Media Contact:

Lisa Cassidy

(602) 443-7106, lcassidy@crosier.org

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Crosier priest removed from pastoral care

(*Phoenix, Ariz.*) -- The Crosier Province, headquartered in Phoenix, Ariz., has learned that one of its members, Fr. Timothy Conlon, osc, has been credibly accused of sexual misconduct against two minors.

The alleged abuse took place approximately 40 years ago in North Dakota before Fr. Conlon was ordained a priest, but has just been reported to Church authorities and the Crosiers. The Crosiers have not been aware of any other claims of sexual misconduct against a minor by Fr. Conlon previous to this report.

Fr. Conlon had been assigned to ministry within the Roman Catholic Diocese of Gallup, N.M., where he was in the process of incardination.

Working closely together, Bishop James Wall of Gallup, N. M., and Crosier Prior Provincial Thomas Enneking, osc, immediately removed Fr. Conlon from the pastoral care of souls and began an investigation into the matter. Law enforcement has been informed. The Crosiers do not tolerate sexual misconduct of any kind and have a strict reporting policy in place.

Fr. Enneking has expressed great sadness for the victims alleging this misconduct and reiterated that the Crosier Province will do all that it can to protect anyone from such abuse and assist victims in their healing. Anyone aware of sexual misconduct by a Crosier is asked to contact the Crosier Province at 602-443-7100.

About the Crosiers:

The Crosiers, officially known as the Canons Regular of the Order of the Holy Cross, were founded in 1210 in modern-day Belgium. For 800 years, the priests and brothers have lived a life of community, prayer and service under the Rule of St. Augustine. The Crosiers have two large, vibrant communities in the United States-one in Phoenix, Ariz., and the other in Onamia, Minn. The Crosiers gather as a community each day to pray the Liturgy of the Hours and celebrate Eucharist. Members are involved in a wide range of ministries serving the church and those in need, including parish assistance, retreat work, spiritual direction, elder care, immigrant services and jail ministry. There are about 400 Crosiers today worldwide also serving in Europe, Indonesia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Brazil and Rome.