

Father Timothy Backous, O.S.B.

6/4/53 Born in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

1971-76 St. John's University (SJU) in Collegeville, Minnesota. Student teaching at St. John's Preparatory School and St. Joseph Lab School in St. Joseph, Minnesota.

1976-77 St. Augustine's Monastery and College in Nassau, Bahamas

1977-78 Teacher at St. John's Preparatory School, Collegeville, Minnesota

1979-84 Teacher/Dorm Prefect at St. John's Preparatory School

1982 Solemn Vows at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota

1982-83 **Backous sexually abuses Doe 413, a student at St. John's Prep School (Doe 413 Complaint)**

June 1984-89 Doctoral Studies in Moral Theology at the Academia Alfonsiana of Rome, Italy

July-Sept. 1986 Deacon at St. Boniface parish in Hastings, Minnesota.

9/27/86 Ordained at St. John's Abbey Church, Collegeville, Minnesota

1989-2001 Professor, St. John's University

1990 Backous abuses Doe 188 on St. John's Boys' Choir European Trip (Doe 188 Complaint)

1991 Parents Chris and Kathy McDermid of St. Cloud go to Abbot Jerome Theisen with allegations of their son's sexual abuse by Backous during the boy's choir trip in 1990. Theisen promised Backous would no longer work with the boys' choir or students at St. John's. (May 31, 2014 Letter from McDermids to Nienstedt)

1991 St. John's internal investigation finds allegations against Backous "unsubstantiated." Backous returned to ministry. ("Media resurrect discredited Backous report," July 5, 2014) **St. John's says the investigator talked to 8 or 9 chaperones who were on the European trip – Patricia Chiapusio-Riedl who saw Backous in bed with a boy was never contacted.** ("Allegations Against the Rev. Timothy Backous, OSB, are Found to be Unsubstantiated; November 5, 2015; Statement of Patricia Chiapusio-Riedl)

1992-2001 College Chaplain and Director of Campus Ministry, St. John's University

1993-1999 St. John's University Board of Regents

- 11/4/1993 “St. John’s University chaplain Timothy ‘Timo’ Backous, OSB, was taken hostage Tuesday night by an unidentified captor. After a 45-minute standoff, an unidentified white male in his early twenties surrendered to authorities and was taken to St. Cloud Hospital where he underwent psychiatric evaluations.” (*St. John’s University Record*, Nov. 4, 1993)
- 2001-2007 Director of Residential Life and Faculty Resident, St. John’s University; Assistant Athletic Director, St. John’s University; Athletic Director, St. John’s University
- 2006-2013 Headmaster, St. John’s Preparatory School, Collegeville, Minnesota
- 2011-2014 Trustee at Woodside Priory School, grades 6 to 12, in Portola Valley California
- 2013-2014 Vice President of Mission Integration and Benedictine Sponsorship for Essentia Health Care in Duluth, Minnesota; St. Michael’s parish Diocese of Duluth, Duluth, Minnesota, Reverend William C. Graham Pastor
- Nov. 2013 Associate Pastor at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Minnetonka, Minnesota.
- 2014 Pastoral assistant at Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 5/31/2014 Parents of Doe 188 learned Backous was in ministry at the Basilica of St. Mary and wrote a letter of protest to Archbishop John C. Nienstedt of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, copied to Abbot John Klassen and St. Cloud Bishop Donald Kettler. (May 31, 2014 Letter to Nienstedt)
- 6/10/2014 Abbot John Klassen of St John’s Abbey wrote that allegations had not been substantiated and that Backous was not working under any restrictions but was a priest in good standing.
- 2014-2015 St. John’s Conducts New Investigation into 1990 Backous allegations.
- 11/9/2015 St. John’s determines allegations of sexual abuse against Backous are unsubstantiated again.
- 4/28/16 Doe 188 and Doe 413 sue St. John’s and Backous for abuse they suffered by Backous as minors in 1982-83, and 1990.**