

## **Release of Names of Accused Salesians of Don Bosco, Eastern USA**

The Salesians of Don Bosco, Province of St. Philip the Apostle, publish this list of names of its members who have plausible accusations of sexual abuse with a minor. It is our hope that, by publishing this list, there will be greater healing for victims and their families, protection of young people from all harm and transparency in our commitment to create safe environments.

We wish to express our remorse for the pain and sorrow some of our members have caused through sexual misconduct or abuse of any kind. We ask forgiveness from the victims and their families. No one, especially a child, should have to experience the terrible effects of abuse. Our members and our communities pray for your healing and peace. We ask forgiveness as well from those who have looked to us for good example and pastoral care but may feel their trust has been misplaced. To all those who share with us in the mission of education and evangelization of the young and have been offended by the actions of some Salesians, we ask forgiveness.

This list includes men who are or had been members in the eastern USA. Since most of the incidents were reported to have occurred decades ago, and since many of the accused are deceased, the investigation of each claim has its limitations. Inclusion on this list does not necessarily imply that the accusations are true and correct or that the accused individual has been found guilty of a crime or liable for civil claims. Before the publication of this list, the province records were thoroughly reviewed to gather as much accurate information as possible which would help determine that an accusation is plausible. We consider an accusation as plausible when it possibly could have happened under the given circumstances. In assessing an accusation, we consider the totality of the facts and circumstances, including the report of the accuser, testimony of others when available, records and reports, the results of investigations, settlements with the victims, inclusion on other lists and recommendations of review boards.

Over the years, the Salesians have made efforts to meet in person with each and every survivor. All accusations have been reported to law enforcement and ecclesial leaders.

Since 2002 and the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Salesians of Don Bosco have implemented policies and procedures to ensure safe environments. No Salesian with plausible accusations of misconduct is allowed to continue in ministry or allowed contact with minors. As mentioned above, all accusations, regardless of their plausibility, are reported to law enforcement, ecclesial authorities and an independent review board (whose members are lay and religious, experts in the fields of criminal justice, counseling, education and social work). Further, the Salesians have been accredited by Praesidium, Inc. since 2007 for implementing the Standards of the Child Protection Program of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM). Through regular training, collaboration with dioceses and civil authorities, in keeping with the Preventive System of Don Bosco, the Salesians are committed to ensure that young people and vulnerable adults remain safe and protected from every form of abuse.

We all feel the shame that the sinful and criminal actions of some of the Salesians have caused. We believe our mission of education and evangelization is as urgent as ever, requiring of us the highest standards of integrity and transparency. By presenting this list of accused Salesians, we

continue on the path of repentance and conversion, praying that this transparency will also be a stimulus to renewed trust.

The list is as comprehensive as possible at this time. We will continue to update it when we receive new information about old accusations or new accusations. Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse by a Salesian of Don Bosco or person serving in any of the works of the Salesian Province of St. Philip the Apostle is encouraged to go immediately to the district attorney or local law enforcement. You may also contact Fr. Stephen Ryan, SDB at 914-636-4225, ext. 600 or by email at [sryan@salesians.org](mailto:sryan@salesians.org).