



## Archdiocese of Seattle Settles Two Claims from the 1970s and '80s

SEATTLE, April 28, 2022 – Today the Archdiocese of Seattle announced final settlements totaling \$375,000 for two separate claims related to allegations of sexual abuse in the 1970s and 1980s.

The archdiocese settled a case involving allegations of childhood sexual abuse in the early to mid-1970s by David Pearson, a volunteer at St. Joseph Parish, Issaquah. Pearson is now deceased.

The archdiocese settled a case involving an allegation of sexual abuse by Father Paul Conn in approximately 1987 or 1988 when he served at Queen of Angels Parish in Port Angeles. Conn served as a parochial vicar at Queen of Angels from 1985 until 1988. In 1988, the archdiocese learned of allegations of sexual abuse and facilitated a report to the police. Conn was arrested, charged, pled guilty to six counts of indecent liberties, and served time in prison. From the time of his arrest until 2005, when he was laicized, he was not allowed to serve as a priest.

### Commitment to transparency

Conn was 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, Established 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 a 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 and 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 bishops, Bishop Eusebio Elizondo and Bishop-elect Frank Schuster. For more information about the Archdiocese of Seattle, visit [archseattle.org](http://archseattle.org).

###

Media Contact: Helen McClenahan | [Helen.mcclenahan@seattlearch.org](mailto:Helen.mcclenahan@seattlearch.org) | Media line: 206-402-9373