



DIOCESE OF BUFFALO  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

**OPEN LETTER TO THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOHN VIANNEY PARISH**

March 2, 2018

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This has been a difficult week as we saw on the news that Fr. Norbert Orsolits publicly admitted that he molested “dozens of boys” in the late 1970’s and early 1980’s. Although he was removed from ministry in 2003, he served at many parishes including this parish many years ago.

I want to assure you that the Diocese of Buffalo is committed to protecting children and helping to heal victims of abuse. Anyone who has any knowledge of child sexual abuse is urged to come forward and report it immediately to the police. If clergy and other Church personnel are suspected of committing the abuse, please also report it to the Diocese of Buffalo by calling our Victim Assistance Coordinator Jacqueline Joy at our confidential hotline at (716) 895-3010. If the recent admission by Fr. Orsolits brings up an allegation from long ago at your parish, we want to know about it.

Please pray for all victims of abuse everywhere. Please pray for Fr. Orsolits, who made this difficult public admission. Finally, please pray for our Church in Western New York as we continue to deal with this awful part of our past as we continue our efforts to protect God’s children.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Richard J. Malone  
Bishop of Buffalo