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January 2, 2019

To the People of God in the Diocese of Monterey

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ:

Today, we released the list of priests, deacons and religious who have been credibly accused of sexual misconduct with a minor while serving for the Diocese of Monterey. We engaged an outside law firm to review our clergy files and to make an independent decision as to whether any file contains a credible allegation of sexual misconduct involving a child. The files of all known allegations against priests, deacons, religious and seminarians were reviewed as well as the files of all active priests, deacons, religious and seminarians. All the names included in the list are those determined by the outside law firm. The Diocese of Monterey's Independent Review Board (composed of lay people and one priest) also reviewed the list of names and has concurred in the result.

This has been a painful process for all involved. Sexual misconduct with a minor is a heinous sin and crime and something that should never happen -- especially by a trusted person such as a priest, deacon or religious. I deeply apologize to every victim of sexual misconduct by anyone associated with the Diocese of Monterey and I extend the offer of counseling to you. To access these services, please contact our Victims' Assistance Coordinator, Rio Castillo, at 800-321-5220 or [rcastillo@dioceseofmonterey.org](mailto:rcastillo@dioceseofmonterey.org).

We have been working and continue to work hard to ensure the safety of the children and young people under our care. Their physical and emotional safety is our top priority. As you will see from the list released today, nearly 95% of the sexual misconduct occurred before the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People was implemented in the Diocese of Monterey in 2003. Since 2003, there have been only two credible allegations against a priest, deacon, religious or seminarian involving sexual misconduct with a child. Even so, those two instances should not have occurred, and I am profoundly sorry for them.

Over the past sixteen years since the Bishops of the United States promulgated the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Diocese of Monterey has embraced the Charter and has implemented policies and procedures to protect children including the following:

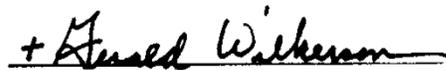
1. We require everyone who works with children or young people or who such children would see as a "safe church person" to be fingerprinted and to undergo training in child abuse prevention. Since 2003, we have completed criminal background checks on

26,000 people. This number includes every priest, deacon, and all employees and volunteers who work with children;

1. We have a Code of Pastoral Conduct in place that outlines the expectations when working with children and, we have trained everyone who works with children in this Code of Conduct;
2. We immediately turn over all cases of suspected child abuse to law enforcement and have provided extensive training on mandatory reporting of child abuse to our employees;
3. We train our children (both in religious education and Catholic Schools) in how to stay safe from child abuse and what to do if they are being abused;
4. We have a Pastoral Outreach Coordinator to respond to victims of clergy sexual misconduct. Her toll-free number is 800-321-5220; and,
5. The Diocese has an Independent Review Board to advise the Bishop on child abuse whether it involves priests, deacons or lay people.

If you feel you are the victim of sexual misconduct involving anyone associated with the Church in Monterey or anywhere, please report to law enforcement and then to us. You may report it to the Moderator of the Curia, Fr. Peter Crivello, the Chancellor, Deacon Hugo Patino or to the Victim's Assistance Coordinator, Rio Castillo. Fr. Crivello and Deacon Patino may be reached at 831-373-4345 or via email to [pcrivello@dioceseofmonterey.org](mailto:pcrivello@dioceseofmonterey.org) or [hpatino@dioceseofmonterey.org](mailto:hpatino@dioceseofmonterey.org). Ms. Castillo may be reached at 1-800-321-5220 or [rcastillo@dioceseofmonterey.org](mailto:rcastillo@dioceseofmonterey.org).

Sincerely yours,



Most Reverend Gerald Wilkerson, D.D.  
Apostolic Administrator

The Report of Credible Allegations is available on the Diocese of Monterey's website at [www.dioceseofmonterey.org](http://www.dioceseofmonterey.org)