

## SUNDAY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

Franciscan Friars of St. John the Baptist Province Publish Abuse List The Franciscan Friars of St. John the Baptist Province have published a list that names friars and former friars with substantiated child sex abuse allegations against them. Posting this list permanently on its website is part of the Province's commitment to transparency and accountability, and to bring some measure of healing and peace to abuse survivors and their families. The Province retained an independent firm – expert in sex abuse and misconduct investigations – whose forensic investigators compiled the list after comprehensive scrutiny and examination of the backgrounds of every member of St. John the Baptist Province dating back to 1940. Of the 31 friars named on the list, 22 are deceased. Of the 9 who are living, 2 are permanently removed from all ministry and living under strictly supervised safety plans, and 7 left the Order. The status of these living friars has been in place long before the independent investigation and release of this list. The Province has notified the 34 archdioceses and dioceses in the 16 states where the friars were stationed. The list of friars can be found on the Province website at [www.franciscan.org/protecting-gods-children](http://www.franciscan.org/protecting-gods-children) along with a letter from the Provincial Minister – as well as the Province's policies and procedures for safe environments and the protection of children and vulnerable adults. If you have been subjected to sexual abuse or misconduct by a member of St. John the Baptist Province or if you have information about someone who has been abused by a friar, the Province advises that you first report it to your local law enforcement authorities. Then contact Fr. Michael Chowning, OFM, director of the Province Office for the Protection of Children, at 513-721-4700, ext. 3214, or at [childprotection@franciscan.org](mailto:childprotection@franciscan.org). Please keep in your prayers the survivors of abuse, that they and their families find healing and peace.