



# Office of Communication

## Archdiocese of San Antonio

### **Official Statement Concerning lawsuit involving accusations of sexual misconduct with a minor by Rev. Theo Clerx February 27, 2011,**

Consistent with its policy, The Archdiocese of San Antonio cannot comment on the facts surrounding a recent lawsuit filed concerning allegations of sexual misconduct with a minor by Father Theo Clerx, a member of the religious order, the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, (also referred to as the CICM's). Now that the lawsuit has been filed, we believe that the courtroom is the best place for a proper airing of all the facts involved in this case.

Father Clerx, now deceased, served as a priest in the Archdiocese of San Antonio beginning in 1959 through 1992. During that time the CICM's also assigned him to service in the Dominican Republic and Belgium. While in the Archdiocese of San Antonio Clerx worked in the following parishes:

- St. Augusta Church(Now St. Jude) in San Antonio – 1959-1966
- Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Pearsall, TX-1986
- St. Joseph's Church in Devine, TX-1986-1987
- St. John Berchmans Church in San Antonio-1988-1992

Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, assuring the community of his commitment to the safety of our children, reiterated his solid dedication to the goals of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young people: "Be assured of my deeply felt belief that we must continue to pray for the healing of anyone who is the victim of abuse. I pledge my commitment to join with all of our people, as we work toward making all Catholic institutions in the archdiocese places of safety, love and peace. Our Office of Victim Assistance and Safe Environment, in cooperation with parents, parishioners and school personnel have trained literally thousands of children and adults with age appropriate information to arm them against sexual abuse of our children."

If anyone has questions or concerns in regard to Father Clerx's time of ministry in the archdiocese or any other assignments he may have had, please contact Father Anselme Malonda, Superior General of the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at (703) 528-3800 or please notify Mr. Steve Martinez, Director of the Office of Victim Assistance and Safe Environment at 210-734-7786 or 877-700-1888.