St. Norbert Abbey Releases List of Clergy with Credible Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors

DE PERE, Wis. – (July 19, 2019) St. Norbert Abbey has released a list of clergy with credible allegations of sexual abuse by priests of the Abbey.

In 2018, Abbot Dane Radecki turned over Abbey personnel files to Praesidium, Inc., an independent agency, for review. The files covered the years 1966 through 2018. Praesidium, Inc. identified 19 Norbertines from St. Norbert Abbey with credible allegations of sex abuse of minors. Additionally, files of three priests from other Norbertine foundations were also identified. Their superiors have been informed. There are currently no Nobertines with credible allegations in active ministry outside of the Abbey.

Praesidium, Inc., is based in Arlington, Texas with international clients that specializes in abuse risk assessments and management for secular and religious organizations. Their team is comprised of professionals in all areas including psychologists, social workers, lawyers and human resource personnel. St. Norbert Abbey has contracted Praesidium for training, investigating and review of personnel files.

“As we come to understand the impact of abuse on survivors, the Church needs to shift its focus from its own reputation and listen compassionately to those who have been harmed. This means that we need to respond in significantly different ways,” said Abbot Radecki. “My hope is that the ‘release of names’ by our community will assist in the healing process for victims and survivors. I profoundly apologize and ask forgiveness from those abused by the Norbertines of our Abbey.”

To view the list of Norbertines with credible allegations, visit www.norbertines.org.

If anyone has an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor, please call the local police and/or Child Protective Services at 920-448-6035. If the allegation involves any Norbertine, call local police first, then please contact the St. Norbert Abbey Office for Safe Environment at 920-337-4311.

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