

Reverend Theodore P. Zabowski

Biographical Information

YEAR OF BIRTH:	1943
YEAR OF DEATH:	N/A
ORDINATION:	May 16, 1970

Employment/Assignment History

6/15/1970 – 5/20/1975	Parochial Vicar, St. Lawrence O’Toole, Garfield, PA
5/21/1975 – 10/05/1980	Parochial Vicar, Most Holy Name, North Side, PA
10/06/1980 – 1/13/1981	Parochial Vicar, Holy Family, Lawrenceville, PA
1/14/1981 – 1/10/1982	Parochial Vicar, St. Catherine of Sweden, Wildwood, PA
1/11/1982 – 6/28/1985	Parochial Vicar, St. Mary, Glenshaw, PA
6/29/1985 – 10/26/1992	Pastor, St. Adalbert, South Side, PA
10/27/1992 – 7/08/1996	Pastor/Resigned, St. Richard, Richland Township, PA
1/08/1996 – 9/16/1996	Leave of absence
9/16/1996 – 7/14/2000	Parochial Vicar, Immaculate Conception, Washington, PA
7/14/2000 – 7/29/2002	Leave of Absence
7/29/2002	Withdrew from ministry

Summary

An internal Diocese of Pittsburgh document labeled “Chronology of Father Zabowski”, stated that in October, 1995 an allegation of sexual abuse was made against Zabowski. An adult male stated that between 1975 and 1979 he engaged in wrestling with Zabowski and then Zabowski asked him to remove his clothes. After he removed his clothes, Zabowski fondled him. This conduct occurred at a church in Pittsburgh. The male further advised that he and Zabowski took a trip to Canada where they slept in the same bed and Zabowski served him alcohol. Following the allegations, Zabowski was placed on administrative leave.

In a November, 1995 confidential memorandum, the Diocese noted that Zabowski had acknowledged the possibility of inappropriate touching and acknowledged sharing his bed with boys for “*companionship.*”

Zabowski was sent to St. Luke’s Institute for an evaluation. In an evaluation dated November 28, 1995, it was noted that Zabowski admitted to “*affectionate hugging*” of teenage boys

In an August, 1996 confidential memorandum, the Diocese observed that Zabowski had admitted that the allegations against him “*could potentially be true*” and that he should not be involved in any relationship with teenage males.

Summary

In a letter dated June 26, 2003 Zabowski informed Bishop Wuerl the “*therapy helped him deal with allegations of placing himself with adolescent boys in a sexually inappropriate manner, gave him the ability to deal with and yes, overcome the sexual ignorance and social backwardness of his life.*”

Pittsburgh Priests #2-10

Biographical Information

YEAR OF BIRTH:	Various
ORDINATION:	Various

Employment/Assignment History

1980-2013	Various Assignments within the Diocese of Pittsburgh
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Summary

This group of nine unnamed priests contained specific complaints against identified priests within the Diocese of Pittsburgh. A review of documents surrendered by the Diocese of Pittsburgh did not contain sufficient information to determine the validity of the complaints in every case.

The Grand Jury noted that in each case a detailed confidential memorandum was completed which provided the identities of the complainants and the accused priest. These confidential memoranda also contained information obtained through internal diocesan investigations. That information included specific allegations of sexual crimes and identified locations where the crimes occurred. In some cases it was documented that the priest was interviewed and confessed child sexual abuse to diocesan personnel.

In contrast to the detailed confidential memoranda, an “allegation report” was also generated and provided to law enforcement. The “allegation report” was substantially different from the more detailed diocesan internal memoranda. Rather than containing specific information, the “allegation report” provided a general timeframe of offenses, the identity of the “alleged victim” and “accused”, a disclosure of “inappropriate touching” regardless of the actual offenses reported by the complainant, and the geographic area of the crime as identified by county rather than by specific parish or school.

The Grand Jury noted that the allegations included offenses against children as young as five years old. Some reports were made as recently as 2017.