



THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD–CAPE GIRARDEAU



## 16 diocesan priests with allegations of sexual abuse of a minor

### John Brath

Ordained to the priesthood on May 25, 1968, in the Cathedral of St. Raymond, Joliet, IL, by The Most Rev. Romeo Blanchette, for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. Died in 2014.

The full press release may be found [here](#).

### Leonard Chambers

Ordained April 3, 1965, Sacred Heart Parish, Poplar Bluff, MO, by The Most Rev. Ignatius J. Strecker, DD, STD, for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. Laicized in January 2006, returned to the lay state.

#### **Pastoral Appointments:**

(Motor Missions) Sacred Heart Parish, Poplar Bluff, MO

Assistant Pastor, St. Mary Parish, Pierce City, MO

Temp. Assistant, Sacred Heart Parish, Webb City, MO

Assistant Pastor, St. Peter the Apostle, Joplin, MO; Instructor of religion at  
McAuley High School, Joplin, MO

Associate Pastor, St. Mary Cathedral, Cape Girardeau, MO

Associate Pastor, Holy Trinity Parish, Springfield, MO

Parochial Administrator, St. Joseph the Worker, Ozark, MO

Instructor of Christian Doctrine, St. Agnes Regional High School, Springfield, MO

Parochial Administrator, St. Joseph Parish, Advance, MO, and St. Anthony Parish, Glennon, MO

Pastor, St. Susanne Parish, Mount Vernon, and Parochial Administrator St. Patrick Mission,  
Greenfield, MO

Pastor, St. Francis de Sales Parish, Lebanon, MO

Pastor, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Springfield, MO

Sabbatical

Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Salem, Christ the King Mission,  
and St. Jude, Montauk (Chapel-summer only)

Interim Parochial Admin., St. Mary Parish, Pierce City, MO

Pastor, St. Mary Parish, Pierce City, MO

Pastor, Our Lady of the Cove Parish, Kimberling City, MO

Pastor, Holy Family Parish, Shell Knob, MO

Relieved of Shell Knob, MO, Continued Kimberling City, MO

Pastor, St. Peter the Apostle Parish, Joplin, MO

Leave

**July 31, 1998** – Priestly faculties revoked, retired

## **Walter Craig**

Ordained June 10, 1923, Kenrick Seminary, St. Louis MO, by The Most Reverend John Joseph Glennon, DD, for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Died in 1971.

### **Pastoral Appointments:**

Assistant Pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, St. Louis, MO

Pastor, St. Ambrose Parish, Chaffee, MO

Pastor, St. Matthew Parish, St. Louis, MO

Pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish, New Madrid, MO

Pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish, Jackson, MO

Pastor, St. Lawrence Parish, New Hamberg, MO

**Dec. 16, 1971** – Deceased

## **Eugene Deragowski**

Ordained April 4, 1948, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Kansas City, MO, by The Most Reverend Edwin V. O'Hara, for the Diocese of Kansas City. Died in 1981.

### **Pastoral Appointments:**

Assistant Pastor, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Kansas City MO

Assistant Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Springfield, MO

Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Bolivar, MO; Pastor, St. William Parish, Buffalo, MO;

Pastor, St. Patrick Mission, Greenfield, MO

Appointed Diocesan Director of Council of Catholic Youth

Pastor, St. Mary Parish, West Plains, MO; Pastor, St. William Parish, Gainesville, MO;

Vicar Forane, West Plains Deanery

Pastor, SS Peter and Paul Parish, Pulaskifield; Pastor, St. Edward Parish, Cassville, MO

Pastor, St. John Vianney, Mountain View, MO; Pastor, St. Edward Mission, Eminence;

Chaplain, St. Francis Memorial Hospital, Mountain View

Associate Pastor, St. John Vianney Parish, Mountain View, MO;

Pastor, St. Sylvester Mission, Eminence

Chaplain, Mercy Villa, Springfield

**Aug. 23, 1981** – Deceased

## **William E. Donovan**

Ordained to the priesthood on March 26, 1955, in Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, St. Louis, by The Most Reverend Joseph E. Ritter, for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Died in 1975. A full press release may be found [here](#).

## **Wallace ('Wally') Ellinger**

Ordained to the priesthood on February 28, 1953, in Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, St. Louis, by The Most Reverend Joseph E. Ritter, for the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Left the priesthood in 1975; was laicized and returned to the lay state in 1976; died in 2007. A full press release may be found [here](#).

## **Mark C. Ernstmann**

Ordained to the priesthood on June 2, 1951, in St. Joseph Church in Springfield, MO, by The Most Rev. Joseph M. Marling, Auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese of Kansas City Missouri. Died in August 2013. **The full press release may be found [here](#).**

## **Larry Gregovich**

Ordained to the priesthood May 20, 1972, Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, Kansas City, KS, by The Most Rev. William Baum for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. Died in 2017.

The full press release may be found [here](#).

## **Fred Lutz**

Ordained to the priesthood on April 6, 1973, Holy Trinity Parish, Springfield, MO, by The Most Rev. William W. Baum for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau.

The full press release may be found [here](#).

## **Ernest ('Ernie') Marquart**

Ordained to the priesthood on December 18, 1970, in St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City, by The Most Reverend Jacobus A. Hickey, for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. A full press release may be found [here](#).

## **Paul McHugh**

Ordained May 1, 1970, Our Lady of Providence Parish, St. Louis, MO, for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, by The Most Rev. William W. Baum. Died in 1983.

### **Pastoral Appointments:**

Associate Pastor, Immaculate Conception, Springfield, MO

Associate Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Poplar Bluff, MO

Associate Pastor, St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral, Cape Girardeau, MO;

Instructor of Religion, Notre Dame Regional High School;

Moderator, Council of Catholic Youth Deanery, Poplar Bluff, MO

Parochial Administrator, St. Joseph Parish, Advance, MO;

Parochial Administrator, St. Anthony Parish, Glennon

Pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Advance; Pastor, St. Anthony Parish, Glennon

Pastor, St. Henry Parish, Charleston, MO; Leave of absence

In residence, Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Branson, MO

Pastor, Our Lady of the Lake, Branson, MO

**June 4, 1983** – Deceased

## **John Rynish**

Ordained to the priesthood on February 21, 1943, in the Cathedral of Kansas City, MO, by The Most Rev. Edwin O'Hara for the Diocese of Kansas City. Died in 2001.

The full press release may be found [here](#).

## **Stephen Schneider**

Ordained May 27, 1972, St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral, Cape Girardeau, MO, by The Most Rev. William W. Baum, for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. Died in 2016.

### **Pastorial Appointments:**

Associate Pastor, St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral, Cape Girardeau, MO

Assistant Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Springfield, MO; Director,

Sacred Heart House of Studies, Springfield, MO

In residence, St. Susanne Parish, Mount Vernon, MO

Pastor, St. Mary Parish, West Plains, MO

Pastor, St. John Parish, Leopold, MO

Pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish, Jackson, MO

Pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish, Springfield, MO

Pastor, St. Francis Xavier Parish, Sikeston, MO

Pastor, St. Henry Parish, Charleston, MO

Pastor, St. Peter the Apostle, Joplin, MO

**Feb. 24, 2006** – Removed from active ministry

**March 13, 2016** – Deceased

## **Amel Shibley**

Ordained March 25, 1962, Immaculate Conception Church, New Madrid, MO, by The Most Reverend Charles Helmsing, for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. Died in 2002.

### **Pastoral Appointments:**

Assistant Pastor, St. Lawrence Parish, New Hamburg, MO

Assistant Pastor, St. Francis Xavier, Sikeston, MO

Assistant Pastor, St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield, MO

Assistant Pastor, St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral, Cape Girardeau, MO

Pastor, St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Piedmont, MO; Pastor, St. George Mission, Van Buren, MO;

Pastor, Our Lady of Sorrows Mission, Williamsville, MO

Pastor, St. Ann Parish, Malden, MO

Pastor, St. Eustachius Parish, Portageville, MO

Pastor, St. Francis Xavier Parish, Sikeston, MO

Diocesan Director, Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Sabbatical

Pastor, St. Lawrence Parish, New Hamburg, MO

**Aug. 1995** – Retired

Parochial Administrator, St. Michael Parish, Fredericktown, MO

**Sept. 13, 2002** - Deceased

## **John Wells**

Ordained to the priesthood on May 13, 1950, in St. Meinrad Archabbey, Indiana, by The Most Rev. Paul Schulte for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Incardinated into the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau on June 1, 1964. Died in 1972.

**The full press release may be found [here](#).**

## **Louis Wyrsh**

Ordained, Dec. 16, 1964, St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, Italy, by The Most Reverend Francis Reh, STD, for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. Died in 1997.

### **Pastoral Appointments:**

Associate Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Poplar Bluff, MO;

Chaplain, Veteran's Administration Hospital

Associate Pastor, St. Peter the Apostle Parish, Joplin, MO

Deanery Moderator, Diocesan Council of Scouting

Part-time Associate, St. Peter the Apostle Parish, Joplin, MO;

Chaplain, Southern Missouri College

Director, Vocations, Joplin Deanery

Chaplain, Southwest Missouri State Ecumenical Center, Springfield, MO

**1973** – Left priesthood

**1990** – Laicized, returned to the lay state

**1997** – Deceased