



DIOCESE OF STEUBENVILLE

P.O. Box 969
422 Washington St.
Steubenville, OH 43952

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Dino Orsatti
Diocese of Steubenville
Director of Communications
Editor, The Steubenville Register
Office: 740 282-3631, ext. 340
Cell: 740 424-3191
Email: dorsatti@diosteub.org

Bishop Monforton Suspends Priest from Active Ministry

STEUBENVILLE – Diocese of Steubenville Bishop Jeffrey M. Monforton has revoked all ministerial faculties from Father Christopher Foxhoven and suspended him from priestly ministry, effective immediately, as soon as he learned today the priest admitted to having sexual contact with and abuse of a minor.

In accordance with the *Essential Norms* and the Diocese of Steubenville's *Decree on Child Protection*, Father Foxhoven, 45, may not reside at the parish rectory or within the boundaries of St. Mary of the Hills, Buchtel or Holy Cross, Glouster, parishes. Bishop Monforton went on to say, "Father Foxhoven cannot exercise any sacred ministry or perform any ecclesiastical function, dress in clerical garb, or present himself as a priest."

Diocesan attorney Thomas Wilson immediately filed a report with the Athens County Sheriff's Department, where Father Foxhoven said the abuse occurred.

Bishop Monforton said, "We must remain vigilant in assisting victims of sexual abuse. We will cooperate with authorities and assist in their investigation of this case."

Father Foxhoven is pastor of Holy Cross and St. Mary of the Hills parishes.



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