

Diocese of Oakland, CA: 54 credibly accused abusers*

*Source: Bishop Accountability.com, Oakland Diocese, public records

In Oakland, California, hundreds of children were sexually abused by Catholic priests meant to protect them.

On May 8, 2023, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Oakland announced it had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection after being served with more than 330 civil lawsuits relating to clergy sexual abuse.

The following is a list of 54 credibly accused, clergy sex-abusers from the Oakland Diocese.

Case files from the Oakland Diocese show it to be rife with serial abusers, who moved from one victim to the next. A few offenders plied their victims with alcohol (Father Jesus Garcia Prieto, Father Stephen M. Kiesle, and Father Gary B. Tollner). One abuser, Kiesle, resorted to tying up his victims. Another abuser, Br. Joseph Gutierrez-Cervantes, drugged his victim before assaulting him. Tollner was accused of abusing his special needs nephew, who had the mental capacity of a 12-year-old. At least one pedophile was prolific: Fr. Vincent Ignatius Breen is suspected of having abused as many as 100 children. Case files also show that church officials shuffled abusers from one assignment to the next, where unsuspecting victims did not realize they were in danger.

Important: If you were sexually abused as a child by a priest, or someone employed by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Oakland, you may file a claim through the federal bankruptcy court. We can help. Our attorneys have decades of experience helping abuse survivors.

The names below do not represent a complete list and are not the only cases being investigated. Note: The Catholic schools operating within the Oakland Diocese were not included in the recent bankruptcy filing, as they are separate legal entities.

If you or someone you love was abused by a priest or church employee in Oakland or elsewhere, please contact our team of attorneys to learn more about our work with sexual-abuse survivors. Please call Donahoo & Associates at 714-953-1010 or our co-counsel/national sex-abuse attorney specialists James Vernon & Weeks, P.A. at: 208-667-0683.

Fr. Jeffrey N. Acebo



Ordained:	1986
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1986-1988
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1987-1988: St. John the Baptist, San Lorenzo, CA• 1989-1992: St. Joseph's, Pinole, CA• 1993-1994: Holy Spirit, Fremont, CA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1994-1995: St. Leonard, Fremont, CA • 1996-2001: St. Anthony's, Oakland CA • 2002-2018: Unknown
Removed from Ministry:	2002

NOTES: As a newly ordained priest, Acebo confessed to Bishop Cummins in 1986 that he had molested a 16-year-old girl. He wanted to make the “relationship” public, but the Bishop refused. He sent Acebo for treatment and reassigned him. Acebo served in four parishes during the next 15 years. Acebo was named in civil lawsuit and in an apology service. Acebo’s name appears on the diocese's list in 2019, noting that Acebo’s abuse occurred from 1986-88. He was removed from ministry in April 2002 and given a life of prayer and penance.

Fr. Thomas Duong Binh-Minh



Ordained:	1990
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1987
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Felicitas, San Leandro, CA (deacon) • St. Philip Neri, Alameda, CA (associate pastor) • St. Mary Immaculate, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • St. Mary/St. Francis de Sales, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • Our Lady Queen of the World, Pittsburg, CA (parochial vicar) • Our Lady of Good Counsel, San Leandro, CA (pastor) • St. Anthony, Oakland, CA (pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	2002

NOTES: Binh-Minh was publicly accused of being an abuser by the Oakland Diocese on its list in 2019, with abuse allegations dating back to 1987. Binh-Minh was removed from ministry in April 2002. He was last-known to be living in Concord, CA

Fr. Vincent Ignatius Breen



Ordained:	1936
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1950s-1980s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serra High School, San Mateo, CA (principal)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Mary, Walnut Creek, CA (administrator) • Holy Spirit, Fremont, CA (pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Resigned March 1, 1982
Died:	Dec. 31, 1986

NOTES: In 1982, Breen was forced to retire at age 70, seek treatment, and leave area to avoid prosecution for fondling eight girls over a year and half period. Breen may have abused as many as 100 victims, from the 1950s-1980s. In 1967, one girl disclosed to a nun, who was her school principal that Breen abused her. The nun is believed to have informed the Diocese. In 1982, Vicar General Macchi stated that he had first heard "rumors" about Msgr. Breen three years prior. Breen died Dec. 31, 1986. In the early 2000s, a civil lawsuit was filed accusing Breen of abuse. In November 2010, another civil lawsuit claimed additional abuse allegations by Breen from 1980-81. The Oakland Diocese named Breen on its 2019 list of credibly accused abusers. In November 2019, another civil lawsuit claimed additional abuse allegations by Breen.

Fr. Donald Eugene Broderson



Ordained:	1968
Status:	Settled
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santa Paula, Fremont, CA (assistant pastor) • St. Philip Neri, Alameda, CA (assistant pastor) • St. Joachim, Hayward, CA (assistant pastor) • Most Precious Blood, Concord, CA (assistant pastor) • St. Leonard, Fremont, CA (assistant pastor) • St. Raymond, Dublin, CA (associate pastor) • Transfiguration Church, Castro Valley, CA (associate pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Early 1990s
Died:	Sept. 19, 2010

NOTES: In an April 2003 civil lawsuit, Broderson was accused of repeatedly molesting an altar boy during the 1970s. In 1991, Broderson was "forced into retirement" and officially retired later. The Diocese knew of complaints against him in 1991. In 2003, cases relating to Broderson's abuse settled. Broderson admitted to abuse. Broderson became a marriage and family therapist/licensed hypnotist in Richmond, Calif. After he was laicized on March 21, 2005, six victims who were brothers sued in 2007. The case was dismissed then reinstated February 2009 by the appeals court. The California Supreme Court dismissed

the case on March 29, 2012. Broderson died Sept 19, 2010. In 2019, Broderson's name appeared on the Oakland Diocese's list of credibly accused abusers.

Fr. Kenneth J. Cabral



Ordained:	1950
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Lawrence O'Toole, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • Assumption, San Leandro, CA (associate pastor) • St. Catherine, Martinez, CA (associate pastor) • St. Joseph, Berkeley, CA (associate pastor) • St. Mary, Walnut Creek, CA (associate pastor) • St. Columba, Oakland, CA (pastor) • St. Margaret Mary, Oakland, CA (administrator) • St. Alphonsus, San Leandro, CA (associate pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Retired June 30, 1991
Died:	March 31, 1996

NOTES: Cabral was accused of abuse at St. Catherine of Siena in Martinez from 1964-65. Cabral was designated as being on sick leave from 1987-91. On June 30, 1991, Cabral was removed from ministry and retired. In 2004, Cabral was named publicly in 2004 at one of the diocese's apology services. Cabral died March 3, 1996. In 2019, Cabral's name was included on the Oakland Diocese's list of credibly accused abusers.

Fr. Alexander Q. Castillo



Ordained:	2011
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	2011-2014
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oakley, CA • Fremont, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Fled the country in 2019 after abuse allegations reported to police

NOTES: Castillo is from Costa Rica. In 2008, he arrived in the United States. His assignments included parishes in Oakley and Fremont. Castillo served as a teacher at St. Junipero Serra Catechetical Institute and academic dean of Escuela de Ministerios Pastorales. Castillo also served as Director of the Department of Faith Formation and Evangelization and episcopal master of ceremonies. On Jan. 30, 2019, Castillo was informed that he had been placed on leave pending an investigation into sexual misconduct toward a minor, and the same day, the diocese publicly announced his leave in a press release. However, police were notified of the allegation five hours later. Castillo fled the country. He denied the allegation. Castillo wrote a letter to other Oakland priests saying the situation was a "misunderstanding" and that he was "not strong enough" to prove his innocence. On Feb. 22, 2019, the diocese filed a missing persons report with police. In December 2022, the Diocese claimed to have had no contact with Castillo and to not know his whereabouts. Police said there were two possible victims abused by Castillo, abused between 2011 and 2014.

Fr. Ricardo Chavez



Ordained:	1963
Status:	Settled
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1990s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Peter Martyr in Pittsburg, CA • St. Leander in San Leandro, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Allowed to continue active ministry for months after Diocese received new abuse allegations in October 2019

NOTES: In 2020, a civil lawsuit accusing Chavez of sexual abuse settled for \$3.5 million. The suit alleged that Chavez sexually abused a 10-year-old altar boy at St. Peter Martyr in Pittsburg, California, for more than 10 years. The plaintiff's attorney said Chavez had been accused of molesting minors in the 1990s while he served as pastor of St. Leander in San Leandro, and that the diocese did not investigate. Further, a plaintiff's attorney alleged that Chavez was allowed to continue in active ministry for months after it received the new allegations in October 2019. In 2019, Chavez's accuser, a former seminarian, alleged he was raped several years prior by Rev. Michael Van Dinh, and abused as a seminarian in Oregon by Rev. Luis Lopez.

Fr. James A. Clark



Ordained:	1947
Status:	Settled
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1965-1972
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Louis Bertrand, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • Church of the Nativity, Menlo Park, CA (associate pastor) • St. Leo, San Jose, CA (associate pastor) • St. Michael, Livermore, CA (associate pastor) • St. Paschal, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • Corpus Christi, Fremont, Ca (pastor) • St. Anne, Walnut Creek, CA (pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Retired April 29, 1984
Died:	July 27, 1989

NOTES: In 1963, Clark was arrested and convicted on felony charge of oral copulation with a 19-year-old man in Santa Cruz and given probation. In 1965, the diocese transferred Clark to Corpus Christi parish in Fremont, where he abused "numerous" children. On April 29, 1984, Clark retired, and five years later, on July 27, 1989, Clark died. In December 2003, two brothers filed a civil lawsuit alleging abuse by Clark from 1968-1972. A third plaintiff filed a separate suit. In August 2005, at least one claim was included as part of a \$56.4 million payout to 56 childhood sexual abuse survivors.

Fr. Edmond G. Cloutier



Ordained:	1946
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1950s-1960s
Status:	Deceased
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star of the Sea, San Francisco, CA (associate pastor) • Corpus Christi, Piedmont, CA (associate pastor) • St. Joseph Basilica, Alameda, CA (associate pastor) • St. Augustine, Pleasanton, CA (pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Removed from ministry/retired in 1980
Died:	April 9, 2003

NOTES: Coultier served as associate pastor at three parishes before becoming pastor at St. Augustine in Pleasanton, California. In 1980, Coultier retired.

Fr. Phillip Colloty



Order:	Order of Friars Minor-Franciscans (OFM)
Ordained:	1950
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1950s
Assignments:	Assignments not available
Died:	Jan. 10, 1976

NOTES: In 2019, the Santa Barbara Province, Franciscans included Colloty's among its list of credibly accused abusers. Colloty's file indicates that he sexually abused a minor in 1955, which was reported in 2010. Colloty died in 1976. In 2019, Colloty's name appeared on the Oakland Diocese's list of abusers.

Fr. Hilary Cooper



Ordained:	1965
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1978, removed from ministry in 1995
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Cyril, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • St. Bernard, Oakland, CA (administrator, pastor) • St. Paschal, Oakland, CA (pastor) • St. David, Richmond, CA (in residence, administrator) • St. Mark, Richmond, CA (pastor) • Queen of all Saints, Concord, CA (associate pastor) • St. Anthony, Oakland, CA (associate pastor, pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	1995, given a life of prayer and penance

NOTES: In 2019, Cooper’s name appeared on the Oakland Diocese’s list of credibly accused abusers. Cooper was ordained for the Benedictines in Kansas City; he was incardinated into the Oakland Diocese on Oct. 1, 1976. The abuse was noted to have occurred in 1978. Cooper was removed from ministry in 1995 and given life of prayer and penance.

Fr. Virendra Coutts



Order:	Salesians of Don Bosco/ Salesian Society – SDB
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA

NOTES: In 2019, Coutts’s name appeared on the Oakland Diocese’s list of credibly accused abusers. It’s not specified if Coutts was a priest or deacon.

Fr. George E. Crespin



Ordained:	1962
Status:	Accused, one suit settled, lawsuit filed in 2019
Diocese:	Oakland, CA

Abuse:	1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1963: Holy Ghost, Fremont, CA • 1964-1966: Cathedral of St. Francis De Sales, Oakland, CA • 1967-1971: Corpus Christi, Piedmont, CA • 1972-1979: Our Lady of Rosary, Union City, CA • 1982-2006: St. Joseph the Worker, Berkeley, CA • 2001: St. Ambrose, Berkeley, CA • 2005: Privileges as a retired priest restored • 2007-2011: Retired, St. Joseph the Worker, Berkeley, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Retired 2011

NOTES: From 1979 to 1994, Crespin served as chancellor and/or vicar general at various times. In 2005, Crespin was accused in a civil lawsuit of molesting a boy in 1975 while he served as pastor of Our Lady of the Rosary in Union City. Crespin denied the allegations. The diocese investigated; a review board found "insufficient evidence" to support the allegations. In June 2005, Crespin's privileges as a retired priest were restored. Crespin admitted not reporting incidents of abuse involving other priests. In August 2005, the Oakland Diocese paid the plaintiff \$600,000 as part of global settlement. In December 2019, two men filed a civil lawsuit against the Diocese under the California Child Victims Act, claiming cover-up of abuse by Crespin and Rev. Stephen Kiesle at Our Lady of the Rosary during the 1970s. The man accusing Crespin said the abuse started when he was age 11, and that the priest also abused his best friend, who died by suicide.

Fr. Sidney J. Custodio



Ordained:	1956
Status:	Sued, accused of abusing a girl in San Mateo 1960-1963
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1955: St. Raphael's, San Rafael, CA • 1956-1957: Bishop O'Dowd High School, Oakland, CA • 1958-1964: St. Gregory's, San Mateo, CA • 1958-1965: Serra High School for Boys, San Mateo, CA • 1965: Immaculate Heart of Mary, Belmont, CA • 1966-1967: St. Patrick's, San Jose, CA • 1968: St. Thomas More, San Francisco, CA • 1969: St. Peter, Pacifica, CA • 1970-1973: St. Michael's, San Francisco, CA • 1974: St. Anthony, Menlo Park, CA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1975: Left ministry, married, per obituary • 1975-early 1990s: Woodside High School, Latin teacher, Menlo Park, CA
Left Ministry:	Married in 1975
Died:	July 16, 2021

NOTES: In a civil lawsuit, Custodio was accused of having abused a girl at St. Gregory parish in San Mateo from 1960-63. Custodio's last-known address was in Menlo Park. Custodio's obituary notes: He entered St. Joseph's Seminary at the age of 13 and was ordained a priest on June 10, 1956, for the Archdiocese of San Francisco. He met his wife in 1973, and they were married in 1975. After moving to Menlo Park, Custodio worked as a high-school Latin teacher at Woodside High School until his retirement in the early 1990s. He served as an active member at the Church of the Nativity parish in Menlo Park, where he served as lector and eucharistic minister. Custodio died July 16, 2021.

Fr. Pearse P. Donovan



Ordained:	1943
Status:	Sued
Abuse:	1978-1980
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1944: St. Augustine's, Oakland, CA • 1945: St. Ambrose's, Berkeley, CA • 1946: St. Gregory's, San Mateo, CA • 1947-1952: Serra High School for Boys, San Mateo, CA • 1953-1955: Marin Catholic High School, San Rafael, CA • 1956-1964: Bishop O'Dowd High School, Oakland, CA, served as principal from 1962-1974, per obituary • 1964-1974: Superintendent of Schools, Oakland Diocese, Oakland, CA, per obituary • 1965-1978: Corpus Christi, Piedmont, CA • 1977-1978: Unknown • 1979- 1980: St. Clement, Hayward, CA • 1981-1982: St. Albert, Alameda, CA • 1983-1985: Sick Leave • 1986: Died
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Retired 1983
Died:	Sept. 12, 1986

NOTES: In 2003, Donovan was accused in a civil lawsuit of molesting a boy beginning in 1978 at St. Clement, and of later passing him on to an abusive Holy Cross brother, Lawrence O'Brien. During this same

time, Donovan was being treated for alcoholism at two treatment centers. He served as Superintendent of Schools from 1964-1974. Donovan was removed from ministry/retired in 1983. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese listed Donovan's name on its roster of credibly accused abusers. His file notes that his known abuses occurred from 1978-1980. Donovan died on Sept. 12, 1986.

Fr. Donald W. Eagleson



Order:	Congregation of Holy Cross-CSC
Ordained:	1985
Status:	Settled
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1986-1987: St. Vincent de Paul, Petaluma, CA • 1988-1989: Unknown • 1990: St. Bernard's Church, Eureka, CA • 1991-2003: Sacred Heart Church, Eureka, CA • 2004: Retired
Died:	Oct. 22, 2004

NOTES: In 2002, Eagleson was accused of abuse in 1971 while teaching at Moreau High School in Hayward as a Holy Cross brother. In 1985, Eagleson was ordained for the Diocese of Santa Rosa. In 2002, he was suspended on a new allegation of abuse from 1971; this information was not revealed to parishioners or the public until 2006. In 2005, a partial settlement of a 2004 civil suit was paid. On Oct. 22, 2004, Eagleson died. In 2019, Eagleson's name appeared on both the Santa Rosa Diocese's and the Oakland Diocese's lists of credibly accused abusers. Eagleson was accused again in lawsuits filed between 2019-2022.

Fr. Joseph A. Ferreira



Ordained:	1959
Status:	Settled
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queen of all Saints, Concord, CA (associate pastor) • St. Paschal, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • St. Leonard, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • Our Lady of Good Counsel, San Leandro, CA (pastor)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Alphonsus, San Leandro, CA (pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Retired Dec. 28, 1998
Died:	Dec. 21, 2014

NOTES: In November 2006, a woman alleged in a civil lawsuit that she was molested by Ferreira at Our Lady of Good Counsel in San Leandro from 1973-1974 when she was in her teens. The victim claimed that Ferreira continued to harass and stalk her throughout the years. The case settled out of court. In June 2009, a second woman filed suit alleging abuse by Ferreira from 1970-1972 at Our Lady of Good Counsel in San Leandro. In 2019, Ferreira's name appeared on the Oakland Diocese's list of credibly accused abusers. It notes that Ferreira was removed from ministry/retired on Dec. 28, 1998. On Dec. 21, 2014, Ferreira died.

Fr. Patrick Finnegan



Ordained:	1952
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s, 1973
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Ambrose, Berkeley (associate pastor, administrator) • St. Joseph, Pinole (administrator, pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Feb. 6, 1973
Died:	Sept. 28, 1980

NOTES: In 2019, Finnegan's name appeared on the Oakland Diocese's list of credibly accused abusers. The Diocese states that Finnegan's abuse occurred in the 1960s and also in 1973. On Feb. 6, 1974, Finnegan was removed from ministry. On Sept. 28, 1980, Finnegan died.

Fr. George J. Francis



Ordained:	1937
Status:	Settled
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s, 1972
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Cyril, Oakland (pastoral associate) • Church of the Epiphany, San Francisco (pastoral associate) • St. Bede, Hayward (pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Retired April 4, 1986
Died:	May 4, 1998

Francis was accused of having raped a 7-year-old girl in 1959. In the early 1990s, his alleged victim filed a lawsuit, and the case settled in 1993. Officials denied any wrongdoing by Francis. In 2002, another civil lawsuit was by a woman, who alleged that Francis abused her age 5-11 from 1979-1982. In January 2004, the case settled for \$3 million. In 2002, both victims went public; the Diocese admitted abuse and that there were other victims. There are at least nine known victims abused by Francis. In 2019, Francis' name appeared on the Oakland Diocese's list of credibly accused abusers. Francis's file indicates that he abused minors in the 1960s and 1972. On April 4, 1986, Francis was retired/removed from ministry. On May 4, 1997, Francis died.

Fr. Robert E. Freitas



Ordained:	1972
Status:	Convicted
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1977, 1980s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Saints, Hayward, CA (associate pastor) • St. Felicitas, San Leandro, CA (associate pastor) • St. Edward, Newark, CA (associate pastor) • Santa Paula, Fremont, CA (associate pastor) • Our Lady of the Rosary, Union City, CA (pastor) • St. Catherine of Siena, Martinez, CA (associate pastor) • Good Shepherd, Pittsburg, CA (associate pastor) • St. Monica, Moraga, CA (associate pastor) • St. Anthony, Oakley, CA (associate pastor) • St. Lawrence O'Toole, Oakland, CA (in residence)
Restricted Ministry:	1985; in 2002, sentenced to six months jail/five years' probation; laicized in 2007
Died:	Nov. 14, 2011

In 1985, the Oakland Diocese sent Freitas to treatment and placed him on "restricted ministry" after two boys alleged sexual abuse. In 2002, a man told the diocese that Freitas molested him in 1979. Police were notified. The accuser wore a wire during the meeting; Freitas admitted the abuse, and police arrested him. The accuser filed a civil lawsuit against the diocese. Police believe there were at least four more victims from about the same timeframe. In December 2002, Freitas pled guilty and was sentenced to six months' jail and five years' probation. In June 2003, he was released from jail following a U.S. Supreme Court ruling. In November 2003, the diocese reached a settlement. Four years later, in 2007, Freitas was laicized. In 2019, Freitas's name appeared on the Oakland Diocese's list of credibly accused abusers. Freitas died November 14, 2011.

Br. Adrian Furman



Order:	Order of Friars Minor-Franciscans (OFM)
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1959-1965
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Elizabeth, Oakland, CA • St. Boniface, San Francisco, CA • Old Mission, Santa Barbara, CA • San Xavier del Bac, Tucson, AZ • St. Anthony's, San Francisco, CA • St. Joseph's, Los Angeles, CA • St. Boniface, San Francisco, CA • Serra Press, Santa Barbara, CA • St. Mary's, Lakeport, CA • Serra, Salem, OR • St. Mary's, Phoenix, AZ • St. Boniface, San Francisco, CA • Serra Retreat, Malibu, CA • Old Mission, Santa Barbara, CA • Elder Care Facility, Phoenix, AZ
Died:	2003

In 2019, Brother Furman's name appeared on the Franciscans' Santa Barbara Province list of credibly accused abusers. Allegations of Furman's sexual abuse of minors were reported in 2002 and 2010, with the abuse occurring from 1959-1965. Furman died in 2003.

Fr. John G. Garcia



Ordained:	1947
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s, 1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Retired in 2001
Died:	April 5, 2003

In November 2022, a 34-year-old man, who had served as an altar boy, claimed in a civil lawsuit that Garcia sexually abused him over a two-year period in the late 1990s, beginning when he was 8 years old. At the time in question, Garcia was assigned to Immaculate Heart of Mary in Brentwood. The abuse allegedly included rape. In 2001, Garcia retired from the parish after 17 years. In 2003, he died. In a December 2022 civil lawsuit, Garcia was accused of raping a boy, age 12, in the late 1960s, and of telling the boy he would die if he told. Another lawsuit filed the same month alleged abuse by Garcia of a boy in 1974. As of December 2022, there are at least four known accusers.

Fr. William S. Green



Order:	Congregation of Most Holy Redeemer-CSsR
Ordained:	1990
Status:	Convicted
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1990s

Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1984-1995: Redemptorist-St. Clement's House, Berkeley, CA • 1996-2018: Unknown
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In April 1999, police arrested Green, along with five other individuals, for sending sexually explicit messages and pornography to a 14-year-old boy in an internet chatroom. In July 1999, Green pled to two counts of oral copulation and one charge of attempting to send harmful material to a minor. Green was sentenced to two years in prison.

Br. Joseph Gutierrez-Cervantes



Order:	De La Salle Brothers / Brothers of the Christian Schools-FSC
Status:	Settled
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1968-1972
Assignment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1975-1991: De La Salle High School, Concord • St. Mary's High School, Berkeley
Removed from Ministry:	Left the order in 1985, dismissed from Hanna Boys Center, Sonoma, CA

In 1985, Gutierrez-Cervantes left the De La Salle Order. He worked at the Hanna Boys Center in Sonoma as a counselor. In 1986, Gutierrez-Cervantes was dismissed from there. A 2003 civil lawsuit accused Gutierrez-Cervantes of abusing a boy who was a student at De La Salle High School. In 2004, the plaintiff received a \$4 million settlement. In the 2000s, Gutierrez worked as a communications consultant in Sonoma using the name Jesse Gutierrez-Cervantes. In 2019, new allegations of abuse against Gutierrez-Cervantes surfaced, dating back to 1986. In 2019, Gutierrez-Cervantes's name appeared on the Oakland Diocese's list credibly accused abusers. Gutierrez-Cervantes is named in lawsuits and in an internal Christian Brothers memo. In October 2019, a another De La Salle alumnus filed a civil lawsuit claiming he was drugged and abused by Gutierrez-Cervantes several times from 1968-72.

Fr. Leo A. Hofstee

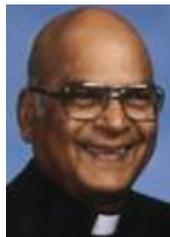


Order:	Dominicans Holy Name Province -Order of Preachers-OP
Ordained:	1935

Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Died:	April 26, 1986

In 2021, the Dominicans Holy Name Province included Hofstee's name on its list of credibly accused abusers. Information from the Province notes: "An allegation of an act of abuse was deemed established by the Provincial after consultation with the Province Review Board in 2018." (The list misspells his name "Hoffstee.") Hofstee arrived in the Philippines in 1945, where he spent the rest of his life working among lepers. He died in 1986.

Fr. Domingos S. Jaques



Ordained:	1947
Status:	Sued
Abuse:	Dates not available
Assignments:	1960s, with Oakland Diocese: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy Spirit in Fremont, CA • Hayward, CA • San Pablo, CA • Berkeley, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Retired in 1995
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Died:	Feb. 18, 2016 Note: In December 2022, a new allegation of abuse was filed against the Oakland Diocese relating to Domingos S. Jaques while he served in San Pablo, CA. His name was not previously listed among the diocese's list of credibly accused abusers disclosed in 2019.

Jaques is from India. In 1947, he was ordained for the Archdiocese of Goa. In 1956, he transferred to Angola and arrived in Oakland CA in late 1963. Jaques worked in the East Bay parishes until retiring in 1995. He moved to Fremont and died in 2016. In civil lawsuits filed between 2020-2022, Jaques is accused of child sexual abuse.

Fr. Stephen M. Kiesle



Ordained:	1972
Status:	Convicted
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good Shepherd, Pittsburg, CA (deacon)• St. Joseph, Pinole, CA (associate pastor)• Our Lady of the Rosary, Union City, CA (associate pastor)• St. Columba, Oakland, CA (in residence)
Removed from Ministry:	1987 Note: In April 2022, Kiesle was charged with gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated by the Contra Costa County District Attorney after allegedly causing the death of 64-year-old California man after he struck the man and his wife walking on the sidewalk.

Fr. Kiesle has a long history of sexually abusing boys and girls. In 1978, he was convicted of lewd conduct for tying up and sexually abusing two boys; sentenced to three years' probation. He left the priesthood in 1981 and was laicized in 1987. In the mid-1980s, Kiesle served as a volunteer youth minister at St. Joseph's in Pinole, CA. In 2002, Fr. Kiesle was arrested on 13 counts of child molestation; in 2003, all but two charges were dropped due to an expired statute of limitations. In 2004, Fr. Kiesle was sentenced to six years in prison for the abuse of a girl in 1995. He may have abused at least 10 girls. Kiesle said that if the girls said the abuse happened, then he was sure it did. In 2009, he was released from prison, and new civil suits were filed. Kiesle registered as a sex offender, and lived in Walnut Creek, CA. In August 2010, two additional lawsuits with seven accusers were filed. In a 2018 lawsuit filed against the Vatican, Kiesle was accused of abusing a girl from age 11-13 from 1972-74. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese included Kiesle's name on its list of credibly accused abusers. In December 2019, a male abuse survivor filed a civil lawsuit alleging Kiesle abused him as from the age of 10-11 in the 1970s. In March 2020, another lawsuit alleged that Kiesle abuse a 5-year-old boy for more than a year in Pinole, CA in 1985. In February 2021, two additional civil lawsuits accused Kiesle of abusing a girl in one case and a boy in the other case, from 1972-75 in Pinole, CA. In January 2022, another civil lawsuit filed against the diocese accused Kiesle of abusing a young boy from 1972-75 in Pinole; Kiesle would give the boy wine, and then molest him. The victim's adult children filed the lawsuit; their father had filed suit in March 2020, but he died a few days later of cirrhosis, and the case was dismissed. In April 2022, police arrested Kiesle and charged him with killing a pedestrian while driving drunk.

Fr. Ronald J. LaGasse



Ordained:	1969
Status:	Arrested
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1983 – 1984
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Augustine, Pleasanton, CA (deacon) • St. Joachim, Hayward, CA (associate pastor) • Santa Maria, Orinda, CA (associate pastor) • St. Leonard, Fremont, CA (associate pastor) • St. Mary, Walnut Creek, CA (in residence) • St. Catherine, Martinez, CA (in residence) • St. Raymond, Dublin, CA (pastor) • St. Philip Neri, Alameda, CA (associate pastor) • St. Cyril, Oakland, CA (pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Excommunicated June 14, 2008

In 1984, police arrested LaGasse on suspicion of molesting a 17-year-old boy at St. Raymond in Dublin. The Oakland Diocese sent LaGasse to treatment, placed him on leave for a year, and then reassigned him. Later, LaGasse became a chaplain in the Army Reserve. LaGasse is last known to have been serving as an abbot of an independent Benedictine monastery in Hawaii. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese included LaGasse on its list of credibly accused abusers. On June 14, 2008, the church excommunicated LaGasse.

Fr. Tarcisio D. Lanuevo



Ordained:	1956
Status:	Settled
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1979
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Catherine, Martinez (associate pastor) • St. John the Baptist, San Lorenzo Queen of all Saints, Concord (in residence) • Our Lady Queen of the World, Pittsburg (associate pastor) • St. Joachim, Hayward

Removed from Ministry:	July 29, 1992
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In December 1979, the parents of two girls, ages 7 and 2, reported to police that Lanuevo had molested their daughters at St. John the Baptist in San Lorenzo. On April 2, 1985, Lanuevo was incardinated into the Oakland diocese. The girls filed a civil lawsuit in 1993. The lawsuit claimed that Lanuevo's pastor had promised their parents that he would receive treatment and never be around children if they dropped the criminal charges. Eventually, the diocese settled the lawsuit. Until 1991, Lanuevo continued to work in the diocese. On July 28, 1992, Lanuevo was removed from ministry. In 1993, he was working at V.A. domiciliary in Portland, OR. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese included Lanuevo on its list of credibly accused abusers.

Fr. Cornelius P. Leehan



Order:	Congregation of Most Holy Redeemer-CSsR
Ordained:	1948
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1950s, 1960s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1949-1950: St. Thomas, Coeur d'Alene, ID • 1951-1954: St. Alphonsus', Fresno, CA • 1955: Unknown • 1956-1958: St. Alphonsus Ligouri, San Leandro, CA • 1959-1962: St. Gerard Majella, Great Falls, MT • 1963-1964: 307 E. Kearney Blvd., Fresno, CA • 1965-1966: St. Alphonsus Ligouri. San Leandro, CA • 1967: St. Mary's of the Assumption, Whittier, CA • 1968-1971: Sacred Heart of Jesus, Seattle, WA • 1972- 1975: Holy Redeemer, Portland, OR • 1976-1978: Retreat, Tucson, AZ • 1979-1981: Picture Rocks Retreat House, Tucson, AZ • 1982-1984: Center for Parish Missions, Oakland, CA • 1985-1986: House on the Way, Oakland, CA • 1987: Center for Parish Missions, Oakland, CA • 1988: Our Lady of Lourdes, San Francisco, CA • 1989: Center for Parish Missions, Oakland, CA • 1990-1996: Redemptorists, Oakland, CA
Died:	Dec. 29, 1997

	Note: Leehan’s name appears on two lists of credibly accused abusers for the Oakland Diocese and the Fresno Diocese.
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In December 2003, a civil lawsuit accused Father Cornelius Patrick Leehan – or Pedraig Leehan – of raping a 5-year-old boy at St. Alphonsus Liguori in San Leandro during the late 1950s-early 1960s. Leehan also allegedly fondled the boy again seven years later, after he was reassigned to the parish. Leehan's accuser said he told his father and that his father, a friend of Leehan, told him to tell no one and to never speak about a priest that way. Leehan died in 1997. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese included Leehan’s name on its list of credibly accused abusers. In August 2021, the Diocese of Fresno added Leehan’s name to its list of abusers, where Leehan worked from 1951-54. Leehan studied at Holy Redeemer College in Oakland, California and St. Clement's College in DeSoto, Missouri. The church ordained Leehan into the priesthood at Immaculate Conception Seminary at Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Leehan also worked in California, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

Juan Macias Lopez



Order:	Dominicans Holy Name Province -Order of Preachers-OP
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Dismissed from the order in 1988

In October 2021, the Dominicans’ Holy Name Province included Lopez’s name on its list of credibly accused abusers. Lopez’s case file notes that he took his religious vows in 1981. In 1988, the Order removed Lopez.

Fr. Gary M. Luiz



Order:	Society of the Precious Blood/ Missionaries of the Precious Blood – CPPS
Ordained:	1977
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1980s

Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1978-1979: St. Barnabas, Alameda, CA • 1980-1986: St. Edward's, Newark, CA • 1987-1991: St. Barnabas, Alameda, CA • 1992-2008: Society of the Precious Blood, Berkeley, CA • 2004: Canonical Consultant to the Bishop, Oakland, CA • 2004-2010: Defenders of the Bond, Ripon, CA • 2004-2017: Defenders of the Bond, Reno, NV • 2005: Councilors, Oakland, CA • 2014-2017: Promoter of Justice, Reno, NV
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From 1980-1985, the Oakland Diocese assigned Luiz to St. Barnabas in Alameda and St. Edward's in Newark, California. In the early 2000s, a civil lawsuit accused Luiz of abusing a boy at St. Edward's from 1980-86. The boy's parents said they complained to St. Edward's pastor in 1984, but Newark church officials said they did not learn of the abuse until about 1990, and that they placed him immediately on leave. Luiz earned a canon law degree from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. in 1993. He was reportedly sent to a Berkeley, CA monastery in 1995. Per the 2017 Official Catholic Directory, Luiz was working as a canon lawyer in the Diocese of Reno, Nevada. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese included Luiz on its list of credibly accused abusers.

Sr. Mary Rosella McConnell



Order:	Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – PBVM
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1969-1971
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation High School, Berkeley, CA • Christopher School, San Jose, CA • Presentation schools through California
Died:	April 17, 2022

In a recent civil lawsuit, plaintiff's attorneys alleged that McConnell sexually abused a female high-school student, from age 15-16 from September 1969 to June 1971. From 1967-1979, McConnell served as vice-principal of Presentation High School in Berkeley, California. The abused girl was a student. McConnell's teaching career spanned 30 years, including 14 years at St. Christopher School in San Jose, as well as Presentation schools in Berkeley, San Francisco, San Jose, San Lorenzo, Gilroy, Morgan Hill, Los Angeles, and San Pedro.

Fr. John T. McCracken



Ordained:	1944
Status:	Sued
Abuse:	1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1944-48: St. Augustine, Oakland, CA (assistant pastor)• 1948-1950: Catholic University of America, D.C. (student)• 1950-56: Catholic Social Service in Oakland, CA (assistant director)• 1956-62: Catholic Social Service for Marin, Solano and Contra Costa counties (director)• 1962-1970: Catholic Charities, Diocese of Oakland, CA, (director)• 1969-70: St. Benedict in Oakland, CA (pastor)• 1970-79: Queen of All Saints, Concord, CA (pastor)• 1979-83: St. Mary in Walnut Creek, CA (pastor)• 1983-85: Santa Maria in Orinda, CA (pastor)• 1985-89: retirement due to cardiac condition• 1989-2006: St. Anne in Walnut Creek, CA (pastor)
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Died:	Feb. 1, 2012

Throughout his career, McCracken served as a monsignor, parish priest, pastor, and director of Catholic Social Services/Charities. In 2021, a civil lawsuit accused McCracken of raping a boy during 1972-74. The boy served as an altar boy and was in grades 4 and 5 at Queen of All Saints in Concord when the abuse allegedly occurred. The boy kept diaries at the time in which he repeated "God is doing this to me" and "God hates me." Medical records show McCracken's victim was treated for rectal bleeding at age 11. McCracken died Feb. 1, 2012.

Fr. Michael J. McGinty

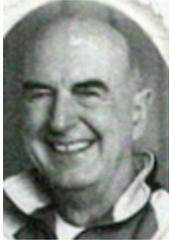


Ordained:	1931
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA

Died:	March 31, 1996
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A 2022 civil lawsuit accused McGinty of sexually abusing and physically abusing a boy, age 8 or 9, decades prior. McGinty died in 1996.

Br. Bede McKinnon



Order:	Order of Friars Minor-Franciscans (OFM)
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1961-1963: St. Boniface, San Francisco, CA • 1963-1964: Old Mission, San Miguel, CA • 1964-1982: St. Elizabeth's, Oakland, CA • 1982-1983: Serra Retreat, Malibu, CA • 1983-1985: Franciscan Renewal Center, Scottsdale, AZ • 1985-1991: St. Francis Retreat, San Juan Bautista, CA • 1991-1992: Old Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside, CA • 1992: St. Francis Retreat, San Juan Bautista, CA • 1992-1994: Old Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside CA • 1994: Franciscan Renewal Center, Scottsdale, AZ • 1994-1997: Old Mission San Luis Rey, Oceanside, CA
Died:	July 17, 1998

In 2019, the Franciscans' Santa Barbara Province included McKinnon's name on its list of credibly accused abusers. In 2010, the province received an allegation of a sexual abuse of a minor from 1978-79; at the time of the alleged abuse, McKinnon was assigned to St. Elizabeth's in Oakland. In 1966, McKinnon entered the Order of Friars Minor also known as Franciscans. In 1998, McKinnon died. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese included McKinnon on its list of credibly accused abusers.

Fr. Daniel McLeod



Ordained:	1970
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1969
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christ the King, Pleasant Hill, CA (associate pastor) • St. Michael, Livermore, CA (associate pastor) • St. Anthony, Oakley, CA (pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Retired: 1987
Died:	Dec. 17, 2001

In 2019, the Oakland Diocese McLeod on its list of credibly accused abusers. McLeod was incardinated into the diocese on April 16, 1970. McLeod’s file notes that his alleged abuse occurred in 1969. The diocese removed/retired McLeod on Jan. 18, 1987. McCleod died on Dec. 17, 2001.

Fr. Hector David Mendoza Vela



Ordained:	2013
Status:	Convicted, in 2019 began serving 4 years, 8 months in prison for sexually abusing a boy age 14-15
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	2016-2017
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2013: St. John The Baptist Parish, San Lorenzo, CA • 2016: Corpus Christi Parish, Fremont, CA

From El Salvador, Vela arrived in the U.S. in 2008. In March 2019, he was serving as Pastor of Corpus Christi in Fremont, California when arrested. Police accused Vela of sexually abusing a boy, age 14 or 15, over 18 months from 2016-17. The Oakland Diocese placed Vela on administrative leave. In July 2019, Vela pleaded not guilty to 30 criminal counts. In August 2019, he pleaded no contest to five counts in a plea agreement. On Sept. 27, 2019, the court sentenced Vela to 4 years and 8 months in prison. Church officials initiated a Canonical process. In May 2020, a victim who filed suit alleged that Vela also molested his brother. As of June 2022, the Oakland Diocese included Vela’s name on its list of credibly accused abusers.

Fr. Joaquin Moreno



Order	Order of Friars Minor-Franciscans (OFM)
Ordained:	1981
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Left the order in 2008, laicized in 2010.

In 2019, both the Oakland Diocese and the Franciscans' Santa Barbara Province included Moreno's name on their lists of credibly accused abusers. In 1996, Moreno faced an allegation of sexually abusing a minor. In 2008, Moreno left the Order. In 2020, the Stockton Diocese added Moreno's name to its list of abusers, noting that Moreno served there from 1991-92. In 2010, Moreno was laicized.

Br. Lawrence O'Brien



Order:	Congregation of Holy Cross-CSC
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1970s, 1980s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pius XII school, Chester, NY• Boysville of Michigan, Clinton, MI• Rancho San Antonio, Chatsworth, CA• Moreau High School, Hayward, CA
Died:	August 2000

A 2003 civil lawsuit accused of sexually abusing one youth at Hayward's Moreau High School in Hayward in the 1970s and 1980s. In August 2020, O'Brien died.

Fr. William Odom-Green



Ordained:	1991
Status:	Convicted
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1990s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1991–1992: Holy Name Parish, Henderson, KY • 1992–1994: Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro, KY • 1994–1995: St. Francis de Sales & Rosary Chapel, Paducah, KY • 1997–1999: Diocese of Oakland, CA, faculties granted
Removed from Ministry:	April 1999: Faculties removed by Diocese of Oakland. Convicted of abusing in Oakland, CA, sent to prison.

In 1991, Odom-Green was ordained as a priest for the Diocese of Owensboro, KY. From 1997-1999, he served the Oakland Diocese. In April 1999, the Oakland Diocese removed Odom-Green’s faculties, meaning Odom-Green was no longer be able to serve as a parish priest, celebrate mass or wear a clerical collar in public. Odom-Green was convicted of sexual abuse and sent to prison. Both the Oakland Diocese and the Owensboro Diocese in Kentucky added Odom-Green’s name to their lists of credibly accused abusers.

Fr. Robert F. Poncioli



Ordained:	1969
Status:	Arrested
Died:	Jan. 19, 2009
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1970s, 1980-1981
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Leander, San Leandro, CA (associate pastor) • St. Francis de Sales Cathedral, Oakland, CA • St. Cornelius, Richmond, CA (associate pastor) • Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley, CA (associate pastor) • St. Ignatius, Antioch (pastor) Sacred Heart, Oakland, CA (in residence)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Jarlath, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • Immaculate Heart of Mary, Brentwood, CA (associate pastor) • St. Anne, Byron (administrator, pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Laicized in 2005
Died:	Jan. 19, 2009

In 1995, the Oakland Diocese removed Ponciroli from ministry and sent him to therapy due to an allegation of sexual abuse. In August 2002, a civil lawsuit accused Ponciroli of sexually abusing an 11-year-old boy in Antioch, California in 1975. In February 2003, police arrested Ponciroli for sexually abusing two brothers. In June 2003, the prosecutor dropped criminal charges. In March 2003, the two brothers filed a civil lawsuit, and in April 2005, the two victims received a \$2 million verdict. Per the plaintiff's attorney, there are at least seven other known victims. Ponciroli admitted he was a sex addict. In 2005, church officials laicized Ponciroli. On Jan. 19, 2009, Ponciroli died. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese included Ponciroli's name on its list of credibly accused abusers.

Fr. Jesus Garcia Prieto



Ordained:	1926
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s
Died:	Sept. 4, 1998

In 2022, a civil lawsuit accused Prieto of sexually assaulting a Catholic elementary school student in Oakland approximately 100 times in the 1960s. Prieto groomed his victim by showing the boy Playboy magazines and having him drink wine.

Fr. James E. Prindeville



Ordained:	2043
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1950s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bishop O'Dowd High School, Oakland, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Left the priesthood in 1961, married.

Died:	Oct. 4, 2004
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In 1952, the year Oakland's Bishop O'Dowd High School opened, the Rev. James Prindeville began molesting a 16-year-old girl at the school from 1952-1953, according to a 2003 lawsuit filed against the Archdiocese of San Francisco, which ran parishes in Alameda and Contra Costa counties until the Diocese of Oakland was formed in 1962. Prindeville denied the accusation. Prindeville left the priesthood in 1962, married and lived in San Jose. He died in 2004 at age 85.

Br. Benedict Reams



Order:	De La Salle Brothers / Brothers of the Christian Schools-FSC
Perpetual vows:	1939
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1936-1946: Mont La Salle, Napa, CA (teacher) • 1946-1969: St. Mary's College, Moraga, CA (teacher)
Removed from Ministry:	Retired in 1969 Note: In 2020-2022, civil lawsuits lodged new allegations of sex abuse by Brother Benedict Reams.
Died:	May 23, 1994

In 1939, Benedict made his final vows as a De La Salle Christian Brother. From 1936-1946, Benedict taught at Mont La Salle in Napa, then from 1946 until his retirement in 1969, Benedict taught at St. Mary's College in Moraga. Benedict continued at St. Mary's assisting in physics classes and also operated a weather station throughout his time there. He played organ at St. Mary's college chapel and at St. Monica's Parish in Moraga. In 1994, Benedict died in Napa. Lawsuits filed from 2020-2022 accuse Benedict of sexually abusing minors. Note: Brother Benedict's given name was Joseph Ambrose Reams; his religious name was Ultanian Benedict Reams.

Fr. Arthur A. Ribeiro



Ordained:	1950
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Louis Bertrand, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • St. Leander, San Leandro, CA (associate pastor) • Five Wounds, San Jose, CA (associate pastor) • Sacred Heart, Turlock, CA (associate pastor) • St. Joseph, Cupertino, CA (associate pastor) • Queen of all Saints, Concord, CA (associate pastor) • St. Bede, Hayward, CA • St. Joseph, Berkeley, CA (associate pastor) • St. Columba, Oakland, CA (pastor)
Removed from Ministry:	Retired Jan. 1, 1992
Died:	Oct. 18, 2000

In 1982, the Oakland Diocese placed Ribeiro on sick leave. On Jan. 1, 1992, the diocese retired Ribeiro from the ministry. In 1996, two priests confronted Ribeiro about his sexual misconduct. In 2003, three men filed civil lawsuits alleging Ribeiro sexually abused them in 1960s at All Saints in Concord. Per a July 2004 article, four plaintiffs were named in two lawsuits. One plaintiff said he told his pastor during confession within two weeks of abuse and that Ribeiro was then transferred and promoted. On Oct. 18, 2000, Ribeiro died. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese included Ribeiro's name on its list of credibly accused abusers.

Fr. Anthony P. Slane



Order:	Congregation of Most Holy Redeemer-CSSR
Ordained:	1942
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA

Abuse:	1950s (worked for many years with deaf community)
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Prefect at Holy Redeemer in Oakland, CA • 1954-1957: St. Alphonsus, Fresno, CA <p>Note: Slane spent much of his career working at parishes throughout California in Livermore, Fresno and San Leandro, as well as in Great Falls, Montana; Portland, Oregon; Hoquiam, Washington; and Seattle, Washington. Very involved with the deaf community across Western states, particularly in Montana.</p>
Removed from Ministry:	Retired in 2002
Died:	<p>April 4, 2010</p> <p>Note: Slane's name appears on several lists of credibly accused abusers, including Diocese of Oakland, the Diocese of Fresno and the Archdiocese of Seattle</p>

Slane was named in a lawsuit as having abused a minor at St. Alphonsus Liguori in San Leandro, California. Slane also worked in the Seattle Archdiocese, from 1981-1988 at Our Lady of Good Help in Hoquiam and from 1988-2002 at Sacred Heart in Seattle. In April 2010, Slane died at age 94 at St. Clement Health Care Center in Liguori, Missouri. In 2016, the Seattle Archdiocese included Slane's name on its list of credibly accused abusers. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese added Slane's name to its list of abusers, and in 2021, the Diocese of Fresno added his name to its list of abusers, noting that he was accused of abuse while he was assigned to St. Alphonsus from 1954-1957.

Fr. Gary B. Tollner



Ordained:	1961
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s, 1970s, 1980s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. John the Baptist, El Cerrito, CA (associate pastor) • St. Lawrence O'Toole, Oakland, CA (associate pastor) • Santa Maria, Orinda, CA (associate pastor) • St. Philip Neri, Alameda, CA (administrator, pastor) • St. Theresa, Oakland, CA (in residence)
Removed from Ministry:	1995
Died:	<p>Feb. 17, 1999</p> <p>Note: In February 2004, Bishop Vigneron publicly apologized to the parish community of St. Philip Neri, Alameda, CA for Tollner's abuse</p>

In 1982, Tollner's sister accused him of molesting his special needs nephew, age 22, who had the mental age of 12. Parishioners spoke of "suspicious behavior" involving young boys, alcohol and drugs in the hot tub Tollner had installed on the rectory roof. Tollner reportedly abused six children. One alleged victim is said to have become an addict by age 12 and died by suicide years later, citing abuse by Tollner in his suicide note. In 1995, the Oakland Diocese removed Tollner from ministry. In February 2004, Bishop Vigneron publicly apologized to the parish community of St. Philip Neri, Alameda for Tollner's conduct. On Feb. 17, 1999, Tollner died. The Oakland Diocese included Tollner's name on its list of accused abusers. Tollner is accused of abusing from the 1960s through the 1980s.

Fr. Ramon Varela



Order:	Order of Friars Minor-Franciscans (OFM)
Ordained:	1949
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1947-1979
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1949-1955: Native American Mission, AZ • 1955-1960: St. Mary's, Stockton, CA • 1960-1962: Mission San Miguel, San Miguel, CA • 1962-1963: St. Peter's, Bapchule, AZ • 1963-1967: Sacred Heart, Phoenix, AZ • 1967-1968: St. Elizabeth's, Oakland CA • 1968-1970: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Fresno, CA • 1970-1972: Our Lady of Guadalupe, San Jose, CA • 1972-1976: Ascension, Portland, OR • 1975-1978: Sts. Simon and Jude, Huntington Beach, CA • 1978-1979: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Delano, CA • 1979: Sacred Heart, Phoenix, AZ • 1979-1993: St. Francis Home, Santa Ana, NM • 1993-2001: Elder Care Facilities, NM
Died:	2002 Note: Varela's name appears on multiple lists of accused abusers, including: Franciscans' Santa Barbara Province, Oakland Diocese, Stockton Diocese and Fresno Diocese.

In 1994, church officials received allegations that Varela sexually abused from 1949-79. Varela's first assignment was in 1949, in AZ. He died in 2002. In 2019, both the Oakland Diocese and the Franciscans' Santa Barbara Province included Varela's name on its list of credibly accused abusers. In 2020, the Stockton Diocese added Varela's name to its list of abusers; Varela worked for the Stockton Diocese from 1955-60. In 2021, the Fresno Diocese added Varela's name to its list of abusers; Varela worked for the Fresno Diocese from 1968-1970. Varela was living in New Mexico until his death in 2002, per a Franciscan Friars of the Province of Saint Barbara report.

Br. John Vas



Order:	Salesians of Don Bosco / Salesian Society – SDB
Ordained:	2003
Status:	Accused
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salesian High School
Died:	Sept. 18, 2019

In February 2008, a woman alleged Vas molested her for nearly seven years, beginning in the 1960s when she was age seven. Vas was a Salesian brother and the band instructor at Salesian High School, where the girl's brother was a student. For many years, Vas lived with his wife in Florida. This is reportedly the second public accusation against Vas. It is unknown when he left the Salesian Order. Vas's obituary indicates that he died Sept. 18, 2019, had earned a doctorate in philosophy and letters, worked as a banking officer for many years and was a member of Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Bartow, Florida.

Br. Francis Verngren



Order:	De La Salle Brothers / Brothers of the Christian Schools-FSC
Ordained:	1936
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s, 1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1940-1959 St. Peter's High School and Sacred Heart High School, San Francisco, CA • 1959-1969 St. Mary's College High School, Berkeley, CA • 1969-1984 St. Mary's College High School, Napa, CA • 1984 Justin-Siena High School, Napa, CA • 1989 Began retirement- Holy Family Community, Napa, CA • 1990-2002: Math tutor, St. Apollinaris, Napa, CA • 2002 Full retirement
Died:	Dec. 12, 2003. *Note: In 2019, Verngren's name appeared on both Santa Rosa Diocese's and Oakland Diocese's lists of credibly accused abusers.

In May 2003, a man filed a civil lawsuit alleging that Verngren abused him from 1966-70, when Verngren was principal and head dorm resident at a Catholic school in Berkeley. The plaintiff said he told another staff member in 1969, Verngren was temporarily removed but later returned to his position. In September 2003, the lawsuit was settled. On Dec. 12, 2003, Verngren died. In 2019, both the Santa Rosa Diocese and the Oakland Diocese included Verngren's name on their list of credibly accused abusers. Verngren worked at Mont LaSalle in Napa from 1969-84 and at Justin Siena High School in Napa in 1984. Verngren worked as a math tutor at St. Apollinaris in Napa from 1990-2002.

Fr. Stephen Whelan



Order:	Salesians of Don Bosco / Salesian Society – SDB
Ordained:	1969
Status:	Settled
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1969-early 1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1970: Salesian High School, Richmond, CA • 1971-1978: St. John Bosco High School, Bellflower, CA • 1979-1980: St. Francis Junior High School, Watsonville, CA • 1984-2005: SS. Peter and Paul, San Francisco, CA • 2006-2008: Salesian Provincial Residence, San Francisco, CA • 2009-2016: Berkeley Salesians of Don Bosco, Berkeley, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Date not available, removed after jury in civil case in July 2006 awarded \$600k to abuser. In 2019, name appears on Oakland Diocese' list of credibly accused abusers.

In 2003, a man alleged in a civil lawsuit that Whelan abused him and raped him while he was a student at Salesian High School from the 1969 through the early 1970s. Whelan's accuser said Bro. Sal Billante witnessed the abuse and said nothing, that he told a counselor and was then chastised and threatened by the school principal. Also, the plaintiff alleged that school administrator Rev. David Purdy tried to get him to commit suicide. In August 2005, Whelan was still active. On July 7, 2006, the civil trial started, and on July 19, 2006, a jury awarded the plaintiff \$600,000. The Oakland Diocese removed Whelan from his position after the verdict, and he resided at the provincial house. In August 2008, a California appeals court upheld the verdict. Whelan was removed from ministry. In 1997, Whalen worked as the editor of the Salesian Bulletin. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese included Whalen's name on its list of credibly accused abusers.

Fr. Gordon Wilcox



Order:	Congregation of Holy Cross-CSC
Ordained:	1955
Status:	Convicted
Abuse:	1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1956-1960: St. George's College, Santiago, Chile • 1961-1963: University of Portland, Portland, OR • 1964-1970: Notre Dame High School, Niles, IL • 1971-1978: Moreau High School, Hayward, CA • 1979-1981: Unknown • 1982: University of Portland, Portland, OR • 1983: Unknown • 1984: Moreau Seminary, Notre Dame, IN
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Died:	Oct. 4, 1984

Named in a 2004 suit against Rev. Donald Eagleson, which was partially settled in 2005. Wilcox was named as an abuser of a male student in 1971 at Moreau High School in Hayward. Died 10/4/84. On the Oakland diocese's list in 2019. On the Congregation of Holy Cross list 6/12/19. It notes multiple allegations in 2003 and 2012 of abuse in CA in the 1970s. Suit filed in 11/19 by man claiming abuse in the 1970s as a Moreau Catholic High student, by both Wilcox and Br. John Moriarty.

Br. Terrence D. Wong



Order:	SM/ Society of Mary, Marianist Family
Status:	Sued
Diocese:	Oakland, CA
Abuse:	1960s, 1970s
Assignments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes St. Joseph High School, Alameda, CA
Removed from Ministry:	Left Marianist order in 1989
Died:	April 14, 1997

In 1958, Wong professed his vows as a Marianist brother, Province of the Pacific. In 1989, he left the Order. A civil suit accused Wong of sexual abuse from 1967-1970 when he worked at St. Joseph High

School in Alameda. On April 19, 1997, Wong died. In 2019, the Oakland Diocese included Wong's name on its list of credibly accused abusers, and in 2020, the Marianists included his name among accused abusers, as well.