

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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PRESS RELEASE

As part of the Diocese of Sioux City's continued efforts to create a safer, stronger environment for our parishioners, we remain committed to trust and openness. On February 25, 2019, the diocese voluntarily released a list of priests who had been determined to have been credibly accused of abuse of minors. This decision was made to emphasize our commitment to fostering an environment of transparency and to assure victims that we believe and care for them.

The release of names was the result of a thorough process in which the diocese's law firm and the Diocesan Review Board, comprised of clerical and community members, examined priest files dating to the diocese's founding in 1902.

The board considered any objective information that was available, including:

- Consistency of the testimony of witnesses
- Accuracy of the details, such as the placement of the accused at the time the allegation is said to have taken place
- Physical evidence
- Other corroborating evidence from files or other possible witnesses

Following the release of the list in 2019, Iowa's Attorney General, Tom Miller, requested additional information regarding clerical abuse of minors. We cooperated with the attorney general and his office, supplying supporting documentation, including materials we have made publicly available on our website.

The Diocese of Sioux City thanks the Attorney General for his concern for victims. The full list of credibly accused priests and FAQs can be found on our website – scdiocese.org/clergy-abuse. Our website also contains numerous documents that reflect the current steps and safeguards we have shared to date, as well as resources for reporting and for counseling.

We encourage any person who has been abused by a member of the clergy in our diocese to contact their local law enforcement agency, and the MercyOne Victim Assistance Coordinator at (866) 435-4397 or (712) 279-5610.