

2015 CARA SURVEY
SUMMARY OF DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

July 1, 2014 through July 1, 2015

The following data represents credible ¹ reports 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. They are reported by their religious institutes. This data was reported to the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA).

Under diocesan policy, 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 Libasci and the Office of the New Hampshire Attorney General of every report received, regardless of whether it has the semblance of truth. When Bishop Libasci determines that there is a “semblance of truth” to a report, he immediately provides for the pastoral care of the complainant and initiates a preliminary investigation in accordance with Church law. If the accused is alive, the bishop 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. For cases involving living clerics, all investigative material is provided to the Diocesan Review Board along with a recommendation from the Delegate and the investigator as to whether or not the allegations are “probable.” The Diocesan Review Board then advises the Bishop of its findings regarding the probability of the report and makes a recommendation concerning the accused person’s suitability for ministry. As required by Church law, Bishop Libasci 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 a final disposition.

REPORTS	No.
Number of reports:	1
Dates when reported abuse of a minor began:	
1954 or earlier	0
1955-1959	0
1960-1964	0
1965-1969	0
1970- 1974	0
1975-1979	0
1980-1984	0
1985-1989	1
1990-1994	0
1995-1999	0
2000-2004	0
2005-2009	0
2010	0
Time period unknown	0

THOSE MAKING REPORTS	No.
Gender of those making reports: Male	1
Female	0

¹ “Credible” refers to “allegations that have been substantiated by a preliminary investigation and are eligible to be sent to Rome according to Canons 1717 and 1719”).

Who made the report to the Diocese:

Complainant	1
Family member	0
Friend of victim	0
Attorney	0
Law Enforcement	0
Bishop or official from another diocese	0
Other	0

Ages of complainant when reported abuse began:

0 – 9 years	0
10 – 14 years	1
15 – 17 years	0
Age unknown	0

THOSE NAMED IN REPORTS **No.**

Number of priests named	1
Deceased, already removed or laicized:	1
Have had one or more previous allegations:	1
Were returned to ministry following resolution of the allegations:	0

FINANCIAL EXPENDITURES

Since 2002, 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

During the time period covering July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, the Diocese entered into settlements for a total amount of **\$247,400**. Note that the settlement amount does not correlate with the number of individuals making reports in this time period. Some settlements were related to reports made prior to July 1, 2014, 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, during this time period, the Diocese paid **\$12,109** 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.