



DIOCESE OF DAVENPORT

Department of Communication

News

For Immediate Release

DATE: May 2, 2014
FROM: Deacon David Montgomery
Diocese of Davenport

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RE: 1950s Abuse by James Janssen in the Diocese of Joliet

From Most Rev. Martin Amos, Bishop of Davenport:

“I am deeply saddened by the news we heard today of the abuse in Hinsdale, Illinois by James Janssen in the 1950’s that was found credible by the Diocese of Joliet. I was unaware of the recent report made to the Archdiocese of Chicago by a person who was abused by Janssen over 50 years ago. James Janssen was laicized (defrocked) by the Vatican in 2004 and no longer functions as a priest. I continue to pray and urge everyone to pray that the healing process for the survivors of abuse will continue.”

“The Diocese will continue to promote safe environments for children by mandating ongoing training in recognizing and eliminating threats to children, complying with the Charter and Norms of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and mandating background checks for all clergy and for employees and volunteers who work with children. Alicia Owens, the victim assistance coordinator for the Diocese, will continue to provide assistance to survivors of abuse.”

To report child sexual abuse

Contact the Iowa Department of Human Services

Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178

If the abuse involves clergy or church personnel, also notify

Alicia Owens, Victim Assistance Coordinator: 563-349-5002

PO Box 232 Bettendorf, IA

52722-0004

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