

# Archdiocese of Detroit

For Release January 6, 2004

Contact: Ned McGrath (w) 313.237.5943 | (h) 313.886.4114

## Regarding Fr. Thomas Physician...

Effective January 3, 2004, Fr. Thomas Physician, 72, a senior (retired) priest of the Detroit archdiocese has been placed on an administrative leave of absence and restricted from any public ministry.

The Archdiocesan Review Board has deemed substantive an allegation of sexual misconduct with a minor involving Fr. Physician dating back to the early years of his ministry in the Detroit archdiocese.

Information about the allegation was received this past fall by the archdiocese and immediately shared with civil authorities, who chose, because of the passage of time, not to investigate the allegation further.

Subsequently, the Archdiocesan Review Board commissioned an independent investigation that found the complaint to be of sufficient substance to require the placement of a temporary restriction on Fr. Physician's service as a priest. Fr. Physician has cooperated fully in this process.

Released by Archdiocesan Communications  
January 6, 2004

**A picture of Fr. Physician, as well as a copy of this news advisory, is available on the Internet at [homepage.mac.com/nedmcgrath](http://homepage.mac.com/nedmcgrath). A copy of the revised Archdiocesan Policy on the Sexual Abuse of Minors is available on the News & Publications Page at [aodonline.org](http://aodonline.org).**

### Biographical Information:

#### Ordained 1958

- 1958 Temporary Associate Pastor, St. Rose Parish, Pontiac
- 1958 Temporary Associate, Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Oak Park
- 1958 Associate Pastor, St. Basil Parish, East Detroit
- 1962 Associate Pastor, St. Matthias Parish, Sterling Heights
- 1965 Associate Pastor, Precious Blood Parish, Detroit
- 1973 Pastor, St. James Parish, Ferndale
- 1976 Chaplain, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mount Clemens
- 1981 Temporary Associate Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Dearborn
- 1984 Associate Pastor, St. Bede Parish, Southfield
- 1992 Temporary Administrator, St. Rita Parish, Holly
- 1993 Chaplaincy Coordinator for prisons
- 2000 Administrator, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Ray
- 2002 Senior (retired) Priest Status

#### Leave of Absence 2004

[Archdiocesan Communications](http://www.aodonline.org) | 305 Michigan Ave. | Detroit, MI 48226 | 313.237.5943