



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

SEATTLE, July 13, 2023 – Today the Archdiocese of Seattle announced final settlements totaling \$200,000 for two separate claims related to allegations of sexual abuse decades ago. Both cases involve individuals who are known to be deceased.

This announcement is shared to fulfill the archdiocese's commitment to ongoing transparency around allegations of abuse, to help people heal and to help the Church move forward. Over the past three months, the Archdiocese of Seattle settled the following cases:

- A case involving an allegation of sexual abuse by Brother D.P. Ryan, CFC, in approximately 1986 when he served at O'Dea High School in Seattle.
- A case involving an allegation of sexual abuse by Father John Forrester, OSB, in the early- to mid-1970s when he was at St. Teresa Catholic School.

### Commitment to transparency

Both Ryan and Forrester are 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 136 parishes 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 Frank Schuster. For more information about the Archdiocese of Seattle, visit [archseattle.org](http://archseattle.org).

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