



Statement of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth Regarding Settlement of Claims
Against the Diocese and the Claretian Missionaries – U.S.A.
Regarding Rev. William Paiz, C.M.F.

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The Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth and the Claretian Missionaries – U.S.A. reached a settlement agreement Tuesday through mediation of a claim brought against the Diocese and the Claretian Order by a person who claims abused by Rev. William Paiz.

Bishop Kevin Vann, in a statement shared with the victim, stated that he is deeply sorry and angered for any sexual abuse the victim endured and suffered by Paiz. The Bishop informed the victim that he prays that healing and reconciliation can be achieved for the individual and his family.

Bishop Vann stressed that the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth will address any charge of abuse as quickly and as pastorally as possible.

The Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth is committed to ensuring that diocesan policies are adhered to so the Diocese, its parishes, schools and other entities can prevent future tragedy such as that which has befallen the victims of abuse.

The Diocese has been and is committed to being in compliance with the requirements of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People adopted by the Bishops of the United States in 2002.

The Diocese, in accordance with its policies, has actively sought victims of abuse in parishes where Rev. Paiz was assigned. He is a member of the Claretian Missionaries – Western Province, now known as the Claretian Missionaries – U.S.A. His assignments in the Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth were:

All Saints Parish, Fort Worth: 1975-1983 St. George Parish, Fort Worth: 1983-1986 Nolan Catholic High School: 1983-1986

The Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth asks that anyone who has either witnessed or has suffered sexual abuse by anyone who serves in the Church to come forward so that the individual and the Church can continue the healing process. To report abuse to the civil authorities, call the Texas Department of Family Protective Services (Child Protective Services) at 1-800-252-5400. To report abuse to the Diocese of Fort Worth call Judy Locke, the Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 817-560-2452, ext. 201 or e-mail her at jllocke@fwdioc.org. Persons also can call the sexual abuse hotline, 817-560-2452, ext. 900. Or call The Catholic Center 817-560-2452, ext. 102 and ask for Rev. Msgr. Stephen Berg.