

NAME: Msgr. Anthony M. Little
DATE OF BIRTH: June 20, 1954
STATUS: Suspended from active ministry
ORDINATION: May 8, 1982

ASSIGNMENTS:

1982 Our Mother of Sorrows, Johnstown, PA
1987 Cathedral of Blessed Sacrament, Altoona
Penn State University, Altoona campus
1990 St. Mary Immaculate Conception, Altoona, PA
1992 St. Edward's Church, Barnesboro, PA
1992-1993 Most Precious Blood, Emeigh, PA
1995 St. Therese Church, Altoona, PA
2002 St. Patrick's Church, Newry, PA
2013 Placed on restricted ministry
*11/2014-02/2015 Saint Luke's Institute

Father Anthony Little is alleged to have sexually abused a male minor numerous times prior to being placed on restricted ministry in 2013. Little admitted before the Grand Jury that he provided the victim privileges for many years. Those privileges included a residence, electronics, money and various other amenities.

Bishop Mark Bartchak placed Little on restricted ministry in March 2013 based upon the victim's disclosure. Little testified before the Grand Jury that he could not think of any reason as to why a person he had invested so much time and attention in would make the allegation. Little sought to clarify that he had purchased a new television, DVD player, and other amenities for the house in which the victim stayed. Little claimed that they were not meant for the victim.

The Grand Jury does not accept Little's account that he purchases many expensive items to idly sit within a home he owned. In particular Little noted he had purchased a new video game system for his home. However when asked if he played video games Little replied "No."

Little is a master manipulator. Attempting to separate the victim from family and friends Little was a near constant presence in the victim's life. Witnesses recall Little whispering into the victim's ears during family gatherings and visits. The intense trauma of victimization may never permit the victim to testify against Anthony Little.

B. Father Anthony Little

Father Anthony Little's initial contact with his victim came in the form of counselor. Little's position of trust and authority provided him access to victims. In the course of seeking support for being bullied, Little hugged the victim and assured him that he would be able to make things okay. According to the FBI's analysis this provided

Little with an opportunity to assess the needs of the victim, discover a vulnerability, and exploit it.

Isom found Little attempted to normalize the sexual abuse of the victim by making the victim watch him masturbate. Little then assured the victim that what he was doing was normal and natural. Little was able to directly exploit his position as priest when he forced the victim to masturbate in church, then reminded the victim that no one would "believe him." This is consistent with Isom's analysis that seemingly public locations are often used because the predator has control of the environment and it attempts to increase the implausibility of the assault.

Isom found Little engaged in obvious forms of grooming by providing the victim numerous financial and material benefits to include a new car and electronics. At the same time Little attempted to alienate the victim from his family and friends to obtain more control of the victim and establish a stronger relationship.

Lastly, Little effectively groomed the community in his role as a priest. Parishioners invested in Little as representative of values they felt strongly about or felt Little demonstrated in public. Isom noted that public support for Little even after he was accused by those who were unaware of the details can cause significant harm. The victims' awareness of public support for the offender only works to further undermine victims' efforts to report or recover.