



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE *of* SAVANNAH

The Diocese of Savannah is committed to the protection of minors, as well as to compliance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' [*Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*](#). In a spirit of transparency and the hope of continued healing for the survivors of abuse, I have decided to release the list of the priests credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor. The list below was compiled from the best information available to us at this time and covers the period from 1950 until now.

The list is divided into three parts:

- Priests under the direct authority of the Diocese of Savannah where a credible allegation of sexual abuse has been made involving conduct within the diocese
- Priests under the direct authority of a Religious Order, but assigned to the Savannah Diocese where a credible allegation of sexual abuse has been made involving conduct within the diocese
- Priests where the Diocese of Savannah has not received an allegation of sexual abuse regarding conduct within the diocese, but where a credible allegation of sexual abuse has been made against them elsewhere

The list of credibly accused clergy has been prepared based on the recommendation of the Diocesan Review Board, which is composed of members who are laypersons and not in the employ of the diocese. This board serves to advise the diocesan bishop in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of minors as well as in his determination of a cleric's suitability for ministry following an allegation of abuse. It also assists in reviews of diocesan policies and procedures for dealing with sexual abuse of minors.

The list below will be updated if new credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor are determined.

If you are a victim of abuse by clergy, an employee or a volunteer in the Diocese of Savannah, or if you know of anyone who has been a victim of such misconduct, please contact civil authorities and the Diocese Abuse Reporting Line at 1-888-357-5330.

Along with the publication of this information, I renew my apology for the damage that young lives have suffered and the profound sorrow and anger that our families have endured.

† Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv.
Bishop of Savannah
November 8, 2018

UPDATED: 11/16/18

**DIOCESAN PRIESTS WITH CREDIBLE ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE
IN THE DIOCESE OF SAVANNAH**

Name	Date of Ordination	Years of Diocesan Service	Status
Nicholas Quinlan	5/21/1932	1933–1972	Retired 1972 Deceased 1981
Lorenzo Garcia	6/5/1997	1998–2008	Administrative leave 8/2008 Laicized
Robert Teoli	5/3/1955	1956–1980	Deceased 12/1980
Wayland Brown	7/9/1977	1977–1998	Laicized 2004 20 year prison term in SC (2018)

Name	Date of Ordination	Extern Priest	Status
Michael O’Sullivan		1962–1972	Inactive in Kerry, Ireland
Joseph Reilly	Diocese of Nashville	1964–1966	Laicized 1965

**RELIGIOUS ORDER PRIESTS WITH CREDIBLE ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE
IN THE DIOCESE OF SAVANNAH**

Name and Order	Years of Service in Savannah	Status
Eugene Gavigan, OCS	1958–1960	Deceased 1959
Bro. Robert Murphy, O.Carm.	1969–1971	Unknown
Bartholomew Keohane, SMA	1947–1961	Deceased
S. John Murray, SMA	1959–1960	Deceased
Adolph J. Gall, SMA	1932–1960	Deceased
Austin Martin, SDS	1964–1969	Laicized Deceased
Joseph Smith, SDS	1924–1952	Deceased 1952
James Harold, SMA	1948–1956	Deceased

**RELIGIOUS ORDER PRIESTS WITH ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE
IN THE DIOCESE OF SAVANNAH**

Name and Order	Years of Service in Savannah	Status
Joseph Dean, GHM	Several assignments starting prior to 1962	Investigated by Praesidian (an independent investigator) Exonerated 2004 Deceased 2007

**RELIGIOUS ORDER PRIESTS WITH CREDIBLE ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE
OUTSIDE THE DIOCESE OF SAVANNAH**

Name and Order	Years of Service in Savannah	Status
Robert Poandl, GHM	2008–2012	Recalled in 2012 by GHM for allegation filed in Cincinnati; no allegations in the Diocese of Savannah Began serving prison term in NC (2014) Deceased 2019