



## *The Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix*

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### COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

## **Statement on Crosier Priest Removed from Ministry**

January 31, 2014

The Diocese of Phoenix has learned that Fr. Timothy Conlon, a priest of the Crosier Fathers and Brothers religious order, has been credibly accused of sexual misconduct against two minors. The alleged abuse took place about 40 years ago before Fr. Conlon was ordained a priest.

Fr. Conlon served in the Hispanic Ministry Office from 2000 to 2006 and at Sacred Heart Parish from 2003 to 2010. We are not aware of any claims of sexual misconduct against Fr. Conlon while he served in the Diocese of Phoenix.

Following is the statement released by the Crosier Fathers and Brothers:

### **Crosier priest removed from pastoral care**

The Crosier Province, headquartered in Phoenix, Ariz., has learned that one of its members, Fr. Timothy Conlon, OSC, has been credibly accused of sexual misconduct against two minors.

The alleged abuse took place approximately 40 years ago in North Dakota before Fr. Conlon was ordained a priest, but has just been reported to Church authorities and the Crosiers. The Crosiers have not been aware of any other claims of sexual misconduct against a minor by Fr. Conlon previous to this report.

Fr. Conlon had been assigned to ministry within the Roman Catholic Diocese of Gallup, N.M., where he was in the process of incardination.

Working closely together, Bishop James Wall of Gallup, N.M., and Crosier Prior Provincial Thomas Enneking, OSC, immediately removed Fr. Conlon from the pastoral care of souls and began an investigation into the matter. Law enforcement has been informed. The Crosiers do not tolerate sexual misconduct of any kind and have a strict reporting policy in place.

Fr. Enneking has expressed great sadness for the victims alleging this misconduct and reiterated that the Crosier Province will do all that it can to protect anyone from such abuse and assist victims in their healing. Anyone aware of sexual misconduct by a Crosier is asked to contact the Crosier Province at 602-443-7100.

The Diocese of Phoenix is committed to providing a safe environment where it values and honors every individual as created in the image and likeness of God. Great efforts have been made to put systems into place to keep our young people safe. Anyone who has been a victim of abuse or who may have information concerning these crimes is encouraged to call a local law enforcement agency.

Additionally, the Diocese of Phoenix provides support services through its Office of Child and Youth Protection at (602) 354-2396 or at [diocesephoenix.org](http://diocesephoenix.org) (click on "Youth Protection").

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