuals for a total amount of \$172,500.00 in settlements. Note that the settlement amount does not correlate with the number of individuals making reports in 2008. Some 2008 settlements were related to reports made prior to 2008, and not all persons making reports request financial support to assist in healing. Financial settlements are paid from the diocesan Insurance Fund. No parish, Catholic school, or other diocesan funds have been used to pay these costs.

In addition to the foregoing payments, in 2008, the Diocese of Manchester paid \$26,701.00 to independent mental health providers for services provided to survivors of sexual abuse. The Office for Healing and Pastoral Care coordinates this care and provides referral services as well.