



DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY - ST. JOSEPH

One Family: RESTORED IN CHRIST - EQUIPPED FOR MISSION

OFFICE of CHILD and YOUTH PROTECTION

Notice of Credible Allegation of Abuse

October 2, 2020

Bishop Johnston and diocesan leaders recognize how difficult it can be for a survivor of clergy sexual abuse to come forward and appreciate the great courage it takes in making a report to the Church.

The diocese has received and deemed credible an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by Thomas Reardon. This allegation was deemed credible following the diocesan *Policy for Response to Allegations*, by the Ombudsman, Independent Review Board and Bishop Johnston. The abuse occurred in 1972 at Camp Little Flower, a diocesan camp for children ages 7-12, at 83rd and Raytown Rd. where Reardon was Camp Director.

Reardon's name is included on the diocese's *List of Accused Clerics with Substantiated Allegations*, which can be found on the diocesan website [here](#). He has been laicized and is not able to function as a priest or present himself as one publicly.

Thomas Reardon was ordained in 1967 and served at several Kansas City area parishes including St. Elizabeth's, St. John Francis Regis, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, St. Gabriel the Archangel and Church of the Santa Fe in Buckner, Mo., through the 1980s, at which point he was removed from ministry.

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph takes very seriously any allegations of sexual abuse made against employees, clerics or volunteers who serve in the diocese. Anyone who has knowledge of such abuse or inappropriate behavior is encouraged to make a confidential report with the Ombudsman. If you were harmed by Thomas Reardon or any other person who has worked or volunteered for the diocese, no matter how long ago, the diocese wants to provide care and healing resources to you and your family. Please contact the Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org.

Report suspicions of abuse:

- 1. Call the *Missouri Child Abuse Hotline* at **1.800.392.3738** (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and**
- 2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and**
- 3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, **Joe Crayon**, at **816.812.2500** or **crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org**, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.**

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.