

Reverend John E. Brueckner

Biographical Information

YEAR OF BIRTH:	1915
YEAR OF DEATH:	1960
ORDINATION:	June 16, 1940

Employment/Assignment History

2/20/1940 – 9/6/1944	Immaculate Conception, Pittsburgh, PA
9/7/1944 – 9/11/1947	St. Joseph, New Kensington, PA
9/11/1947 – 4/6/1949	St. Mary and New Castle Hospital, New Castle, PA
4/7/1949 – 11/7/1951	St. Mary, Beaver Falls, PA
11/ 8/1951 – 6/13/1956	St. Lawrence, Pittsburgh, PA
6/14/1956 – 5/27/1959	Annunciation, North Side, PA
5/23/1959 – 10/2/1960	St. Luke, Carnegie, PA

Summary

The Diocesan records contained a memorandum dated May, 4, 2016 that was written by Father William J. Waltersheid. He reported that a woman had contacted the Diocese of Greensburg to report that her husband suffered abuse at the hand of a Catholic priest when he was only a child. Prior to the creation of the Diocese of Greensburg on March 10, 1951, the parishes in Armstrong, Fayette, Indiana, and Westmoreland counties were encompassed by the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

According to the memorandum, the woman stated that in 2002 her husband informed her that he had been abused by a priest from St. Joseph sometime between the years of 1947 and 1951. He stated that the abuse occurred in the priest's car after they saw a baseball game together. She could not recall the name of the priest who abused her husband.

A search of Diocesan records revealed that Father Brueckner and Father Stewart were assigned to St. Joseph during this time period.

On May 6, 2016, the Diocese sent a confidential memorandum to the Westmoreland County District Attorney's Office, reporting that sometime between 1947 and 1951, a catholic priest stationed at St. Joseph Church abused a boy "*just going into puberty.*" The memorandum provided a list of priests who were assigned to St. Joseph. Brueckner and Stewart's names were contained on the list. The letter also mentioned a May 3, 2016 e-mail communication that had previously been sent to the District Attorney's Office. However, the Diocesan files do not contain a copy of this e-mail.

Summary

It does not appear that the Diocese of Pittsburgh took any further action in connection with the allegation.