

Diocese of Wilmington, Delaware (USA)

Bishop Michael Saltarelli

CDF Prot. N. 460/03 -18329

Rev. Francis G. DeLuca

Date of Birth : 8/1/29 Age: 77 years old

Ordination: February 3, 1958

Removed from Active Ministry: November 29, 1993

Years of Ministry: 35 years

Original Diocese of Incardination: Diocese of Wilmington, DE (USA)

Ministry in/transfer to other Diocese: Not applicable

Fr. DeLuca's address:

Rev. Francis G. DeLuca  
100 Pastime Drive, Apt. 307  
Syracuse, NY 13208-1562

Procurator: Msgr. John O. Barres, STD, JCL  
Chancellor, Diocese of Wilmington  
PO Box 2030  
1925 Delaware Avenue  
Wilmington, DE 19899-2030

**FR. DELUCA'S ASSIGNMENTS:**

1958-1961: St. Francis de Sales, Salisbury, MD, Parochial Vicar  
1961-1966: St. John the Beloved, Wilmington, DE, Parochial Vicar  
Chaplain at Ferris Industrial School for Boys  
1966-1969: St. Elizabeth, Wilmington, DE, Parochial Vicar  
1969-1972: Holy Spirit, New Castle, DE, Parochial Vicar  
1972-1976: Holy Spirit, New Castle, DE, Pastor  
1976-1989: St. Matthew, Wilmington, DE, Pastor  
Serves as Dean of New Castle Deanery, Diocesan Liturgical

**Commission**

**1989-1993: St. Joseph on the Brandywine, Wilmington, DE, Parochial Vicar**

**1993: Removed from Active Ministry because of the sexual abuse of minors and Retired**

**Current Status: Fr. DeLuca lives in Syracuse, NY in retirement in his own residence. The Bishop of the Diocese of Syracuse, NY had been notified. Fr. DeLuca was arrested on Thursday, October 19, 2006 by the Syracuse police.**

**ACCUSATIONS AGAINST FR. DELUCA**

**Year: Began circa 2001, repeated approximately monthly and continued until May or June 2006.**

**Victim: W-006 [redacted] [Fr. DeLuca's grand nephew] and apparently W-006 [redacted] s [redacted] r witnessed some of the abuse.**

**Imputable Acts: Fr. DeLuca admitted the abuse, claiming it was limited to touch, fondling and masturbation. But also admitted use of pornography when the boy reached 16. [See Appendix 1 and 1a - especially highlighted News Journal of October 26, 2006] DeLuca gave the boy alcohol to drink, bought him jewelry, games and clothes and deposited about \$9000 in a bank account in the youth's name. [Appendix 1a, October 29, 2006 Syracuse Paper]**

**Denunciation: October 2006**

**Year: 1958-1960**

**Victim: W-005 [redacted] and approximately five other unnamed boys Fr. DeLuca was involved with.**

**Age: Not exactly clear in documentation but they were altar boys so most likely between 10 and 13 years old.**

**Imputable Acts: Psychological report [see Appendix 2] says that [redacted] Redacted - Conf. Med. Recs. [redacted]**

**Legal complaint [see Appendix 3] states Fr. DeLuca "unlawfully fondled, molested, touched, abused, sexually assaulted and/or battered..." 12-5-93 Notes of Vicar for Clergy Msgr. Lemon [Appendix 4] confirm the physical description in the legal complaint].**

**Denunciation: 1993**

**Year: 1960s**

Victim: W-007

Age: 12 or 13

Imputable Acts: Sexual abuse occurred 5 or 6 times though the documentation does not detail the nature of the abuse. [see Appendix 5, documentation of Vicar General Msgr. J. Thomas Cini]

Denunciation: 2004

#### CIVIL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST FR. DELUCA (Tony Flynn)

- 1) October 19, 2006 Arrest by the Syracuse NY police.
- 2) February 12, 2003 brief issued by Attorney Mark Waterfill [Dann Pecarr Newman & Kleiman]. This legal complaint was not followed up on [see Diocese of Wilmington Attorney Anthony Flynn letter to Insurer Stephen M. Waldorf, Appendix 3, For more detail, see Anthony Flynn's highlighted October 23, 2006 email to Msgr. Barres giving more detail which is included at the back of Appendix 3].

#### MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE DIOCESE

December 1993: Fr. DeLuca speaks with Fr. Benedict Groeschel at Trinity Retreat House, Larchmont, NY.

December 6-9, 1993: Fr. DeLuca receives an assessment at [Redacted - Conf. Med. Recs.] (See Appendix 2)

December 13, 1993 Letter from Bishop Robert E. Mulvee (Bishop of the Diocese of Wilmington) to Fr. DeLuca: "Accepting your resignation and approving early retirement is a very painful duty for me. I remember your years of faithful service to this diocese. Only you can agonize more than I over the tragedy that your actions of so many years ago has caused you and the Church. Having heard the [Redacted - Conf. Med. Recs.] [Redacted - Conf. Med. Recs.] this is the only way we can address the real grave pastoral concern that confronts us because of those actions. It is understood that you will not function publicly as a priest without seeking specific permission to do so." (See Appendix 6)

September 30, 2003: Letter from Bishop Saltarelli to Fr. DeLuca applying the Essential Norms (8b) to Fr. DeLuca (See Appendix 7a)

October 2, 2003: Letter from Bishop Saltarelli to Bishop Moynihan, Bishop of the Diocese of Syracuse, informing him that Fr. DeLuca resides in his Diocese. (See Appendix 7b)

October 2006: This petition to the CDF for removal from the clerical state and laicization.

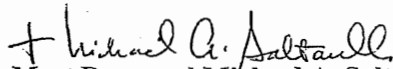
**SUSTENANCE PROVIDED BY THE DIOCESE TO FR. DELUCA**  
What a retired priest of the Diocese of Wilmington would receive.

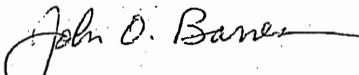
**RESPONSE MADE BY FR. DELUCA**

Fr. DeLuca has made repeated admissions of the sexual abuse of minors. See documentation and appendices above.

**BISHOP SALTARELLI'S VOTUM**

I ask that Fr. DeLuca, because of the serial nature of his abuse [all involving his admission] with the most recent abuse occurring repeatedly from 2001 to 2006 be removed from the clerical state and given a dispensation from celibacy immediately and as soon as possible given the intense media coverage of his case. I had hoped that Fr. DeLuca could live the life of prayer and penance prescribed by section 8B of the *Essential Norms*. It is clear that that is not possible. Now 77 years old, he will likely live his remaining years of life either in jail or in house confinement.

  
Most Reverend Michael A. Saltarelli  
Bishop of Wilmington

  
Rev. Msgr. John O. Barres  
Chancellor

11/8/06

