

Archdiocese of Seattle Settles Claim from Late 1950s

SEATTLE, Dec. 19, 2023 – Today the Archdiocese of Seattle announced a final settlement totaling \$150,000 for a claim related to allegations of sexual abuse in the late 1950s. This case involved an allegation against Father Michael Cody when he served at St. Luke Parish in Shoreline. Cody is now 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. Cody has been on the archdiocese's List of Clergy and Religious Brothers and Sisters for Whom Allegations of <u>Sexual Abuse of a Minor Have Been Admitted</u>, Established or Determined to be Credible since it was originally published in January 2016.

As part of its commitment to transparency, the Archdiocese of Seattle invites people to visit its <u>Protect and Heal website</u> 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 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 <u>archseattle.org</u>.

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