

Allegation of Abuse

Accuser: Arthur Baselice, III
Accusation made to: Martin Frick and Louise Hagner, Victim Assistance Coordinators
Date accusation made: April 29, 2004
Accused as perpetrator: Father Charles Newman, O.F.M.

**Parish where alleged
abuse occurred:**

St. Pius X Friary (Order of Friars Minor - Assumption Province)
11051 Academy Road
Philadelphia, PA 19154
Located next to Archbishop Ryan HS

Description of abuse:

This 25 year old man was a junior at Archbishop Ryan High School, located next to the Friary. Father Newman, principal, asked the victim to come to the Friary where Father Newman sexually abused him.

Initially the meetings would occur in meeting rooms (i.e., rooms not used as private by the residents) but within a couple of months moved into Father Newman's room. Also, the meetings were weekly at first, but progressed to a frequency of about every other day. At first, Father Newman had Mr. Baselice put on Father's socks, then masturbated while sniffing the socks on Mr. Baselice's feet. Father Newman provided alcohol for Mr. Baselice. Father Newman also gave Mr. Baselice about \$200 after each of these sessions. After a couple of months, Father Newman began providing marijuana and cocaine for Mr. Baselice in addition to the money.

In 1996, when Mr. Baselice was already meeting with Father Newman every other day, Father Newman began performing oral sex on Mr. Baselice in addition to masturbating himself while Baselice wore Father Newman's socks. The drugs and payment continued. The frequency continued at three times weekly.

Also in 1996, Father Newman asked Mr. Baselice's parents, Elaine and Arthur Baselice, Jr., if Arthur III could accompany Father Newman and another boy on a one week trip to Colorado. The parents agreed. Although only their son and Father Newman went on the trip, Father Newman told the parents after the trip that he and the two boys enjoyed the trip.

Mr. Baselice asserts that the sexual component ended in 1998, although he continued to see Father Newman roughly weekly for financial support of the drug usage that started in 1995. Mr. Baselice states that Father Newman provided him with Oxycontin that was supposed to be used by Brother Leonard at the Friary for a cancer condition. Father Newman would also provide money to Mr. Baselice. Mr. Baselice could not recall the amounts, stating that he was so out of it

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that he took cabs (at about \$100/trip) from his home in New Jersey to Archbishop Ryan HS to get money from Fr. Newman. This continued until November 2003.

Arthur Baselice, Jr., (who is a policeman), the victim's father, said he confronted Father Newman as recently as one year ago about what Father Newman was doing with Arthur, III, but Father Newman was able to change the subject and never adequately respond.