



March 8, 2021

Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight  
Catholic Diocese of Jefferson City  
2207 West Main Street  
P.O. Box 104900  
Jefferson City, MO 65110-4900

Dear Bishop McKnight,

I write to inform you that one of our former priests will be added to the Archdiocese of St. Louis [list of Archdiocesan Clergy with Substantiated Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor](#) tomorrow evening (Tuesday, March 9).

Reverend Vincent J. Duggan was first accused after his death, so his name will be added to that section of the list. Father Duggan was ordained in 1940 and passed away in 1984.

In addition to his assignments in the St. Louis area, Father Duggan also served at Resurrection Parish in Wellsville, Mo., which is now part of the Diocese of Jefferson City.

I have sent a personal letter to the pastor of the parish in the Archdiocese of St. Louis at which Father Duggan served in ministry, and an announcement will be made in the bulletin at that parish this weekend. I encourage you to inform the Resurrection Parish community of this information as well.

Some members of these parish communities may have received Communion from Father Duggan, offered up confessions through him, or were married or baptized by him as an officiant. As central celebrations of our Christian mystery, God reassures us that those very sacraments—not the officiants themselves—remain true vehicles of grace through Christ. I urge all of our faithful to persevere in accepting and living out that truth.

I believe I can speak for both you and myself in acknowledging that this is a painful time for our Church as we see the names of clergy, some very familiar to us like Father Duggan, accused of behavior that we can barely allow ourselves to imagine. This is also an important time for our Church as we walk with victims in their pain, and forge a path forward in trying to establish trust once again in those who serve in the Catholic faith.

I know that you and your diocesan community, like I and the Archdiocese of St. Louis, are committed to the healing and reparation of our Church as we re-establish that trust, continue to ensure transparency, and most importantly, keep our Church safe for our children and those who are vulnerable in our community.

The names of any additional Archdiocese of St. Louis clergy who are found to have substantiated claims of sexual abuse of minors against them, based on new information, will be added to the list at [www.archstl.org/list](http://www.archstl.org/list). This list will continue to be updated as needed.

As we celebrate the Eucharist this weekend, please pray with me that this work will help bring peace to victims and their families, and will promote healing in our diocesan communities and in God's Holy Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitchell T. Rozanski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski  
Archbishop of St. Louis