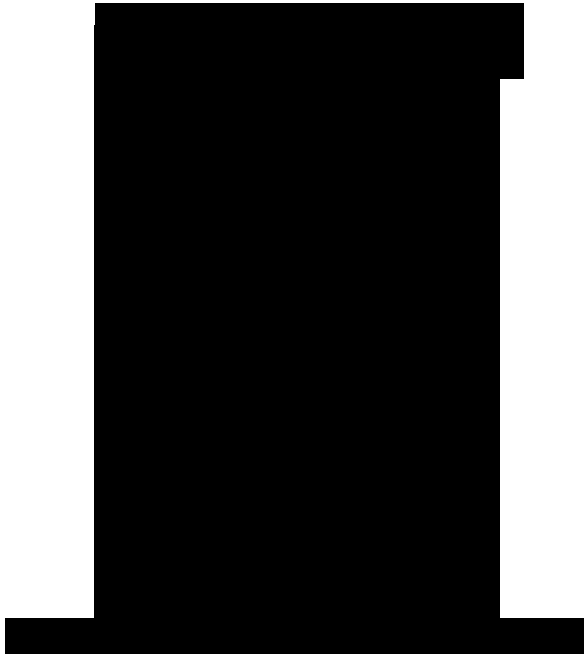


[REDACTED]

Abused by Fr. Ernest Robinson
Location: St. Francis of Assisi in Greenlawn, New York



Background

[REDACTED] was born on [REDACTED] and is currently [REDACTED] years old. [REDACTED] was a parishioner and altar server at St. Francis of Assisi in Greenlawn, New York. [REDACTED] came to know Fr. Ernest Robinson, a priest of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, as his parish priest. On approximately 1 occasion in approximately 1980, Fr. Robinson sexually abused [REDACTED]. At the time of the abuse, [REDACTED] was approximately [REDACTED] years old and in approximately [REDACTED] grade.

Nature of Abuse

- a. **Duration and Frequency:** Approximately 1 incident of criminal sexual conduct.
- b. **Degree of intrusiveness:** Genital touching, groping.
- c. **Control of environment:** Fr. Robinson isolated and abused [REDACTED] in the pool at [REDACTED]'s family home.
- d. **Number of perpetrators:** 1
- e. **Aggravating circumstances:** When Fr. Robinson abused [REDACTED] in the pool, he violently pushed him underneath the water and [REDACTED] feared that he would drown. Fr. Robinson grabbed [REDACTED]'s genitals with such force that [REDACTED] was in pain for hours after the abuse ended.

[REDACTED] was a parishioner and altar server at St. Francis of Assisi, where Fr. Robinson was the parish priest. When Fr. Robinson arrived at St. Francis of Assisi, [REDACTED] admired him both as a religious authority figure and an intriguing adult. Fr. Robinson was young and befriended [REDACTED] and other children at St. Francis of Assisi by using up-to-date lingo and dressing in hip clothing when he was not wearing his collar.

Shortly after Fr. Robinson arrived, [REDACTED] began serving Mass as an altar boy for Fr. Robinson. While in the sacristy before serving Mass, Fr. Robinson wrestled with [REDACTED] and massaged [REDACTED]'s shoulders. Fr. Robinson frequently asked [REDACTED] and the other altar boys to go camping and swimming with him. [REDACTED] always declined these invitations.

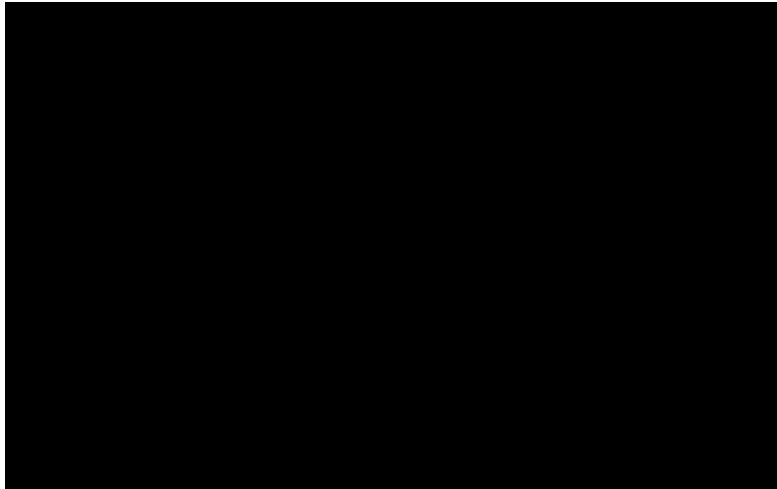
In the summer of 1980, [REDACTED] volunteered as a counselor-in-training at a Bible camp sponsored by St. Francis of Assisi. The camp was located in the parking lot outside of St. Francis of Assisi, and Fr. Robinson was involved in the camp's day-to-day activities. On one occasion, Fr. Robinson arranged with [REDACTED]'s mother to come to [REDACTED]'s family home to swim because it was an exceptionally hot summer. Fr. Robinson volunteered to give [REDACTED] a ride home on that day. [REDACTED] accepted Fr. Robinson's offer. When they arrived at Fr. Robinson's car, Fr. Robinson directed [REDACTED] to sit in the middle of the front seat, not the passenger seat. On the ride home, Fr. Robinson groped [REDACTED]'s legs and upper thighs over his shorts. Fr. Robinson's hands moved closer to [REDACTED]'s genitals as the ride progressed, but [REDACTED] pushed Fr. Robinson's hands away. When [REDACTED] resisted Fr. Robinson's advances, Fr. Robinson said, "What's the matter? I'm rubbing your legs because we're friends. Your friends let me do this to them."

When Fr. Robinson and [REDACTED] arrived at [REDACTED]'s house, they changed and began to swim in [REDACTED]'s family pool. Shortly after [REDACTED] and Fr. Robinson began swimming, Fr. Robinson approached [REDACTED] from behind, wrapped his arms around [REDACTED], and groped his stomach and legs. [REDACTED] resisted and swam away. As the day progressed, Fr. Robinson approached [REDACTED] and groped him from behind approximately ten times. Each time, [REDACTED] resisted and swam away. With each attempt, Fr. Robinson became more aggressive in his efforts. The last few times he groped [REDACTED], Fr. Robinson grabbed [REDACTED]'s genitals with such force that [REDACTED] felt as though he would vomit. Fr. Robinson and [REDACTED] thrashed underneath the water and [REDACTED] attempted to resist Fr. Robinson's attempts to forcibly place his hands underneath [REDACTED]'s swimming suit. The last time Fr. Robinson grabbed [REDACTED] from behind and held him under the water, [REDACTED] feared for his life and fought violently to get away from Fr. Robinson. He was not a strong swimmer, so this was exceptionally frightening; he feared that he would drown. Eventually, [REDACTED] broke free, ran from the pool area into his family home, and told his mother what Fr. Robinson had done. [REDACTED]'s mother ran outside to the pool area and chased Fr. Robinson out of the yard. Later that day, [REDACTED]'s father drove to St. Francis of Assisi and reported the abuse to Fr. Joseph Keyes. Fr. Keyes indicated that the incident was over and that he would do nothing about [REDACTED]'s father's report of abuse. Fr. Keyes later confronted [REDACTED]'s father and accused [REDACTED] of attempting to seduce Fr. Robinson.

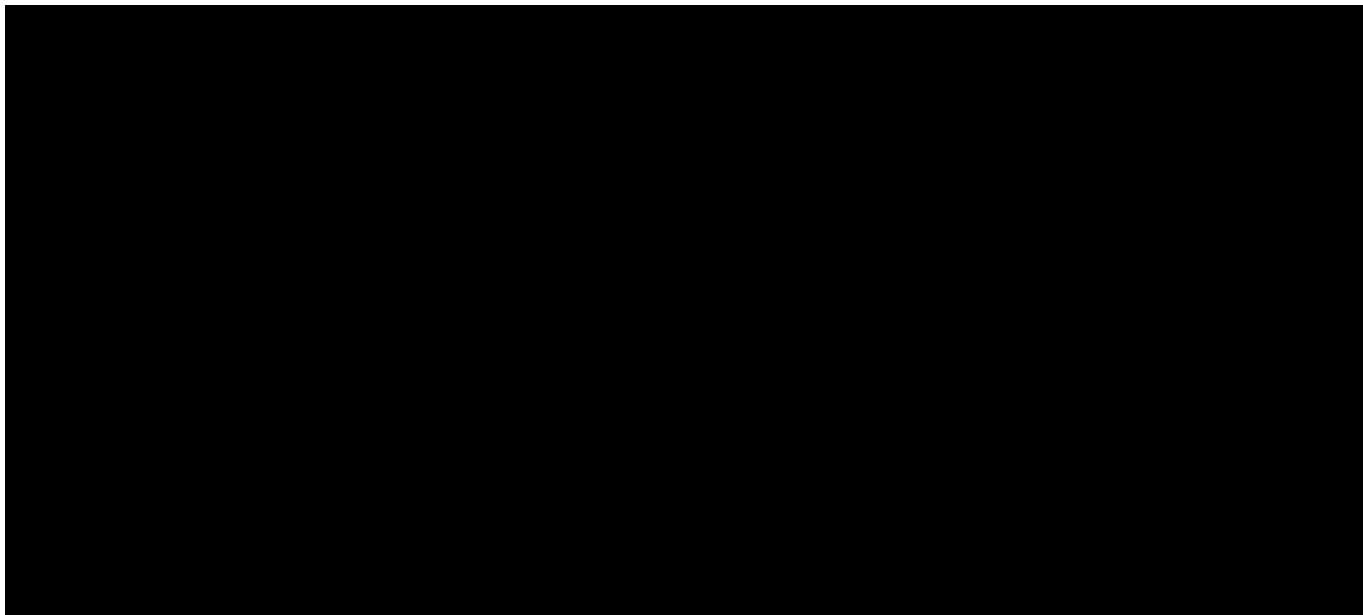
After his father reported Fr. Robinson's sexual abuse to Fr. Keyes, [REDACTED] noticed that the priests at St. Francis of Assisi began to treat him differently. [REDACTED] received fewer assignments as an altar server and was eventually driven away from being an altar server altogether.

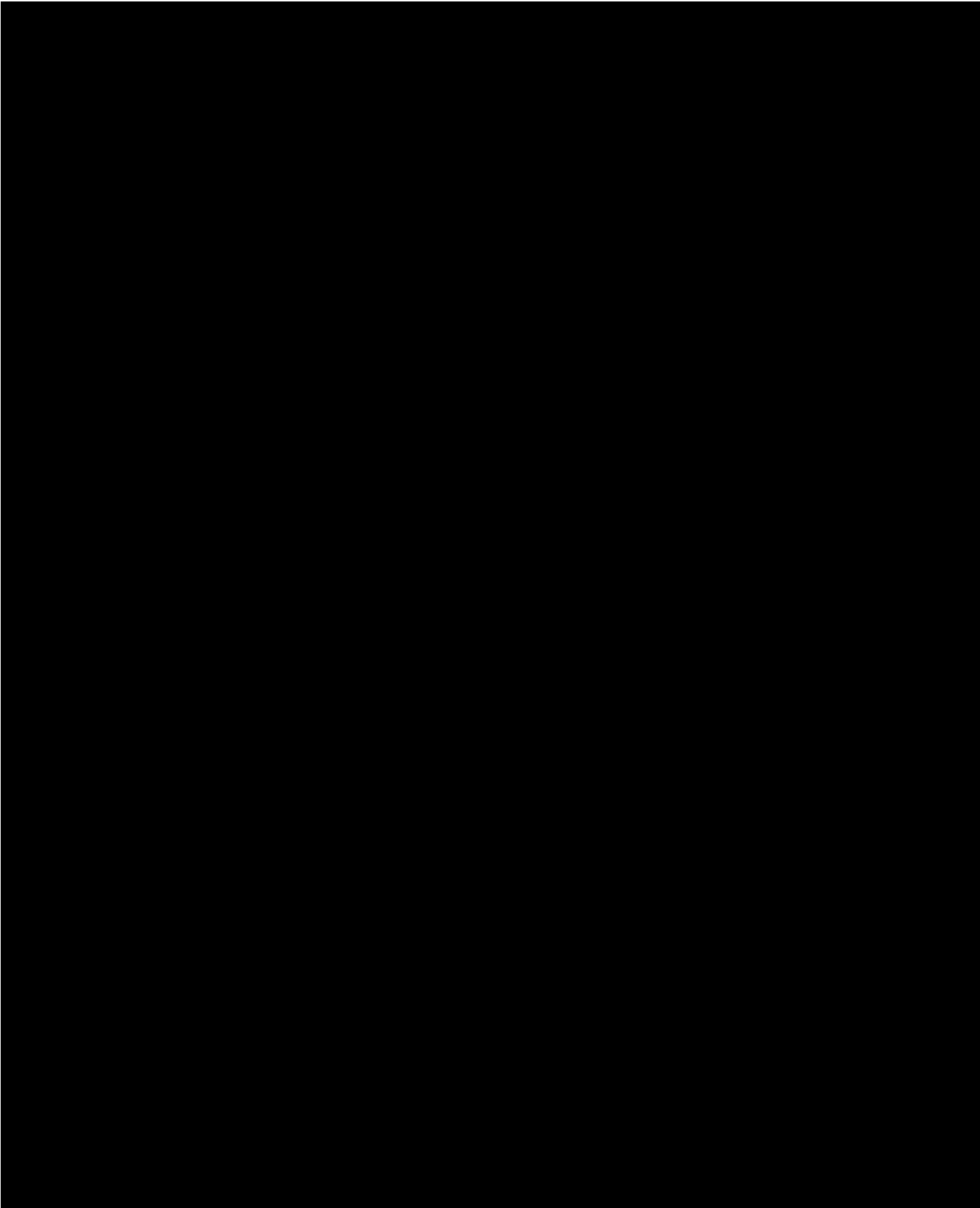
While attending his Pre-Cana before his marriage in 1996, [REDACTED] saw Fr. Robinson. [REDACTED] shared that he saw Fr. Robinson with Fr. John Denniston at St. Patrick's Church in Huntington, New York. Fr. Denniston stated that he attended seminary with Fr. Robinson, and that he had been concerned about Fr. Robinson's behavior at that time. Fr. Denniston told [REDACTED] that he would contact the Diocese about Fr. Robinson and asked whether [REDACTED] would be willing to tell his story to the Diocese. Days later, [REDACTED] was summoned to the Diocese of Rockville Centre and met with Fr.

Robinson, Fr. Robinson's attorney, Msgr. Caldwell, Fr. Denniston, and several other Diocese officials. [REDACTED] disclosed his abuse by Fr. Robinson and Fr. Robinson's attorney asked him questions.



Shortly thereafter, Msgr. Caldwell informed [REDACTED] that the Diocese had offered to arrange for [REDACTED] to attend sessions with Dr. [REDACTED], a therapist who worked as both an employee of the Diocese and a therapist to survivors of child sexual abuse perpetrated by priests of the Diocese. Despite the duplicitous nature of Dr. [REDACTED]'s role, the Diocese encouraged [REDACTED] to undergo sessions with Dr. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] had several sessions with Dr. [REDACTED], during which he disclosed Fr. Robinson's sexual abuse and the injuries he suffered as a result of the abuse. [REDACTED] saw Dr. [REDACTED] for less than a year before the Diocese informed [REDACTED] that he had reached the maximum amount of money that the Diocese would expend on therapy for [REDACTED]. As a result, [REDACTED] stopped receiving treatment from Dr. [REDACTED].







FR. ERNEST ROBINSON

Fr. Ernest Robinson worked at several parishes in the Diocese of Rockville Centre during his relatively short career as a priest. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Rockville Centre in 1979. From approximately 1980 to 1985, Fr. Robinson worked as a parish priest at St. Francis of Assisi in Greenlawn, where he sexually abused [REDACTED].

Fr. Robinson worked at Holy Spirit in New Hyde Park in approximately 1986. He was subsequently transferred to St. Dominic's in Oyster Bay, where he remained from 1987 to 1989. From 1990 to 1992, he worked at Holy Family in Hicksville. Fr. Robinson is not listed in the 1993 Official Catholic Directory.

From 1994 to 1999, Fr. Robinson worked at St. Patrick's in Huntington. In the 2000 to 2002 Official Catholic Directories, Fr. Robinson is listed at Holly Patterson Geriatric Center in Uniondale. From 2002 to 2006, Fr. Robinson is listed at the St. Pius X Residence in Uniondale. Fr. Robinson is not listed in the Official Catholic Directories after 2006. His current whereabouts are unknown.