

Archdiocese of Detroit

For Release February 29, 2004

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Regarding Fr. C. Richard Kelly...

Effective February 26, 2004, Fr. C. Richard Kelly, 59, pastor of St. Thomas a'Becket Parish, Canton, has been placed on an administrative leave of absence and restricted from any public ministry.

The Archdiocesan Review Board has deemed substantive an allegation of sexual misconduct with a minor involving Fr. Kelly dating back to the early years of his ministry in the Detroit archdiocese.

Information about the allegation was received by civil authorities, who shared the information with the archdiocese late last year. The civil authorities chose, because of the passage of time, not to investigate the allegation further.

Subsequently, the Archdiocesan Review Board commissioned an investigation that found the complaint to be of sufficient substance to require the placement of a temporary restriction on Fr. Kelly's service as a priest. Fr. Kelly has cooperated fully in this process.

Released by Archdiocesan Communications
February 29, 2004

A picture of Fr. Kelly, as well as a copy of this news advisory, is available on the Internet at homepage.mac.com/nedmcgrath. A copy of the revised Archdiocesan Policy on the Sexual Abuse of Minors is available on the News & Publications Page at www.AODonline.org

Biographical Information:

Ordained 1970

1970 Associate Pastor, St. Mary of Redford Parish, Detroit

1973 Leave of Absence

1975 Associate Pastor, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Detroit

1978 Pastor, St. Francis Xavier Parish, Ecorse

1992 Sabbatical

1993 Pastor, St. Thomas a Becket Parish, Canton

Leave of Absence 2004