



*Office of the Bishop
Diocese of Saint Cloud*

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Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am writing because a number of parishes in the Diocese of Saint Cloud have recently been named as defendants in lawsuits filed under the Minnesota Child Victims Act. As you may know, the act removed for three years the civil statute of limitations for historical cases of child sexual abuse. The deadline to file a claim was May 25, 2016.

Your parish has not been named in one of these lawsuits.

Most of these lawsuits arise out of misconduct that allegedly occurred many years ago — they are not allegations of recent abuse. No one currently in ministry at your parish has accusations of abuse reported against them.

We do not expect that these lawsuits will affect parish or Catholic school operations.

Attorneys representing parishes and the diocese will work hard for a fair resolution of the lawsuits while allowing the work of the Church to continue.

Be assured that your pastor and parish leaders will work with diocesan staff to keep you informed and updated on any further developments. More information is available at www.stcdio.org.

I ask that you join me in continuing to pray for a just resolution to these claims. We must rely on our Merciful Father as we work to bring healing to victims and survivors of clergy sexual abuse, to their families and friends, and to our parish communities.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Donald J. Kettler*

Bishop Donald J. Kettler