Crosiers disclose updated list of religious involved in sexual abuse

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06-MARCH-14
revised 28-JULY-14

(Phoenix, Ariz.) — As the season of Lent begins, the Crosier Province, headquartered in Phoenix, today released an updated list of names of Crosiers with one or more credible claims of sexual abuse of minors. The comprehensive list includes Crosiers previously disclosed in 2002 following a third-party investigation, as well as current, former and deceased Crosiers who have credible allegations against them. The release of this updated list reflects the commitment of the Crosier Order to be transparent and accountable.

"It is our hope that this will bring healing, peace and comfort to the victims and their families," stated Crosier Provincial Thomas Enneking, Osc. "Even though the last occurrence of abuse took place more than 20 years ago, the stigma remains for all of us. We pray for forgiveness and the opportunity to strengthen our ministry and service to everyone in need."

We are saddened and ashamed to acknowledge this part of our history. We apologize to all victims, families and communities who have been hurt by the actions of Crosiers who were supposed to be instruments of Christ's love and healing mercy.

The Crosiers do not tolerate sexual abuse of any kind, and we report all claims to the appropriate authorities. We have stringent policies and practices in place to do what we can to prevent sexual abuse. We are very concerned for the well-being of those who have been hurt because of sexual abuse by a Crosier.

In 2002, the Crosier Province hired an independent firm to conduct an audit of allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Crosiers. The following Crosiers were named publicly. Since then, three have died and one has left the Crosier Order.

• Neil Emson, Osc
• Gabriel Guenero, Osc
• Gregory Madigan, Osc
• Bruce Maxwell, Osc
• James Moeglein, Osc
• Thomas O'Brien
• Richard Othlemacher, Osc
• Justin Weger, Osc

In addition to those named in 2002, the following are current, former and deceased Crosiers who have one or more credible claims of sexual abuse of a minor against them.

• Timothy Conlon, Osc
• Cornelius DeVenster, Osc
• Gerald Funcherson
• Eugene Hambrock, Osc
• Joseph Lendacky, Osc
Ron Melancon
Wendell Mohs
Michael Paquet
Anton Schik, osc
Urban Schmilt, osc
Roger Vaughn

There are two names of deceased Crosiers not being disclosed at this time as the claims are under investigation if the allegations are substantiated, those names will be added to this list on our website.

This information reflects what we know today. We have worked with our Review Committee to ensure that we are being as clear, accurate and transparent as we can. We share this information to help with the healing of those who have been hurt by the actions of members of the Crosier Order.

The Order’s ongoing commitment is to also provide and maintain a safe environment for everyone it serves. It has stringent reporting policies and prevention practices in place that are reviewed and updated annually. Additionally, all members of the Order participate in safe environment training each year.

“We need to collectively do our parts to help prevent sexual abuse by church members,” said Fr. Tom. “The Catholic Church continues to confront the reality of sexual abuse of minors by clergy and religious. Many people have been hurt by the behavior of members of the Church community who were seen as trustworthy representatives of the love and mercy of Christ but who betrayed that trust in abusing them. We need to work at repairing the relationships that were shattered.”

If anyone has a report of past abuse, they are asked to please contact our Victim Assistance Line at 480-307-4483 or Prior Provincial Thomas Enneking, osc, at 602-443-7100. Other contact information may be found here.

You may find further information about the Crosier Misconduct Policy and the ways in which the Crosiers are dealing with abuse by its members, including the results of the separate investigation conducted by the law firm of Faegre-Baker-Daniels in 2002, in the Safe Environment section of this website.

It is possible, of course, that other claims of abuse may be brought forward. We will follow our policy in any and all such cases.

The Crosiers are observing this season of Lent by intensifying their prayer for those who have been hurt by the experience of sexual abuse. They have committed themselves to include prayer of lament into the liturgical prayer of the communities in Phoenix and Onamia. This is a long-standing tradition in the practice of our faith given particular expression in the psalms of the Hebrew Scriptures. The movement in lament entails calling out to God; naming the reason for the lament; expressing, sorrow, sadness, and even anger about the situation; and ending with a deepened trust in God’s mercy to heal. Prayer of lament will be incorporated into the penitential act during certain celebrations of the conventual Eucharist and Evening Prayer for the healing of those who have been hurt.

View the list in its entirety.
The name Crosier is derived from the French word croisés—signed with the cross. We bear the crusader cross on our habit as a sign of our devotion to the Paschal Mystery of Christ’s passion, death and resurrection.

There are more than 400 Crosiers today worldwide. We have two large, vibrant communities in the United States—one in Phoenix, Arizona, and the other in Onamia, Minnesota.
EIGHT CROSNIERS PUBLICLY NAMED BY THE ORDER IN OCTOBER 2002

NAME: Neil Emon, osc
Date of birth: 11/20/1940
Date of ordination: 06/03/1967
Prior assignments:
- Assistant Novice Master, Hastings, Neb., 1967–71
- Prior, Crosier Community of Hastings, Neb., 1971–74
- Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1974–80
- Weekend priest/spiritual director, Central Minnesota TEC Program, 1978–88
- Pastor, St. Peter, St. Cloud, Minn., 1980–89
- Prior, Crosier Community of Phoenix, 2000–2002
Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: 5/28/2002
Current location: Onamia, living under safety plan
Current status: Retired; no priestly faculties

NAME: Gabriel Guerrero, osc
Date of birth: 01/03/1935
Date of first profession: 03/19/1953
Prior assignments:
- Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1953–55
- Our Lady of the Lake Seminary, Syracuse, Ind., 1955–57
- Crosier Community of Hastings, Neb., 1957–58
- Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1958–79
- Crosier Community of Hastings, Neb., 1979–1990
- Crosier Community of New Rochelle, N.Y., 1990–2000
- Crosier Community of Phoenix, 2000–present
Date removed from work with minors: 1990
Current location: Phoenix, living under safety plan
Current status: Retired

NAME: Gregory Madigan, osc
Date of birth: 08/01/1935
Date of first profession: 03/19/1956
Prior assignments:
- Crosier Community of Hastings, Neb., 1955–58
- Wawasee Prep, Syracuse, Ind., 1958–1960
- Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1961–1987
- Sabbatical, 1988
- Crosier Community of Chicago, 1988–1990
- Crosier Community of New Rochelle, N.Y., 1990–2000
- Crosier Community of Shoreview, Minn., 2000–2003
- Crosier Community of Phoenix, Ariz., 2004–present
Date removed from work with minors: 1988
Current location: Phoenix, living on safety plan
Current status: Retired
NAME: Bruce Maxwell, osc
Date of birth: 12/11/1939
Date of ordination: 05/10/1975
Prior assignments:
- Deacon, St. Columban’s Parish, Birmingham, Mich., 1974–75
- Mission Director, Hastings, Neb., 1975–82
- Pastor, Sacred Heart, Kenesaw, Neb., 1977–82
- Parochial Vicar, St. Cyprian’s, Riverview, Mich., 1983–84
- Project Director, Archdiocesan Computer Development Program, Detroit, Mich., 1984–86
- Weekend assistance, Archdiocese of Detroit, 1984–87
- Superior, Crosier Community of Riverview, Mich., 1986–89
- Director of Religious Services, Gabriel Richard High School, Riverview, Mich., 1986–89
- Parochial Vicar, St. Cyprian’s, Riverview, Mich., 1987–89
- Chaplain, U.S. Coast Guard, Petaluma, Calif., 1989–1992
- Chaplain, Naval Support Unit, Manama, Bahrain, 1992–1994
- Chaplain, Destroyer Squadron 8, Mayport, Fla., 1994–1996
- Chaplain, Destroyer Squadron 14, Mayport, Fla. 1996
- Chaplain, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan, 1996–1998
- Chaplain, Marine Corps Air Station, Jacksonville, N.C., 1998–2001
- Chaplain, Marines, Okinawa, Japan, 2001–2002
- Crosier Community of Phoenix, 2002–death
Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: 9/9/2002
Current status: Deceased (02/17/2006)

NAME: James Moeglein, osc
Date of birth: 01/05/1943
Date of ordination: 05/31/1970
Prior assignments:
- Deacon, St. Mary’s, St. Cloud, Minn., Summer 1969–70
- St. Mary’s Deaconate, Weekend Work, Ottoville, Ohio, 1969–70
- Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1970–78
- Weekend priest/spiritual director, Central Minnesota TEC Program, 1978–88
- Weekend assistance (Most often in parishes in the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis), 1970–1988
- Prior, Crosier Community of Onamia, Minn., 1978–84
- Weekend assistance, Maternity of Mary parish, St. Paul, Minn., 1988–89
- Parochial Vicar, St. Cyprian’s Parish, Riverview, Mich., 1989–90
- Prior, Crosier Community of Hastings, Neb., 1990–1999
- Crosier Community of Onamia, 2000–present
Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: 6/1/2002
Current location: Onamia, living under safety plan
Current status: No priestly faculties

NAME: Thomas O’Brien
Date of birth: 10/29/1946
Date of ordination: 05/11/1974
Prior assignments:
- Deacon/Teaching, Huntington, Ind., 1972–1973
- Faculty/Dean of Students, Wawasee Prep, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1974–1975
- Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1975–1988
- Provincial Econome, Shoreview, Minn., 1994–2001
- General Econome, Rome, 1999–2007

Limited interaction with minors: 1989
Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: 10/4/2002
Current location: Ohio
Current status: Dismissed 08/05/2008; no priestly faculties

NAME: Richard Ohlemacher, osc
Date of birth: 03/10/1922
Date of ordination: 05/28/1955
Prior assignments:
- Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1956–59
- Our Lady of the Lake Seminary, Syracuse, Ind., 1959–75
- Parochial Vicar, Immaculate Conception, Three Rivers, Mich. (with missions at St. Joseph in White Pigeon and St. Clare in Centreville), 1975–79
- Crosier Ministry Center, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1979–82
- Parochial Vicar, St. Michael, Plymouth, Ind., 1982–87
- Parochial Vicar, St. Louis the King, Glendale, Ariz., 1987–92
- Crosier Community of Phoenix, Ariz., 1990–death

Retired: 7/1/1992
Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: 6/1/2002
Current status: Deceased (07/29/2005)

NAME: Justin Weger, osc
Date of birth: 04/21/1925
Date of ordination: 06/07/1952
Prior assignments:
- Summer Assistance, Our Lady of the Lake Seminary, Syracuse, Ind., 1953
- Associate, St. Mathias, Fort Ripley, Minn., 1953–54
- Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1954–57
- Pastor, St. Therese, Vineland, Minn., 1957–67
- Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1967–72
- Pastor, Prince of Glory Catholic Indian Church, Minneapolis, Minn., 1971–72
- Crosier House of Studies, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1972–73
- Social Services Consultant, Fort Wayne Housing Authority, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1973–74
- Weekend assistance, Diocese of Gallup (New Mexico and Arizona), 1974–75
- Parochial Vicar, St. Mary Church, Sells, Ariz., 1975–76
- Crosier Community of Phoenix, Ariz., 2002–death

Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: Priestly faculties withdrawn 1976
Current status: Deceased (1/15/2005)
OTHER CROSNIERS (CURRENT, FORMER AND DECEASED) WITH ONE OR MORE CREDIBLE ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

NAME: Timothy Conlon, osc
Date of birth: 03/23/1949
Date of ordination: 06/02/1979
Prior assignments:
- Retreat Director, Ministry Center, Hastings Neb., 1979–85
- Campus Ministry Director, Iona College, New Rochelle N.Y., 1985–92
- Chaplain, St. Vincent’s Hospital, New York City, 1992–96
- Pastor, St. Angela Merici Church, Bronx, N.Y., 1996–2000
- Canonical Pastor, Sacred Heart, Phoenix, Ariz., 2003–2010
- Administrator, St. John the Baptist, St. Johns, Ariz., 2011–January 2014
Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: 11/25/2014
Current location: Arizona
Current status: No priestly faculties

NAME: Cornelius DeVenster, osc
Date of birth: 12/12/1907 (Nijmegen, the Netherlands)
Date of ordination: 01/08/1933
Prior assignments:
- Crosier Community of Hastings, Neb., 1934–47
- Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1947–60
- Crosier Community of White Plains, N.Y., 1960–68
- Crosier Community of New Rochelle, N.Y., 1968–71
- Crosier House of Studies, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1971–73
- Chaplain, St. Joseph Hospital, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1971–73
- Weekend assistance, St. Mary, Van Wert, Ohio, 1974–83
Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: Deceased at time of allegation
Current status: Deceased (12/25/88)

NAME: Gerald Funcheon
Date of birth: 07/22/1938
Date of ordination: 05/22/1965
Prior assignments:
- Teacher, St. Cecilia High School, Hastings, Neb., 1965–66
- Teacher and Athletic Director, Our Lady of the Lake Seminary, Syracuse, Ind., 1966–69
- Graduate student/Weekend Pastoral Assistance, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind., 1969–70
- Assistant Pastor/Teacher, St. Odilia Church, Shoreview, Minn., 1970–73
- Teacher/Prefect of Discipline, Wawasee Preparatory, Syracuse, Ind., 1973–75
- Teacher, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., 1975–76
- Parochial Vicar, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., 1975–76
- Catholic Chaplain on Active Duty, United States Air Force, San Antonio, Texas, and Wilford Hall Hospital, Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany, 1976–79
- Teacher/Prefect of Discipline, Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1979–80
- Teacher/Spiritual Director, Cathedral High School, St. Cloud, Minn., 1980–82
- Teacher, Damien High School, Honolulu, Hawaii, 1982–84
• Chaplain to Christian Brothers/Teacher, Palma High School, Salinas, Calif., 1984–85
• Parochial Vicar, St. Stephen, Anoka, Minn., 1985–86
• Teacher, Central Catholic High School, Lafayette, Ind., 1986–87

Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: 4/1/1993
Status: Dispensed from vows on 6/25/1987; incardinated into Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana on 7/31/1987
Current location: Missouri
Current status: No priestly faculties

NAME:  Eugene Hambrock, osc
Date of birth:  02/12/1926
Date of first profession: 01/01/1947
Prior assignments:
• Crosier House of Studies, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1947–54
• Our Lady of the Lake, Syracuse, Ind., 1954–58
• Crosier Community of White Plains, N.Y., 1958–62
• Crosier Community of Fort Wayne, Ind., 1962–64
• Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1964–67
• Crosier Community of Hastings, Neb., 1967–72
• Crosier Community of Fort Wayne, Ind., 1972–85
• TEC, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1982–85
• Crosier Community of Onamia, Minn., 1985–87
• Crosier Community of Hastings, Neb., 1987–death
Current status: Deceased (01/30/1999)

NAME:  Joseph Lendacky, osc
Date of birth:  06/14/1918
Date of ordination: 06/08/1945
Prior assignments:
• Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1946–48
• Crosier Monastery, Hastings, Neb., 1949–50
• Crosier Seminary and Community, Onamia, Minn., 1950–death
Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: Deceased at time of allegation
Current status: Deceased (05/31/1989)

NAME:  Ron Melancon
Date of birth:  3/15/1944
Date of first profession: 12/28/1972
Prior assignments:
• Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1972–75
• Crosier Community of Fort Wayne, Ind., 1975–78
• Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1978–80
Date removed from work with minors: Was not a member of the Order at the time of allegation
Current location: Louisiana
Current status: Left the Order in 1980; dispensed from vows on 9/21/1989

NAME:  Wendell Mohs
Date of birth:  2/18/1952
Date of first profession: 8/21/1974
Prior assignments:
• Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1974–80
• Weekend retreat staff, Central Minnesota TEC Program, 1979–82
• Pastoral Ministry, Epiphany parish, Coon Rapids, Minn., 1980–82
• Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1982

Date removed from work with minors: Was not a member of the Order at the time of allegation
Current location: Minnesota
Current status: Left the Order on 11/1/1982; dispensed from vows on 9/17/1987

NAME: Michael Paquet
Date of birth: 04/01/1946
Date of ordination: 05/28/1978
Prior assignments:
• Deacon Internship, St. Odilia Parish, Shoreview, Minn., 1977–78
• Parochial Vicar, St. Odilia Parish, Shoreview, Minn., 1978–79
• Ministry Center Retreat Director, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1979–85
• Spirit Alive TEC Youth Minister/Diocese of Fort Wayne/South Bend, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1983–85
• Province Formation Director (Pre-Novitiate), Shoreview, Minn., 1985–87
• Superior, Crosier Community of Shoreview, Shoreview, Minn., 1986–89
• Weekend assistance, Archdiocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis (including Nativity of Mary, Bloomington, Minn.), 1985–87
• Parochial Vicar, St. Odilia, Shoreview, Minn., 1987–89
• Parochial Vicar/Administrator/Pastor, St. Stephen Parish, Anoka, Minn., 1989–2001
• Sabbatical 2001–2002
• Pre-Novitiate Residence, St Paul, Minn., 2002–11/18/2002
• Exclaustration 11/18/2002–05/18/2004

Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: 11/18/2002
Current location: Canada
Current status: Dismissed 09/16/2005

NAME: Anton Schik, osc
Date of birth: 2/5/1915
Date of first profession: 1/4/1934
Prior assignments:
• Crosier Seminary and Monastery, Onamia, Minn., 1932–48
• Wawasee Prep, Syracuse, Ind., 1948–71 (his death)

Date removed from work with minors: Deceased at time of allegation
Current status: Deceased (12/22/1971)

NAME: Urban Schmitt, osc
Date of birth: 07/19/1919
Date of ordination: 05/04/1949
Prior assignments:
• Parochial Vicar, St. Vincent, Elkhart, Ind., 1950–53
• Pastor, St. Ann, Doniphan, Neb., and St. Patrick, Highland, Neb., 1953–58
• Our Lady of the Lake Seminary, Syracuse, Ind., 1958–64
• Pastor, Holy Family, Moose Lake, Minn., & Holy Trinity, Barnum, Minn., 1964–66
• Parochial Vicar, St. Odilia, Shoreview, Minn., 1966–73

Administrator, St. Anthony, Cedar Rapids, Neb., and Mission of St. Mary, Primrose, Neb., 1997–98

Crosier Community of Hastings, Neb., 1998–death

Retired: 1994
Current status: Deceased (7/20/1999)

NAME: Roger Vaughn
Date of birth: 06/16/1948
Date of ordination: 05/14/1977

Prior assignments:

• Deacon, St. Cyprian, Riverview, Mich., 1976–77
• Crosier Seminary, Onamia, Minn., 1977–80
• Weekend priest/spiritual director, Central Minnesota TEC Program, 1979–84
• Parochial Vicar, St. Peter, St. Cloud, Minn., 1980–84
• Parochial Vicar, St. Sabina, Chicago, Ill., 1984–87
• Chaplain, Iona Grammar School, New Rochelle, N.Y., 1987–92
• Campus ministry, College of Mt. St. Vincent, Bronx, N.Y., 1987–89
• Campus ministry, Manhattanville College, Purchase, N.Y., 1989–93
• Chaplain, Christian Brothers Residence, New Rochelle, N.Y., 1993–96
• St. Elizabeth Ann Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, Staten Island, N.Y., 1997–99
• Director of Pastoral Care/Substance Abuse Counselor, Sisters of Charity Healthcare System, Staten Island, N.Y., 1999–2001

Date removed from ecclesiastical ministry: 10/6/2000
Current location: New York
Current status: Dismissed 11/27/2001; no longer a member of the Roman Catholic Church