



Diocese of Austin

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Diocesan Administrator

On January 31, 2019, Most Reverend Joe S. Vásquez, then Bishop of Austin, published a list of clergy and religious who had been credibly accused of committing sexual abuse against a minor. Simultaneously, bishops throughout Texas also published similar lists.

To compile this list, the Diocese engaged outside professionals who worked with diocesan staff, most of whom are laypersons, to review 70 years of archived documents. The list contained the names of priests, deacons, or religious about whom the Diocese of Austin had received a credible allegation of committing sexual abuse against a minor.

Victims of clergy sexual abuse experience much pain, and we must continue to pray and care for our brothers and sisters who have suffered greatly.

In 2002, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops implemented the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The Charter, coupled with the implementation of our Ethics & Integrity in Ministry (EIM) program, has had a significant impact in reducing the abuse of minors by clergy. Yet, we must remain vigilant in protecting children from harm.

If you have suffered sexual abuse and have not reported it, please report the abuse to law enforcement. If the abuse occurred by a minister in the Church, please also contact our Office of Ethics & Integrity in Ministry (EIM).

As Diocesan Administrator, I remain committed to the care of all the People of God, especially those who have been sexually abused by the Church's ministers. I ask the intercession of Mary, the Mother of Jesus and our mother, to pray for us as we strive for holiness and truth. May she look with tender compassion on those who have been hurt just as she lovingly stood by her Son at the foot of the cross.

Sincerely in Christ,

Very Reverend James A. Misko
Diocesan Administrator
March 25, 2025