



Statement of the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee

Regarding Father Edward Jones

August 16, 2018

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On Monday, August 13, 2018, the Diocese received an accusation of inappropriate contact with a minor involving Fr. Edward Jones. In accord with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, and our own Diocesan Policy and Protocol, an investigation was conducted to determine whether or not this accusation had the semblance of truth. It has been determined that the allegation is credible, and as a result, Fr. Jones has been removed as Pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Crawfordville and Sacred Heart Parish in Lanark.

The accusation deals with an incident that occurred fourteen (14) years ago when Fr. Jones served as Parochial Vicar at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Tallahassee. He served in the parish for four years from 2003 to 2007.

It is a priority in all of our parishes and schools to uphold the dignity of every person. We are deeply saddened when we learn of the alleged abuse of any vulnerable person.

Bishop Wack expresses his sadness over the incident and offers the assistance of the Diocese to the victim and the victim's family and friends who have over the years been affected by the inappropriate behavior.

In light of this recent accusation, the Diocese wishes to appeal to anyone who has been abused by a priest to come forward. This Diocese is committed to stopping clergy abuse and appreciates your help in making that happen. We encourage anyone who may have additional information to please come forward to DCF by calling (800) 962-2873 or (800) 96ABUSE or local law enforcement.

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