



## Archdiocese of Seattle Settles Five Claims from the 1960s, '70s and Early '80s

SEATTLE, December 10, 2021 – Today the Archdiocese of Seattle announced final settlements for five separate claims related to allegations of sexual abuse in the 1960s and 1970s, which totaled \$3,035,000.

The archdiocese settled two cases involving allegations of sexual abuse by Father Thomas Pitsch, who at the time of the alleged abuse was serving as pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Tacoma, where he was from 1964 to 1971. Pitsch died in 1978. At the time of his death, no allegations of sexual abuse had come forward.

The archdiocese settled a claim involving allegations of sexual abuse by Brother C.P. Ryan, Brother Albert Casale and other, unnamed members of the Christian Brothers of Ireland. The alleged abuses occurred in the early 1960s when the Christian Brothers were running the Briscoe Memorial School in Kent. Ryan is now deceased and the status of Casale is unknown.

The archdiocese settled a claim involving allegations of sexual abuse by Christian Brother Gerald Kealy. The alleged abuse occurred in the early 1960s at O'Dea High School in Seattle. Kealy is now deceased.

The archdiocese settled a claim involving allegations of sexual abuse from approximately 1978 to 1980 by an unnamed playground supervisor at St. Louise School in Bellevue.

### Commitment to transparency

Pitsch, Ryan, Casale and Kealy were all identified on the archdiocese's [List of Clergy and Religious Brothers and Sisters for Whom Allegations of Sexual Abuse of a Minor Have Been Admitted, Establish or Determined to be Credible](#) when the list was originally published in January 2016.

As part of its commitment to transparency, the Archdiocese of Seattle invites people to visit its [Protect and Heal website](#) to learn about the history of sexual abuse in the archdiocese, which peaked in 1975 and has since sharply declined. The website also outlines how since the early 1980s, the archdiocese has taken steps to prevent abuse, protect the community and help victims and their families heal.

To report any suspicion of abuse by any church personnel, please contact local law enforcement. In addition, anyone who has knowledge of misconduct by a member of the clergy, an employee or volunteer of the Archdiocese of Seattle is urged to call the archdiocesan hotline at 1-800-446-7762.

### About the Archdiocese of Seattle

The Archdiocese of Seattle encompasses all of Western Washington, stretching from Canada to Oregon and from the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. There are 72 Catholic schools, 174 parishes, missions and pastoral centers in the archdiocese, with more than 500 weekly Masses celebrated in eight languages. Archbishop Paul D. Etienne leads the archdiocese with his auxiliary bishop, Bishop Eusebio Elizondo. For more information about the Archdiocese of Seattle, visit [archseattle.org](http://archseattle.org).

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