

# Final Report: Clergy Sexual Abuse Task Force

Presented to: President James Harris, University of San Diego

By the Clergy Sexual Abuse Task Force

July 5, 2019

## **Clergy Sexual Abuse Task Force Charge**

Task force on the Sexual Abuse Crisis in the Catholic Church

President Harris has announced the formation of a task force on campus on the clergy sexual abuse scandal now facing the Catholic Church. USD's Catholic identity compels us to use our talents to respond to this current crisis in alignment with our mission.

The task force will provide the USD community with information on the crisis, identify resources internally and beyond, and explore recommendations for best practices to live out our mission and values as an engaged, contemporary Catholic university.

<https://www.sandiego.edu/ministry/church-in-crisis/task-force.php>

## **Task Force Membership**

### **Chairs**

Erin Bishop, Director for Mission & Center for Christian Spirituality

Stephen Conroy, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Business Programs, Professor of Economics

Mark Peters, Director for Mission

### **Members**

Jeffrey Burns, Director, Center for Catholic Thought and Culture

Wendell Callahan, Director of Clinical Training, Professor of Practice, SOLES

Esteban Del Rio, Associate Provost for Inclusion and Diversity, Associate Professor of Communication Studies

Florence Gillman, Professor, Theology and Religious Studies

Donald Godwin, Assistant Vice President and Dean of Students

Peter Marlow, Associate Vice President, University Communications

Coreen Petti, Associate Vice President, Advancement Marketing and Strategic Partnerships

Stephen Pultz, Assistant Vice President, Enrollment Management

Emily Reimer-Barry, Chair and Associate Professor, Theology and Religious Studies

Dustin Sharp, Associate Professor, Kroc School

Steven Smith, Warren Distinguished Professor of Law; Co-Executive Director, Institute for Law & Religion; Co-Executive Director, Institute for Law & Philosophy

Karen Teel, Associate Professor, Theology and Religious Studies

## Clergy Sexual Abuse Task Force Report

*If one member suffers, all suffer together with it” (1 Cor 12:26). These words of Saint Paul forcefully echo in my heart as I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by many minors due to sexual abuse, the abuse of power and the abuse of conscience perpetrated by a significant number of clerics and consecrated persons. Crimes that inflict deep wounds of pain and powerlessness, primarily among the victims, but also in their family members and in the larger community of believers and nonbelievers alike. Looking back to the past, no effort to beg pardon and to seek to repair the harm done will ever be sufficient. Looking ahead to the future, no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such situations from happening, but also to prevent the possibility of their being covered up and perpetuated. The pain of the victims and their families is also our pain, and so it is urgent that we once more reaffirm our commitment to ensure the protection of minors and of vulnerable adults.” Opening paragraph of: LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD, August 20, 2018*

The Clergy Sexual Abuse task force was convened by President Harris to address the University of San Diego’s response to the ongoing scandal of clerical sexual abuse in the Catholic Church. The scandal, which began with the *Boston Globe*’s report in 2002, has continued to shake the Church to its foundation and has resulted in numerous diocesan bankruptcies (including our own), commissions, investigations and the resignation of Cardinals McCarrick, Law and Pell. Indeed, there seems to be no area of the Church which has not been affected by this scandal and we are gravely saddened by the human toll this crisis has taken. It is in this context that Catholic universities are taking a closer look not only at ways in which the scandal may have affected them but also how they can shape policy and the dialog going forward. The task force applauds President Harris for forming this task force and having the courage to face the difficult issues involved in this process.

The task force met as a group throughout the 2018-19 academic year to discuss relevant issues related to the charge. There were three main areas of work conducted by the task force which coincided with the charge: (i) providing information about the crisis to the USD community, (ii) identifying resources for the USD community and (iii) exploring “best practices” at peer and aspirational universities. We focused our efforts on these three tasks and we report our results in this same order, in what follows below.

### **1. Provide Information on the crisis to the USD Community**

This area of inquiry was the major focus of the task force and substantial progress was made in this area. The main outcome in this area was the creation of a Church in Crisis website (<https://www.sandiego.edu/ministry/church-in-crisis/>) which serves as a focal point for information about the crisis for the general public, the university community, those who may have been touched by or affected by the crisis personally, students interested in learning more about this issue and faculty who may be interested in assigning readings or projects for their classes or in conducting scholarly inquiry into this area. The web site is quite robust and includes important informational links as well as links to resources, news and events. Specifically, the web site includes:

- a. A link to the Church in Crisis Research Guide (Libguide):  
<https://libguides.sandiego.edu/c.php?g=880475&p=6324948> (see Appendix A)

This USD-based site contains several sections that provide background information on the crisis, including:

- i. Home. This is the landing page for the Research Guide and provides:
  1. An introductory quote about the crisis from USD's University Ministry that reads "As a Catholic university, we share in the deep sadness and moral outrage at the details of sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable adults described in the recent Pennsylvania grand jury report. We stand in solidarity with the survivors of these abuses, many of whom have bravely shared their stories in order to shed light on a terrible darkness within the institutional Church....As a Changemaker campus of ethical leaders and compassionate citizens, we look for constructive ways to confront injustice and offer assurances of safety and support, particularly to those who are vulnerable and in most need." (University Ministry, [Church in Crisis](#))
  2. A quote about this Research Guide that reads: "In support of the university's efforts to help navigate this time of crisis, this guide provides resources, largely from the *Catholic Abuse Crisis Syllabus* from [\(DT\) Daily Theology](#), compiled by Catherine R. Osborne, PhD. Dr. Osborne emphasizes, "This list is *not*, as will be immediately obvious, a complete bibliography on the crisis. It was compiled from suggestions by several theologians and historians, and includes both documents and articles they have assigned to students, and those they have used to educate themselves."
  3. And a link to Dr. Osborne's ongoing syllabus maintained on *Daily Theology*'s web site at: <https://dailytheology.org/2018/09/18/a-catholic-abuse-crisis-syllabus/>
- ii. Primary Sources. (Appendix B) This includes links to important documents such as:
  1. The *Boston Globe* spotlight investigation from January 2002,
  2. The Philadelphia Grand Jury (2003) report
  3. *John Jay Report* commissioned by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2002
  4. Archbishop Rembert Weakland's deposition (2011)
  5. A Report on the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to the Sexual Abuse scandal in Australia (2017)
  6. Pennsylvania Diocese Victims Report (2018)
  7. Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the People of God (August 2018)
  8. An Article in *Catholic Philly* by Fletcher (August 20, 2018) "Abuse Victims Say They Felt Hurt by Ordinary Catholics' Lack of Compassion"
- iii. Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Books & Dissertations (Appendix C) that includes direct links to the USD Catalog for books and dissertations on this topic.

- iv. Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Articles and Blog Posts (Appendix D), which includes links to articles and blog posts which address issues such as:
  - 1. Religious Disillusionment and the Cross (Michael McCarthy, S.J.)
  - 2. What is Catholic About Clergy Sex Abuse Crisis? (Robert Orsi)
  - 3. The Real Reason the Catholic Church Remains Plagued by Abuse Scandals (William Cossen)
  - 4. Colonialism and the Crisis Inside the Crisis of Catholic Sexual Abuse (Kathleen Holscher)
  - 5. How did this Happen? (Michael Boyle)
- v. Church in Crisis: Films (Appendix E) A resource web page which includes links to relevant films such as:
  - 1. *The Silence* (a Frontline documentary from 2011)
  - 2. *Deliver us from Evil* (2006)
  - 3. *Calvary* (2014)
  - 4. *Spotlight* (2015)
  - 5. *A Matter of Conscience: Confronting Clergy Abuse* (2014)
- b. A web page with News and Related Links about the Crisis (Appendix F). This contains links to recent articles and is updated regularly by University Communications. Here are some links:
  - i. "Vos estis lux mundi (You are the light of the world)": Pope Francis' mandate on the reporting and investigating of clerical sexual abuse, Vatican website, May 9, 2019
  - ii. Full text of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI essay: 'The Church and the scandal of sexual abuse', Catholic News Agency, Apr. 10, 2019
  - iii. Pope Francis' address at the end of the summit on "The Protection of Minors in the Church", Vatican website, Feb. 24, 2019
  - iv. 'We Need to Be Concrete,' Pope Demands as He Inaugurates Summit for Protection of Minors, Zenit, Feb. 21, 2019
  - v. Father Lombardi Summarizes the Meeting on the Protection of Minors in 12 Questions and Answers, Zenit, Feb. 21, 2019
  - vi. ACCU Letter to Presidents of Catholic Institutions of Higher Education, Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, Aug. 31, 2018
  - vii. ACCU Pastoral Resources
  - viii. ACCU Statement on Sex Abuse in the Catholic Church, Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, Aug. 31, 2018
  - ix. US: Bishop's National Review Board Calls for Lay Leadership in Abuse Inquiry, Zenit, Aug. 29, 2018
  - x. Letter from Bishop McElroy to the Catholic community of San Diego and Imperial Counties, Diocese of San Diego, Aug. 26, 2018
- c. A web page that lists Events at USD (Appendix G). This includes the following events that were hosted at USD during the past year:
  - i. The Clerical Sexual Abuse Crisis (Tuesday, April 30, 2019, 6:00 p.m. in Serra Hall, Room 200, Humanities Center) The Tuesday evening session included

presentations by an undergraduate student, graduate student, and faculty member, with dialogue and discussion afterwards.

- ii. The Clerical Sexual Abuse Crisis (Monday, April 29, 2019, 6:00 p.m. in Serra Hall, Room 200, Humanities Center) The Monday evening session included testimony from a survivor, Jaime Romo, with opportunity for dialogue and discussion.
- iii. Bishop McElroy Listening Session at USD (Monday, November 5, 2018, 10:00 a.m. in KIPJ Theatre)
- iv. Catholic News Roundup: The Sexual Abuse Crisis in the Catholic Church (Wednesday, September 26, 2018, 4:00 p.m., in Founders Hall, French Parlor)
- v. Mass for Peace (Wednesday, September 5, 2018, 9:00 p.m., in Founders Chapel)

## **2. Identify resources for our community**

The task force interpreted this aspect of the charge to identify resources that would educate community members about their legal rights in the area of sexual abuse, provide ways to report sexual abuse, and provide information about where to receive assistance or services both on USD's campus and beyond. Just as with the first part of the charge, the task force focused on developing the Church in Crisis web site to provide links to these important resources (see Appendix H). The website includes the following:

- a. Advocacy and Reporting
  - i. Campus Assault Resources and Education (C.A.R.E.)
  - ii. USD Title IX
  - iii. USD Anonymous Reporting Form (Department of Public Safety)

Perhaps the most important resource/link in this section is the [USD Anonymous Reporting Form](#) (Appendix I). This link provides an opportunity for anyone to anonymously report any misconduct. The form asks about the incident date/time, location, type of crime, description of incident, suspect's name or description and vehicle description. Importantly, the reporter is not asked for his/her name or any other identifying information. We hope this type of anonymous reporting form that goes directly to Public Safety will provide an opportunity for victims to come forward. Once on this site, the reporter also has links (from the Public Safety web site) to: (a) Emergency Procedures, (b) Clery Act Compliance, (c) Crime Prevention, (d) Incident Reporting, (e) an Acts of Intolerance/Hate Crime Incident Form and (f) Sexual Assault Services.

- b. Counseling Services
  - i. USD Counseling Center (located in Serra Hall 300 or 619-260-4655)
  - ii. University Ministry staff are available to speak with students, faculty or staff who have experienced sexual misconduct, are struggling with questions about the Church or have had their faith shaken by the recent revelations. University Ministry is located in University Center 238 and can be reached at (619) 260-4735

- iii. Employee Assistance Program (confidential resource for USD employees)

### 3. Explore recommendations for “best practices.”

The task force interpreted this third part of the charge to include the following four areas:

- a. Consider what other universities are doing and adapt or adopt what fits USD’s mission. This involved communicating with colleagues and reading material about what other universities—particularly Catholic universities—were doing to address the crisis and to provide a forum for conversation about it. In the process, the task force learned the vast majority of activity in this area fell into two main areas:
  - i. Hosting panels, colloquia and symposia
  - ii. Inviting experts to campus to speak on the topic

We believe USD—which held five events over the past academic year—was on par with its peer institutions in this regard. The task force—itself—hosted one of the eight diocesan “listening sessions” by Bishop McElroy on November 5, which was very well attended. The other four events (see 1.(c) above) included two discussions for students and faculty entitled “The Clerical Sexual Abuse Crisis;” a “Catholic News Roundup” discussion for faculty; and a Mass for Peace dedicated to the crisis for the entire campus community. Since the task force did not have a budget we relied on funding from the Department of Theology and Religious Studies as well as the Harpst Center for Catholic Thought and Culture. Other Best Practices noted by task force members include special liturgies (e.g., a “Liturgy of Lament” at Loyola Marymount University) and commissioning/exhibiting art which addresses the Clerical Sexual Abuse Crisis (e.g., Trina McKillen’s “Confess” which was hosted by Loyola Marymount University).

- b. Identify ways to empower victims to come forward and to provide them with support.

The task force invited people from the community to come forward in the “Listening Session” with Bishop McElroy. The creation of the Resources page on the Church in Crisis website also provides an opportunity for victims to learn about their rights and to report crimes. The Anonymous Reporting Form, in particular, provides a vehicle for victims to come forward and be heard, without fear. The same reporting form also provides links to other ways victims can report abuses without remaining anonymous—if they so desire.

- c. Identify ways to prevent future abuse from occurring
  - i. in the Church and
  - ii. on USD’s campus

The task force’s development of the Church in Crisis website provides an important resource for the USD community (and beyond) to become educated about past



abuses and to learn their rights. The Resources page on the Church in Crisis website provides a host of important educational links. As noted above, they are:

- Campus Assault Resources and Education (C.A.R.E.)
- USD Title IX
- USD Anonymous Reporting Form (Department of Public Safety)
- USD Counseling Center (located in Serra Hall 300 or 619-260-4655)
- University Ministry staff are available to speak with students, faculty or staff who have experienced sexual misconduct, are struggling with questions about the Church or have had their faith shaken by the recent revelations. University Ministry is located in University Center 238 and can be reached at (619) 260-4735
- Employee Assistance Program (confidential resource for USD employees)

- d. Cultivate a culture of transparency and accountability and a preferential option for victims

The task force's work can only be considered a first step. While providing information on a university website shows commitment and concern, "culture" requires a higher level of commitment and resources. To that end, the task force believed strongly that USD should develop this culture of transparency and accountability by investigating (through an independent third party) whether any convicted or credibly accused clergy have ever been affiliated with this university.

This was mentioned in our December Update letter to President Harris in December 2018 (Appendix J). It was in that same letter that the task force referenced a very difficult situation in which Gonzaga University President, Thayne McCulloh, had to react publicly to an investigative report which revealed that a credibly-accused pedophile priest had spent a number of years in residence on the campus of Gonzaga University. President McCulloh, in his letter to the Gonzaga community, references the passive (rather than proactive, informed) approach to this issue he had taken before the investigative report. He writes, "I had relied upon the (Oregon) Province to inform us of any Jesuit whose history might pose a threat to our students or campus community. I deeply regret that I was not informed of the presence of Fr. Poole, nor any other Jesuits who might pose such a danger, at Cardinal Bea House."

The most obvious way to perform an investigation or audit of the kind we are suggesting would be to cross-reference current and historical university employment documents with lists of convicted or credibly-accused clergy from surrounding diocese (or perhaps all U.S. dioceses). There are lists of these clergy readily available in the media, including reports in the *San Diego Union Tribune* (Cf. Letter to President Harris in Appendix J) and the Diocese of San Diego has a list of priests who have

been credibly accused, along with their parish assignments and dates (<https://www.safeinourdiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/documents/List-of-Priests-published-102518.pdf>). There are two priests listed in that document which had parish assignments at the University of San Diego. Rev. James Patrick Foley is listed as having served in residence at the University of San Diego from November 1977 – September 1978 and then serving again from August 1990 – January 1991 as a “faculty/Department of Religion.” Rev. Barry Vinyard is also listed as having served in campus ministry from July 1991 – July 1997. An independent investigation should look for similar listings in surrounding dioceses and religious communities. For additional guidance on this topic, there is a publicly-available report from Jeff Anderson and Associates, P.A. legal firm which is in reference to the Crisis in the Diocese of Orange (Appendix K). As they note in their report, “This report is an attempt to compile information already available to the public from various sources in the public media; bishopaccountability.org; the Diocese’s public statements; and other sources that have attempted to chronicle this information for public use.”

Religious communities such as the Western Province of the Society of Jesus has made a report available on their web site titled, “List of Jesuits from Jesuits West Province with Credible Claims of Sexual Abuse of a Minor or Vulnerable Adult” (Appendix L) and the Franciscans’ Saint Barbara Province have a web site which lists their credibly accused friars (living and deceased) and their assignment dates and locations (<https://sbfranciscans.org/list-of-credibly-accused/>). One of the friars, Br. Tom Thing, is listed as having been assigned to the Old Mission San Luis Rey community in San Diego County from 1994 – 2003 and it is known that he worked in Campus Ministry at the University of San Diego during part of that time. This particular situation is a good example of what an internal investigation could explore. The investigation should also include a conversation with task force members in order to bring to light some as-yet-unsubstantiated or verified issues. The task force believes that an internal investigation—particularly one which is independently conducted—would make a bold statement that the University of San Diego is committed to creating a culture of transparency and accountability and that this commitment goes beyond just words.

## **Next Steps**

### **Maintaining the Church in Crisis Web Site**

The task force discussed the importance of maintaining the Church in Crisis web site as new information and updates become available. The Crisis is ongoing and new information will likely continue to come to light in the coming months and years.

### **Programming**

The task force believed that ongoing programming—lectures, conferences, colloquia and discussions—about the Crisis would certainly be appropriate and warranted in the coming years. There was some discussion of hosting an academic conference on the topic but this would certainly require substantial commitment of time and resources from key stakeholders on campus such as the Department of Theology and Religious Studies, the Harpst Center for Catholic Thought and Culture, the Center for Christian Spirituality, Mission and Ministry, etc.

### **Investigation**

As noted above, the task force recommended an internal investigation (preferably through an independent third party) to determine whether any convicted or credibly accused clergy have ever been affiliated with this university.

### **Creating and Maintaining a Culture of Transparency and Accountability**

The task force is convinced that creating a culture of transparency and accountability throughout the university is the best way to prevent the types of abuse identified in the Crisis from happening at a place like USD. We believe this culture is not only in line with USD's mission and core values but an essential part of being an engaged, contemporary Catholic university.

# Appendix

## A. Church in Crisis Resources Guide (LibGuide) Home

The screenshot shows the 'Church in Crisis: Home' page of a LibGuide. The browser address bar shows the URL: <https://libguides.sandiego.edu/c.php?g=880475&p=6324948>. The page has a navigation bar with tabs: Home, Primary Sources, Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Books & Dissertations, Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Articles & Blog Posts, and Films. The main content area includes a search bar, a paragraph about the university's stance on the sexual abuse of minors, a section about the guide's purpose, and a link to the syllabus site. At the bottom, there is a 'Last Updated' date and a 'Print Page' link.

Resources - University Ministry - X Home - Church in Crisis - Reses - X +

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Copley Library / Research Guides / Church in Crisis / Home

### Church in Crisis: Home

In support of USD's Church in Crisis site, this guide provides resources for further study.

Search this Guide Search

Home Primary Sources Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Books & Dissertations Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Articles & Blog Posts Films

Church in Crisis

"As a Catholic university, we share in the deep sadness and moral outrage at the details of sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable adults described in the recent Pennsylvania grand jury report. We stand in solidarity with the survivors of these abuses, many of whom have bravely shared their stories in order to shed light on a terrible darkness within the institutional Church. As a Changemaker campus of ethical leaders and compassionate citizens, we look for constructive ways to confront injustice and offer assurances of safety and support, particularly to those who are vulnerable and in most need." (University Ministry, [Church in Crisis](#))

In support of the university's efforts to help navigate this time of crisis, this guide provides resources, largely from the [Catholic Abuse Crisis Syllabus](#) from (DT) Daily Theology, compiled by Catherine R. Osborne, PhD. Dr. Osborne emphasizes, "This list is *not*, as will be immediately obvious, a complete bibliography on the crisis. It was compiled from suggestions by several theologians and historians, and includes both documents and articles they have assigned to students, and those they have used to educate themselves."

Please see the [syllabus](#) site for ways to comment on or add to these lists, or to get in touch with Dr. Osborne.

Where possible, titles are linked to Copley Library resources.

Last Updated: Oct 29, 2018 2:54 PM URL: <https://libguides.sandiego.edu/ChurchinCrisis> Print Page

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## B. Church in Crisis: Primary Sources

The screenshot shows the 'Church in Crisis: Primary Sources' page of a LibGuide. The browser address bar shows the URL: <https://libguides.sandiego.edu/c.php?g=880475&p=6325063>. The page has a navigation bar with tabs: Home, Primary Sources, Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Books & Dissertations, Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Articles & Blog Posts, and Films. The main content area includes a search bar and several resource boxes. The 'Boston Globe' box highlights a 'Spotlight Investigation' from January 2002. The 'Philadelphia Grand Jury' box highlights a report from September 17, 2003. The 'John Jay Report' box highlights a report from February 2004. The 'Weakland Deposition' box highlights a deposition from October 24, 2011. The 'Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Sexual Abuse, Australia' box highlights a report from December 2017. The 'Pennsylvania Diocese Victims Report' box highlights a report from July 27, 2018. The 'Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the People of God' box highlights a letter from August 20, 2018. The 'Fletcher' box highlights a report from August 20, 2018. The 'Zita Gainger Fletcher' box highlights a report from August 20, 2018.

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Copley Library / Research Guides / Church in Crisis / Primary Sources

### Church in Crisis: Primary Sources

In support of USD's Church in Crisis site, this guide provides resources for further study.

Search this Guide Search

Home Primary Sources Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Books & Dissertations Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Articles & Blog Posts Films

**Boston Globe**

The Boston Globe's Spotlight Investigation (January 2002 ff)

- Huge archive of news articles divided into 9 topics (Predator priests, scandal and coverups, victims, financial cost, law and the laity, the church's response, the clergy, investigations/lawsuits, and opinion), interactive features (a map of accused priests in Boston, a database), depositions (by Cardinal Law and others).

**Philadelphia Grand Jury**

Philadelphia Grand Jury Report (September 17, 2003)

- BishopAccountability's site on the report includes a breakdown and reorganization of its contents along with links to other reports, news articles, and various responses.
- Archbishop Justin Rigali's letter to the Archdiocese, September 21, 2003
- Rigali's remarks at press conference, September 21, 2003

**John Jay Report**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, "The Nature and Scope of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Catholic Priests and Deacons in the United States 1950-2002" (the "John Jay Report"), February 2004

- Commissioned by the USCCB in 2002

**Weakland Deposition**

Deposition of Archbishop Rembert Weakland, Milwaukee (October 24, 2011)

- Weakland's deposition gives insight into both standard procedures around abuse cases and episcopal mindsets/thinking.

**Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Sexual Abuse, Australia**

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Sexual Abuse, Australia (2012-2017, final report December 2017)

- Extensive collection of resources including documents, videos, earlier reports and papers, as well as the final report.
- Here's one news article summarizing a few key points.

**Pennsylvania Diocese Victims Report**

Pennsylvania Diocese Victims Report/Report 1 of the 40th Statewide Investigating Grand Jury (July 27, 2018)

- The "Pennsylvania grand jury report" is downloadable from this website, along with a separate PDF that includes official responses by a number of dioceses and individual priests named in the report. Also included is a 5-minute video of survivor interviews.

**Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the People of God**

"Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the People of God" (August 20, 2018)

**Fletcher**

Fletcher, (August 20, 2018), "Abuse Victims Say They Felt Hurt by Ordinary Catholics' Lack of Compassion," *Catholic News Service* (August 20, 2018)

**Zita Gainger Fletcher**

Zita Gainger Fletcher, "Abuse Victims Say They Felt Hurt by Ordinary Catholics' Lack of Compassion," *Catholic News Service* (August 20, 2018)

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## C. Church in Crisis: Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Books and Dissertations

Resources - University Ministry - x Historical Context and Personal - x Home - Church in Crisis - Resen - x +

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Church in Crisis: Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Books & Dissertations

In support of USD's Church in Crisis site, this guide provides resources for further study.

Home Primary Sources Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Books & Dissertations Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Articles & Blog Posts Films

**Breaking the Silence**

Brian Cites, *Breaking the Silence: The Catholic Sexual Abuse Survivor Movement in Chicago, 1943-2002* (Ph.D. diss, Northwestern University, 2015).

Available through the Proquest Dissertations and Theses Global Database [here](#).

**Child Sexual Abuse and the Catholic Church**

Marie Keenan, *Child Sexual Abuse and the Catholic Church: Gender, Power, and Organizational Culture* (Oxford University Press, 2013).

- Keenan is an Irish psychotherapist who has worked with both survivors and perpetrators of clerical sexual abuse.
- Publisher says: "Linking the personal and the institutional, researcher and therapist Marie Keenan locates the problem of child sexual abuse not exclusively in individual pathology, but also within larger systemic factors, such as the very institution of priesthood itself, the Catholic take on sexuality, clerical culture, power relations, governance structures of the Catholic Church, the process of formation for priesthood and religious life, and the complex manner in which these factors coalesce to create serious institutional risks for boundary violations, including child sexual abuse. Keenan draws on the priests' own words not to excuse their horrific actions but to understand the systemic factors that have enabled them to persist."

**The Silence of Sodom**

Mark Jordan, *The Silence of Sodom: Homosexuality in Modern Catholicism* (University of Chicago Press, 2009).

- Publisher says: "The past decade has seen homosexual scandals in the Catholic Church becoming ever more visible, and the Vatican's directives on homosexuality becoming ever more forceful, begging the question Mark Jordan tries to answer here: how can the Catholic Church be at once so homophobic, and so homophobic? His analysis is a keen and readable study of the tangled relationship between male homosexuality and modern Catholicism."

**The Clergy Sex Abuse Crisis and the Legal Responses**

James T. O'Reilly and Margaret S.P. Chalmers, *The Clergy Sex Abuse Crisis and the Legal Responses* (Oxford University Press, 2014).

- By two law-enforcement lawyers.
- Publisher says: "Clear explanation of the Catholic Church abuse scandal in the U.S., probes how church law protects bishops from accountability, deals directly with 'repressed memory' incidents and belated crime reporting, places blame for priests' improper behavior on failings of church accountability processes, considers reforms and best practices to be applied in the light of the scandal."

**History and Presence**

Robert Orsi, *History and Presence* (Harvard University Press, 2016).

See especially Chapter 7, "Events of Abundant Evil."

**Lead Us Not Into Temptation**

Jason Berry, *Lead Us Not Into Temptation: Catholic Priests and the Sexual Abuse of Children* (1992).

**Sacred Silence**

Donald Cossman, *Sacred Silence: Sexual and Child Abuse in the Church* (Liturgical Press, 2002).

**Telling Truths in Church**

Mark Jordan, *Telling Truths in Church: Scandal, Flesh, and Christian Speech* (Beacon, 2003).

- Publisher says: "The subtle and passionate meditations that make up *Telling Truths in Church* are thus both a response to the scandals and an attempt to think beyond them to a more comprehensive understanding of what they might mean—for Catholicism in particular, but more broadly for all the Christian churches. In five chapters, Jordan writes of speaking of secrets about sex and about same-sex love, the telling of truth to and about God, and acknowledging our feelings about God's flesh. He also considers forms for suppressing and for offering truths, and the way language may reveal or hide them."

**Faithful Revolution**

Tricia Bruce, *Faithful Revolution: How Voice of the Faithful is Changing the Church* (Oxford University Press, 2011).

- Publisher says: "In January 2002, reeling from a growing awareness of child sexual abuse within their church, a small group of Catholics gathered after Mass in the basement of a parish in Wellesley, Massachusetts to mourn and react. They began to mobilize around supporting non-abuse."

Ask Us

## D. Church in Crisis: Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Articles and Blog Posts

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Church in Crisis: Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Articles & Blog Posts

In support of USD's Church in Crisis site, this guide provides resources for further study.

Home Primary Sources Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Books & Dissertations Historical Context and Personal Analysis: Articles & Blog Posts Films

**"A Crisis About the Theology of Children"**

Robert Orsi, "A Crisis About the Theology of Children," *Harvard Divinity School Bulletin* 30, no. 4 (2002).

**"The Called, the Chosen, and the Tempted"**

Tom McCarthy, "The Called, the Chosen, and the Tempted: Psychologists, the Church, and the Scandal," *American Catholic Studies* 125, no. 4 (Winter 2014): 1-49.

**"Why It's So Hard to Hold Priests Accountable for Sex Abuse"**

Carolyn M. Warner, "Why It's So Hard to Hold Priests Accountable for Sex Abuse," *The Conversation* (August 17, 2018).

- Warner, a professor of political science at Arizona State University, studies the Church's handling of abuse accusations against the 20th century history of the Code of Canon Law.

**"Clericalism, Conversion, and Church Reform"**

Kevin Brown, "Clericalism, Conversion, and Church Reform," *Daily Theology* (August 27, 2018).

- Includes links to several other articles and commentaries naming "clericalism" as a key problem.

**"Religious Institutions and Sexual Abuse"**

Robert Orsi, "Religious Institutions and Sexual Abuse," *Harvard Divinity School Bulletin* 30, no. 4 (2002).

**"Religious Disillusionment and the Cross"**

Michael C. McCarthy, S.J., "Religious Disillusionment and the Cross: An Augustinian Reflection," *The Heythrop Journal* 48, no. 4 (July 2007): 577-82.

- Abstract: "This essay applies recent scholarly insights on disillusionment as a cultural and psychological phenomenon to the problem of religious disillusionment as experienced by US Catholics in the wake of scandals of clergy sexual abuse."

**"What is Catholic About the Clergy Sex Abuse Crisis?"**

Robert Orsi, "What is Catholic About the Clergy Sex Abuse Crisis?" in *The Anthropology of Catholicism: A Reader* (University of California Press, 2017), 282-92.

**"Four Incomplete Ways of Reforming the Church"**

Robert Orsi, "Four Incomplete Ways of Reforming the Church," *Daily Theology* (August 16, 2018).

- Four DT editors suggest church reforms to the crisis. For teaching, useful for suggesting the wide variety of diagnoses and remedies made by Catholics.

**"The Real Reason the Catholic Church Remains Plagued by Abuse Scandals"**

William S. Cossman, "The Real Reason the Catholic Church Remains Plagued by Abuse Scandals," *The Washington Post* (August 23, 2018).

- Cossman, a historian of Catholicism focused on the 16th century, looks at some deep roots of clerical vs lay control in the U.S. Catholic Church.

**"Colonialism and the Crisis Inside the Crisis of Catholic Sexual Abuse"**

Kathleen Holcher, "Colonialism and the Crisis Inside the Crisis of Catholic Sexual Abuse," *Reserve Religion Dispatches* (August 27, 2018).

- Holcher, associate professor of Religious Studies and American Studies at the University of New Mexico, argues that colonialism affects both which abuse we consider "significant" and the dynamics of abusive communities, noting that dioceses and orders serving largely white communities in the eastern and midwestern United States often sent their "problem" priests to the largely Native and Hispanic mission territories of the west.

**Forum: Sex Abuse and the Catholic Church**

Forum: Sex Abuse and the Catholic Church, *The Immanent Frame* (August 2012).

- Editor Kathryn Lofton updated her introduction, August 24, 2018, with a brief history of how the Forum came about and a short new reflection in light of the release of the PA grand jury report.

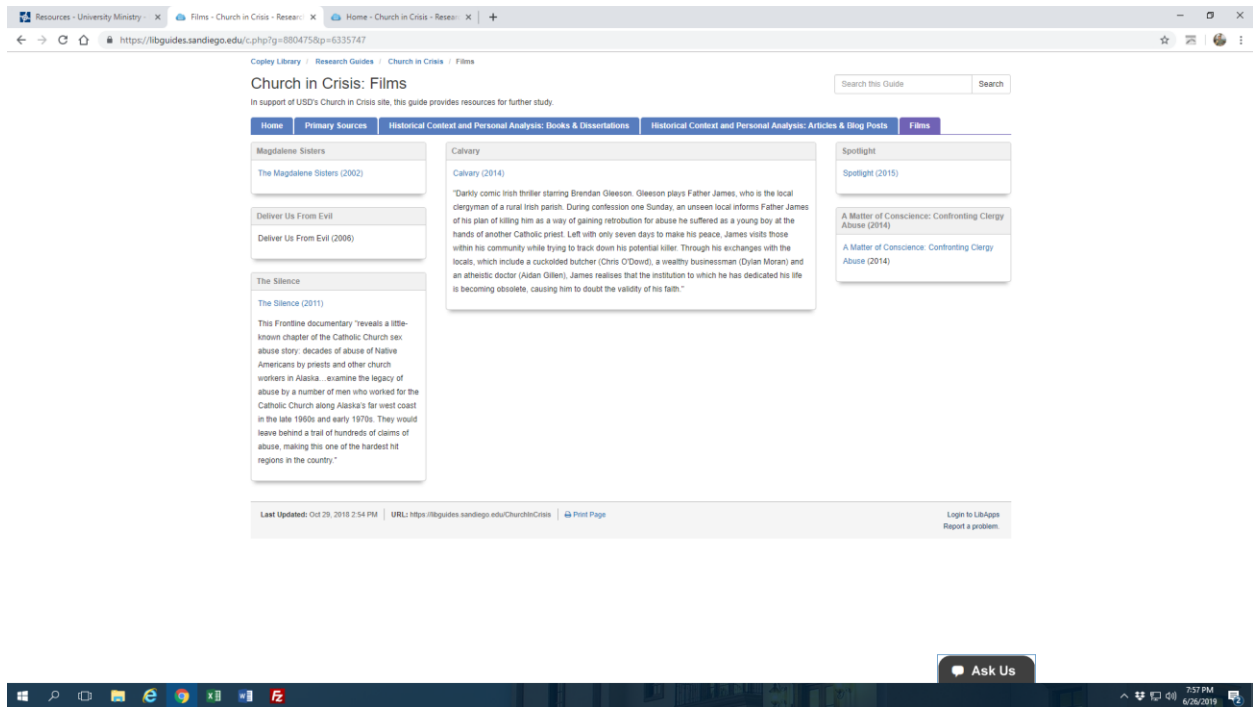
**"How Did This Happen?"**

Michael Boyle, "How Did This Happen?," *Sound of Sheer Silence* (February 2017), Part 1, Part 2, Part 3, Part 4.

- by a former Catholic seminarian.
- Parts 1, 2, and 3 argue (his words): that the crisis was caused by "a completely closed and insular clerical culture which prioritized its own autonomy from judgment by non-clerical institutions, and which developed a culture of 'don't ask, don't tell' with regard to sexual indiscretions formed in light of its own internal struggles around the fact that a majority of its members were closeted gay men, and which was also struggling with shrinking numbers, thus was incentivized toward doing whatever possible to keep priests in the fold and on duty, while lacking robust tools to recognize the true harm and danger of the sexual abuse of children."
- Part 4 focuses on...

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## E. Church in Crisis: Films



Resources - University Ministry - X | Films - Church in Crisis - Resear... | Home - Church in Crisis - Resear... | +

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### Church in Crisis: Films

In support of USD's Church in Crisis site, this guide provides resources for further study.

Search this Guide Search

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**Magdalene Sisters**  
The Magdalene Sisters (2002)

**Deliver Us From Evil**  
Deliver Us From Evil (2006)

**The Silence**  
The Silence (2011)  
This Frontline documentary "reveals a little-known chapter of the Catholic Church sex abuse story: decades of abuse of Native Americans by priests and other church workers in Alaska... examine the legacy of abuse by a number of men who worked for the Catholic Church along Alaska's far west coast in the late 1960s and early 1970s. They would leave behind a trail of hundreds of claims of abuse, making this one of the hardest hit regions in the country."

**Calvary**  
Calvary (2014)  
"Darkly comic Irish thriller starring Brendan Gleeson. Gleeson plays Father James, who is the local clergyman of a rural Irish parish. During confession one Sunday, an unseen local informs Father James of his plan of killing him as a way of gaining retribution for abuse he suffered as a young boy at the hands of another Catholic priest. Left with only seven days to make his peace, James visits those within his community while trying to track down his potential killer. Through his exchanges with the locals, which include a cuckolded butcher (Chris O'Dowd), a wealthy businessman (Dylan Moran) and an atheistic doctor (Aidan Gillen), James realises that the institution to which he has dedicated his life is becoming obsolete, causing him to doubt the validity of his faith."

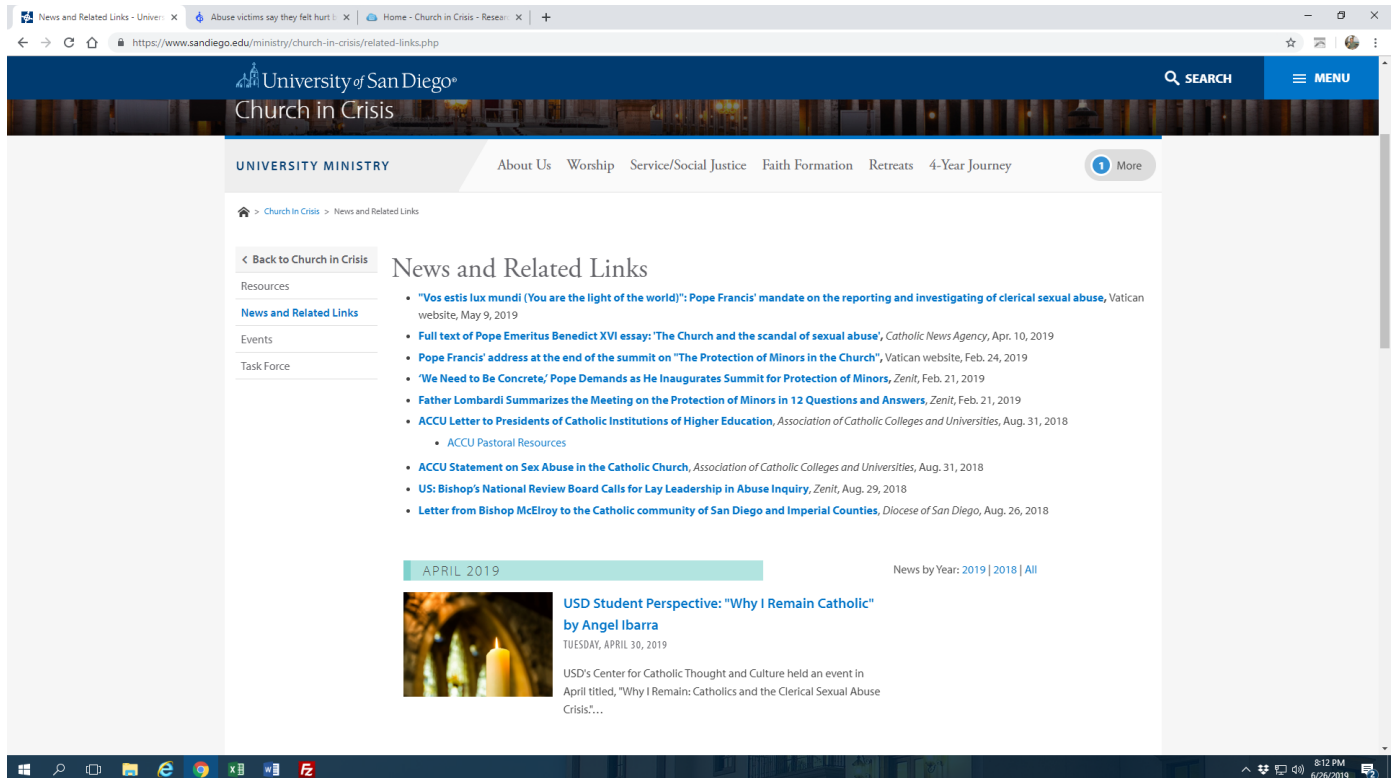
**Spotlight**  
Spotlight (2015)  
A Matter of Conscience: Confronting Clergy Abuse (2014)  
A Matter of Conscience: Confronting Clergy Abuse (2014)

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7:57 PM 6/26/2019

## F. Important News and Related Links



News and Related Links - Univer... | Abuse victims say they felt hurt | Home - Church in Crisis - Resear... | +

https://www.sandiego.edu/ministry/church-in-crisis/related-links.php

University of San Diego

### Church in Crisis

UNIVERSITY MINISTRY

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Resources

**News and Related Links**

Events

Task Force

### News and Related Links

- **"Vos estis lux mundi (You are the light of the world)"; Pope Francis' mandate on the reporting and investigating of clerical sexual abuse**, Vatican website, May 9, 2019
- **Full text of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI essay: 'The Church and the scandal of sexual abuse'**, Catholic News Agency, Apr. 10, 2019
- **Pope Francis' address at the end of the summit on "The Protection of Minors in the Church"**, Vatican website, Feb. 24, 2019
- **'We Need to Be Concrete; Pope Demands as He Inaugurates Summit for Protection of Minors**, Zenit, Feb. 21, 2019
- **Father Lombardi Summarizes the Meeting on the Protection of Minors in 12 Questions and Answers**, Zenit, Feb. 21, 2019
- **ACCU Letter to Presidents of Catholic Institutions of Higher Education**, Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, Aug. 31, 2018
  - ACCU Pastoral Resources
- **ACCU Statement on Sex Abuse in the Catholic Church**, Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, Aug. 31, 2018
- **US: Bishop's National Review Board Calls for Lay Leadership in Abuse Inquiry**, Zenit, Aug. 29, 2018
- **Letter from Bishop McElroy to the Catholic community of San Diego and Imperial Counties**, Diocese of San Diego, Aug. 26, 2018

APRIL 2019

News by Year: 2019 | 2018 | All

**USD Student Perspective: "Why I Remain Catholic"**  
by Angel Ibarra  
TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019

USD's Center for Catholic Thought and Culture held an event in April titled, "Why I Remain: Catholics and the Clerical Sexual Abuse Crisis..."

## G. Events at USD

The screenshot shows the University of San Diego website's 'Events' page. The header includes the university's name and a navigation menu with links like 'About Us', 'Worship', 'Service/Social Justice', 'Faith Formation', 'Retreats', and '4-Year Journey'. A sidebar on the left contains links for 'Back to Church in Crisis', 'Resources', 'News and Related Links', 'Events', and 'Task Force'. The main content area is titled 'Events' and includes a paragraph stating the university's commitment to exploring and understanding the scope of abuse within the Church. Below this, there is a section for 'ALL EVENTS' with a list of upcoming events. The first event is 'The Clerical Sexual Abuse Crisis' on Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at 6 P.M. in Serra Hall, Room 200. The second event is 'The Clerical Sexual Abuse Crisis' on Monday, April 29, 2019, at 6 P.M. in Serra Hall, Room 200. The third event is 'Bishop McElroy Listening Session at USD' on Monday, November 5, 2018, at 10 A.M. in KIPJ, Room Theatre. The page also includes links for 'Upcoming Events', 'Today's Events', and 'Events by Year: 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | All'.

## H. Resources for Community

The screenshot shows the University of San Diego website's 'Resources for Community' page. The header and navigation menu are identical to the previous page. The sidebar on the left contains links for 'News and Related Links', 'Events', and 'Task Force'. The main content area is titled 'Resources for Community' and includes a paragraph stating the university's commitment to exploring and understanding the scope of abuse within the Church. Below this, there is a section for 'Advocacy and Reporting' with links to 'Campus Assault Resources and Education (CARE)', 'USD Title IX', and 'USD Anonymous Reporting Form (Department of Public Safety)'. There is also a section for 'Counseling Services' with links to 'USD Counseling Center', 'University Ministry staff', and 'Employee Assistance Program'. The page also includes a 'Contact Information' section at the bottom.

## I. Anonymous Reporting Form (USD Public Safety)

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.sandiego.edu/safety/reporting/anonymous.php>. The page is titled "University of San Diego" and "PUBLIC SAFETY". The navigation menu includes "About", "Emergency Procedures", "Clery Act Compliance", "Crime Prevention", "Incident Reporting", and a "More" button. The left sidebar lists "Clery Act Compliance", "Crime Prevention", "Incident Reporting", "Anonymous Reporting", "Acts of Intolerance/Hate Crime Incident Form", "Sexual Assault Services", and "Tram Services". The main content area is the "Anonymous Reporting" form, which includes the following fields:

- Date/Time:
- Location:
- Crime Type:
- Description of Incident:
- Suspect's Name or Description:
- Vehicle Description:

A "Submit" button is located at the bottom of the form.



J. December Update Letter to President Harris

President James Harris  
University of San Diego  
San Diego, CA 92110

December 21, 2018

Dear President Harris:

*As the fall semester draws to a close, the three co-chairs of the Clergy Abuse Task Force would like to provide you with (a) an update of our efforts this semester, (b) a brief discussion of our work for next semester and (c) an immediate recommendation for action.*

*We can characterize the efforts of the Task Force in three main areas. First, we spent considerable time researching and learning about the Clergy Abuse scandals that largely began with the now-famous Boston Globe report in 2002 and has since spread throughout the world. We were interested in not only the specific facts of the reports but also the various responses to allegations and how those may have affected communities and the Church. We have paid particular attention to university-level responses to the scandals—both in their own dioceses and to reports nationwide (and globally). Catholic universities have responded in various ways, including conducting expert panels and making formal position statements.*

*The second area of emphasis has been to focus on our own diocese. As you know, there have been various reports about clergy abuse occurring in our own diocese of San Diego, most recently with eight priests being added to the list of 48 included in the September 7, 2007 settlement (<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/religion/sd-me-abusive-priests-20180906-story.html>). While most, if not all, of these events occurred decades ago and often the abuser or alleged abuser is deceased, we remain concerned about (a) any affiliation of these abuse cases to our campus and university, regardless of how long ago they may have occurred and (b) any recent or ongoing issues that may have occurred or are still occurring. To that end, we were pleased to be able to assist with Bishop McElroy's Listening Session here on our campus that occurred on November 5. The Task Force was also pleased with the level of professionalism exhibited by our university staff and administrators and level of commitment from your office to host this event.*

*Third, we are currently preparing a document that will provide our recommendations for the university. While we have begun our initial work, we do not expect to complete it until after faculty return from Winter Break—perhaps in February or March.*

*However, there is one urgent issue which we would like to bring to your attention at this time. Gonzaga University President, Thayne McCulloh, appeared to be caught off guard by a report that a Jesuit priest, Fr. Poole (and others)—credibly accused of sexual abuse—had been housed on the campus of Gonzaga. We have provided the text of President McCulloh's response in an appendix below. What concerned many of the Task Force members is that President McCulloh seemed to be caught off guard and appeared naïve in his failure to ask the very important (but difficult) questions on his own, before such a report was made public. The Task Force believes that it may be prudent for you to make a statement early in the new year indicating that USD has begun the important but difficult work of*

*looking into our past and that we are ready to confront whatever we may find. In the statement, you could discuss how you will address any issues that may come up and also encourage people to come forward. As such, this approach could guard against being in a similar situation as President McCulloch if there were to be a similar expose in the SD Union Tribune or L.A. Times, etc. Task Force members have also expressed concerns about the legal exposure that USD may open itself up to by being proactive and, as it were, asking for this information from the past, but the general tenor of our discussions was that this would be the right thing to do and that it should occur early in the new year--not waiting until the Task Force's final recommendations report, which is likely to be in February or perhaps March of 2019.*

*Thank you for your continued support of the Task Force and our efforts. We applaud your efforts to address these very important issues and remain hopeful that our university will have the courage do what is right.*

*Sincerely,*

*Erin Bishop  
Dir for Mission & Ctr for Christian Spirituality*

*Stephen Conroy  
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Business Programs and  
Professor of Economics*

*Mark Peters  
Director for Mission*

## Appendix

*Letter from President Thayne McCulloh, President of Gonzaga*

*Dear alumni, parents and friends:*

*I write today in light of a recent investigative report entitled, "Sins of the Fathers." The account first focused on the horrifying, predatory sexual abuse of Alaska Native girls and women by James Poole, a Jesuit priest who worked at that time in Nome, Alaska; and then examined the ways in which the leadership of the Society of Jesus knowingly re-assigned men such as Poole – as well as numerous other men credibly accused of sexual abuse – to other locations within the Oregon Province, and sometimes to locations where they were again credibly accused of abusing children, women and men, and vulnerable adults. Through her research, the reporter further found that many men who were accused of sexual abuse were in their later years assigned to the retirement facility and Infirmary for the Oregon Province, Cardinal Bea House, located just west of St. Aloysius Church.*

*Listening to this broadcast and reading these accounts is deeply disturbing and elicits for me feelings of sadness, disgust and betrayal that I know must be shared by all of you as well. I feel so much sadness and anger for the women, men and children who were victimized by Poole and others, and all those who have been sexually assaulted by ordained priests who abused their power and privilege. I, together with fellow colleagues and friends of the University, were deeply wounded by the revelations of the sexual abuse of children, men, and women by Jesuits of the Oregon Province that were at the heart of the Province bankruptcy (filed in 2009, with a settlement reached in March 2011).*

*Those wounds for me were re-opened this weekend, at the revelation that the Society of Jesus had knowingly sent a man with Poole's record of sexual abuse to live in their facility within the parameters of our campus – which serves not only as the home of college students, but regularly hosts grade-school children and visitors of all ages – without notification by the Province to the University. Cardinal Bea House is owned and operated by the Jesuits West Province (i.e., not Gonzaga University). It has served both as a center for formation of Jesuit novices and as a residence for retired Jesuits (until the present). The Province determines the assignment of its Jesuits to its communities, such as Cardinal Bea House.*

*It is important for me to share with you, that in the years following the 2011 Oregon Province bankruptcy, I learned that there had been priests under supervised "safety plans" living at the Jesuit retirement community (Bea House). It was not until 2016, when the Province chose to begin relocating a number of retired men to the Sacred Heart Community in Los Gatos, that I learned that among them were Jesuits who had been on safety plans (and were moved). The first notification I had that Fr. James Poole lived at Bea House was when the US Jesuits West list was released on December 7th, 2018; I did not know of Fr. Poole, or his history in Alaska, until the investigative report aired this past weekend. Following the lessons learned out of the bankruptcy, I had relied upon the Province to inform us of any Jesuit whose history might pose a threat to our students or campus community. I deeply regret that I was not informed of the presence of Fr. Poole, nor any other Jesuits who might pose such a danger, at Cardinal Bea House.*

*We are committed to being a community that strives to respect, protect and support every individual. As such, the safety of our students, staff and visitors to the Gonzaga campus is our top priority, and the University has zero tolerance for sexual misconduct of any form. Gonzaga has measures in place to allow for confidential reporting of misconduct to the proper authorities at [www.gonzaga.edu/report](http://www.gonzaga.edu/report). It is University policy to cooperate fully with any and all investigations of abuse and to take swift action when warranted.*

*Please know our [Center for Cura Personalis](#), [Health and Counseling Services](#), and [Office of Mission and Ministry](#) are resources dedicated to helping our students work through complex issues such as this. For employees struggling with these same feelings, the free, confidential [Employee Assistance Program](#) is available. Further, I encourage anyone who has been victimized by a Jesuit to contact both Mary Pat Panighetti, advocacy coordinator for Jesuits West, at 408-893-8398 or [mppanighetti@jesuits.org](mailto:mppanighetti@jesuits.org), and appropriate law enforcement and child protective agencies.*

*Earlier this fall, I communicated [Gonzaga University's commitments to our students and community](#). This message also appears in the current edition of the Gonzaga Magazine, arriving in homes this week.*

*Fully repairing the pain of abuse may never be possible, but we must be and remain committed to continuously love, support and care for those who have been victimized, and resolve to seek justice with and for them.*

*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thayne M. McCulloh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

*Thayne M. McCulloh, D.Phil.  
President*

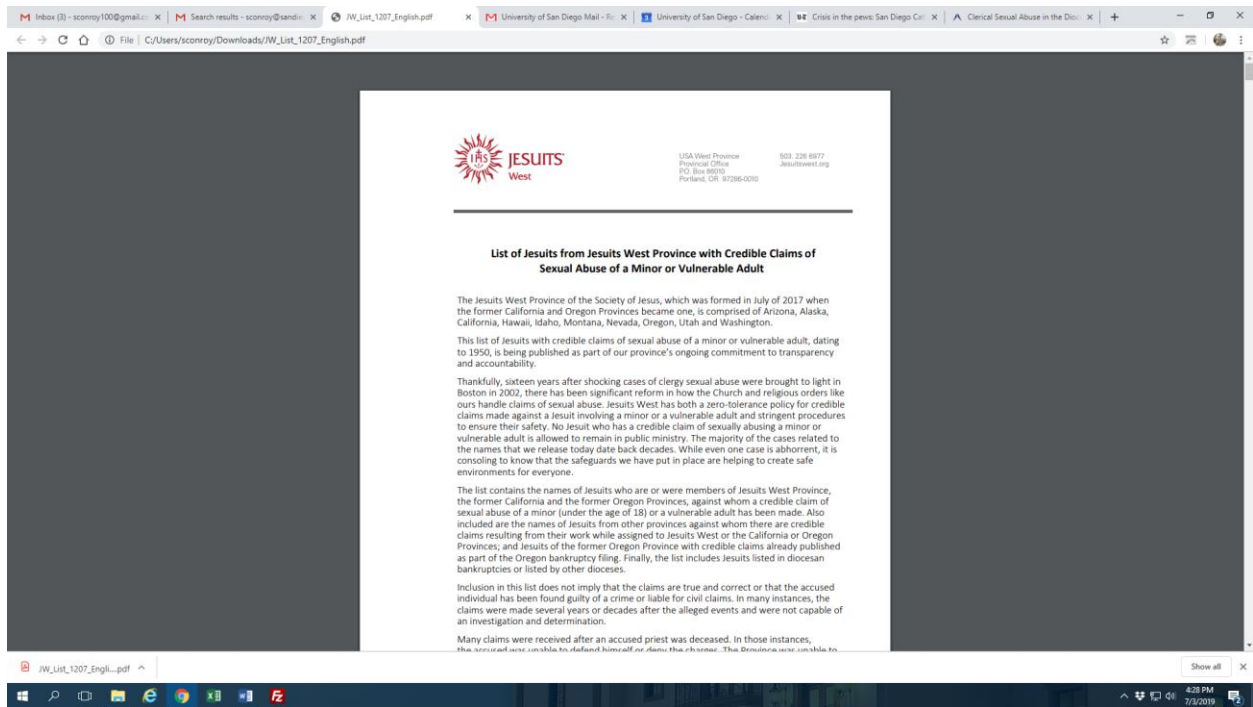
## K. Diocese of Orange Legal Report



(Available at:

<https://www.andersonadvocates.com/Documents/posts/Clerical%20Sexual%20Abuse%20in%20the%20Diocese%20of%20Orange.pdf> )

## L. Report from Western Province of Jesuits



(Available at: [https://jesuitswest.org/Assets/Publications/File/JW\\_List\\_1207\\_English.pdf](https://jesuitswest.org/Assets/Publications/File/JW_List_1207_English.pdf) )