

## Archdiocese of Seattle Recaps 2025 Settlements Related to Historical Cases of Sexual Abuse

SEATTLE, January 30, 2026 – The Archdiocese of Seattle announced today its 2025 recap of settlements related to the tragedy of abuse, all of which took place several decades ago. In 2025, there were 14 total historical cases that settled for a total of \$13,180,000.

“Sexual abuse in the Church is a heart-wrenching part of our history, and I am deeply sorry for the pain caused to victim survivors, their families and all Catholics,” said Archbishop Paul D. Etienne. “We remain committed to the healing of victim survivors and their families, promoting transparency and continuously improving our Safe Environment and prevention processes.”

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 outlines how, since the mid-1980s, the archdiocese has taken steps to prevent abuse and protect the community, as well as provide support and healing for victim survivors and their families, all of which is detailed in the [History Overview here](#).

Today, the archdiocese enforces its [Safe Environment Program](#) with policies and procedures designed to prevent and recognize signs of sexual abuse of minors. This program, along with background checks, education, new policies and procedures, and more have contributed to the dramatic decline of clergy sexual abuse. Reported incidents of clergy sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult in the Archdiocese of Seattle peaked more than 50 years ago with 99% of reported cases having occurred prior to 1995 and two known victim survivors of clergy abuse since 1990.

To report any suspicion of abuse please contact local law enforcement. In addition, anyone who has knowledge of sexual abuse or misconduct or has been harmed by a member of the clergy, an employee or a volunteer of the Archdiocese of Seattle is urged to call the archdiocesan helpline at 1-800-446-7762 for healing and support.

To learn more about the Archdiocese of Seattle's response to the tragedy of abuse, please visit the Protect and Heal website at [archseattle.org/protect-and-heal](https://archseattle.org/protect-and-heal).

### **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 74 Catholic schools, 60 parish families with 174 pastoral locations in the archdiocese, with more than 500 weekly Masses celebrated in multiple 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, please visit [archseattle.org](https://archseattle.org).

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