

NAME: Fr. Gerard Ream  
 DATE OF BIRTH: May 22, 1928  
 DATE OF DEATH: April 18, 2008  
 ORDINATION: May 8, 1954

ASSIGNMENTS:

06/1954-10/1961	Our Lady of Victory Church, State College, PA
10/1961-06/1963	St. Aloysius Church, Cresson, PA Teacher Bishop Carroll High School
06/1963-06/1964	St. Mary's Church, Frugality, PA
06/1964-06/1965	Chaplain at Mercy Hospital, Altoona, PA Teacher at Bishop Guilfoyle High School
06/1965-06/1967	St. Bonafice Church, St. Bonafice, PA Teacher at Bishop Carroll High School
06/1967-08/1972	Principal at Bishop Guilfoyle High School St. Michael's Church, Hollidaysburg, PA
08/25/1992	Resigned as Principal
10/1992-06/1995	Corpus Christi Church, Dunlo, PA
06/1995	Senior Priest, Retired

Father Gerard Ream was a religion teacher at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School while serving as a parish priest at St. Bonafice Church in St. Bonafice, Pennsylvania. Ream took an interest in one of his female students in 1966. The student was dealing with many teen-age issues and family discord. Ream began counseling the teenager and providing advice. The teenage student invested an enormous amount of trust in Father Ream. Ream aided the student in her admission to college, provided her money, and invited her to collect-call him weekly.

As time passed Ream reminded the student how thankful she should be for his assistance and told her that he deserved a lifelong friendship and total devotion from her due to his gracious aid. When the young woman arrived at college Ream came to visit her and insisted she visit him on her return home. At that time Ream engaged in sexual intercourse with the girl. The sexual meetings continued when Ream could meet with the girl. Diocesan records provide no reasons but Ream was transferred to another church and school in 1967.

Ream became possessive of his victim when he learned she had fallen in love with a boy at college. Using what he had learned in counseling her, Ream attempted to manipulate her into continuing a relationship with him. Ream began to harass the victim

by telephone, often calling in the middle of the night. The victim changed her number and became very frightened as to what Ream may do to her for “abandoning” him.

The victim reported the incident in 2008. The Diocese records bear little mention of her report to them. A copy of her letter was provided to the District Attorneys of Blair and Cambria Counties. No data was available to the Grand Jury as to the outcome of the victim’s report.