REV. JAMES H. COTTER

BORN: JANUARY 24, 1916
ORDAINED: JUNE 3, 1950

EDUCATION: ELEMENTARY: NATIVITY OF THE B.V.M. PARISH
HIGH SCHOOL: LAFAYETTE PUBLIC H.S.
COLLEGE: CANISIUS COLLEGE AND
          ST. BONAVENTURE UNIVERSITY
SEMINARY: ST. BONAVENTURE

ASSIGNMENTS: 1950 - BUFFALO MISSIONARY APOSTOLATE (LITTLE VALLEY)
               1951 - ASST. DIRECTOR CATHOLIC BOY SCOUTS
               1951 - ASSISTANT - ST. ALOYSIUS, BUFFALO
               1955 - ASSISTANT - MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD, ANGOLA
               1958 - PROFESSOR, NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL
                        WEEKEND ASSISTANT - ST. CECILIA, OAKFIELD
               1965 - PASTOR, OUR LADY OF LOURDES, BEMUS POINT

RETIRED: OCTOBER 15, 1978
1979 - SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

DIED: SUNDAY, JULY 14, 1991
SOCIAL SECURITY NO.  

PERSONAL RECORD OF REV. JAMES H. COTTER

NAME IN FULL

Father's and Mother's (maiden) name: James H. Cotter - Irene T. Sunderland

Birth Date and Place: Jan. 22, 1916

Baptism Date and Place: Apr. 26, 1916 Holy Trinity Church, Buffalo, N.Y.

Present Citizenship: U.S.

If Naturalized, Date and Place:

Elementary School—Dates and Places: Nativity Parishal, Buffalo, N.Y.
1928 - 1928

High School—Dates and Places: Lafayette Public H.S., Buffalo, N.Y.
1928 - 1932

(0.6) Hutchinson Public H.S., Buffalo, N.Y. 1932-33

College—Dates and Places: Canisius College, Buffalo, N.Y.
1934 - 1938

Seminary—Dates and Places: Christ the King — St. Bonaventure, N.Y.
1946 - 1950

Post-Graduate Work—Dates and Places: St. Bonaventure Univ., St. Bonaventure
1946 - 1948

Degrees—Dates and Places: B.B.A. Canisius College, Buffalo, N.Y. 1938

Ordination Date and Place: June 3, 1950 Buffalo, N.Y. Can. Ed., St. Bonaventure

Ordaining Prelate: Bishop John O'Hara

Ordained for what Diocese, Religious Congregation: Buffalo, N.Y. Diocese

What foreign languages can you speak? French - Italian

Name and address of nearest relative or friend:

State any special work or assignment and give dates: Cur. Ed. Coordinator, Pastoral Ed., Diocese of Buffalo, 1960-65

COTTER-CDF 00001

Please type answers in full and return to the Chancery Office, Bishop Rock, S.P. Bishop, diocese of Buffalo.
December 8, 2003

Mr. REDACTED

Dear Tim:

I understand that your son REDACTED has filed a lawsuit, alleging that he was molested by Father Jim Cotter, a retired priest of the Diocese of Buffalo who was exercising ministry in this Diocese until his death in 1991. I am very sorry to have heard this information. I would like to offer the availability of myself and/or Bishop Brom to meet with you, and your wife to extend whatever pastoral outreach we can offer.

It is the policy of the Diocese of San Diego to offer a variety of pastoral responses to those alleging sexual abuse and their families, including counseling, group therapy, and spiritual outreach. All of these services are provided at no cost and are offered irrespective of whether or not there is any impending litigation against the diocese.

Please feel free to call me at 858-490-8310. I will be happy to assist in any way that I can.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Steven F. Callahan
Very Reverend Monsignor Steven F. Callahan
Vicar General
St. Vincent de Paul

Liturgical

Alfredo 7-14-91
March 22, 1979

The Most Reverend Leo T. Maher, D.D.
Bishop of San Diego
P. O. Box 80428
San Diego, California 92136

Your Excellency:

The Reverend James H. Cotter, a retired priest of the Diocese of Buffalo, is now residing in your Diocese at 9252 Fullerton Avenue, San Diego 92123 (714-279-9369).

Father Cotter is 63 years of age, but it has been necessary for him to take an early retirement because of an arthritic condition. He is a wonderful priest, and has been well respected by the priests and the people of the Diocese of Buffalo. He continues to enjoy the faculties of our Diocese and is in every way a priest in good standing.

At the time of his retirement, I suggested to Father Cotter that he contact your Chancery Office to make you aware of his presence in your Diocese. I believe he has already spoken with your Chancellor. I am sending this letter so that you will have an official record of Father Cotter's presence and my approval of his retirement plans.

Should Father Cotter desire some supply work, I would have no hesitation whatsoever of recommending him. I know that he misses both the priestly activity and companionship that were part of his life here in our Diocese, but the demands placed upon his health have made this move necessary.

Again, let me say that Father Cotter enjoys my full confidence and deep respect. I would appreciate any hospitality the priests of San Diego might be able to offer him.

Sincerely

Most Rev. Edward D. Head, D.D.
Bishop of Buffalo
April 2, 1979

Most Rev. Edward D. Head, D.D.
Bishop of Buffalo
35 Lincoln Parkway
Buffalo, N. Y. 14222

Dear Bishop Head:

I have your letter of March 22, 1979 concerning Father James H. Cotter.

I am pleased to welcome Father Cotter to the Diocese. Hope he enjoys his retirement here in this area of beauty and of mild climate. We will endeavor to make him feel at home and get him involved as much as we can.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Leo T. Maher
Bishop of San Diego

LTM:eac
April 2, 1979

Rev. James H. Cotter
9252 Fullerton Avenue
San Diego, California 92123

Dear Father Cotter:

I have just received a letter from your Bishop, Most Rev. Edward D. Head, and I wish to welcome you to the Diocese of San Diego. I hope you find your retirement most enjoyable among us.

It is my hope that you will feel free to attend a few of the services and to participate with the priests in many of our functions.

We would be happy to have you join us for the Mass of the Chrism at St. Joseph's Cathedral, 1535 Third Ave., San Diego 92101, at 10:00 a.m. on Holy Thursday.

Looking forward to an opportunity to see you, I am with all good wishes,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

†Leo T. Maher
Bishop of San Diego

LTM:mac
March 22, 1979

The Most Reverend Leo T. Maher, D.D.
Bishop of San Diego
P. O. Box 80428
San Diego, California 92138

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[Signature]

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