

To the parishioners of the Archdiocese of San Antonio,

The Archdiocese of San Antonio Office for Victim Assistance and Safe Environment was informed on August 29, 2018, of child sexual abuse allegedly perpetrated by Rev. Edward Pavlicek between 1986 and 1988. The allegation was made by the abuse survivor.

The archdiocese informed the Bexar County District Attorney's Special Crimes Division of the allegation Aug. 30.

Upon the recommendation of the Archdiocesan Review Board, which assessed the allegation, I opened a preliminary canonical investigation into the allegation and asked Rev. Pavlicek to refrain from ministry during the investigation.

The canonical investigation, conducted with the assistance of an independent private investigator, was completed Oct. 25.

Following review of the outcome of the investigation, the Archdiocesan Review Board advised me on Oct. 26 that there was sufficient evidence that the abuse occurred to refer the matter to the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith at the Vatican for possible laicization.

Pending the outcome of this process, I have removed Rev. Pavlicek's faculties and prohibited him from exercising any priestly ministry.

Rev. Pavlicek served as pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle in Canyon Lake from July 1, 2018 until Oct. 26, 2018; as pastor of the Church of the Good Shepherd and Immaculate Conception in Marion from July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2018; as pastor of St. Mary's in Somerset from June 2, 2003 to July 1, 2011; as pastor of St. Benedict in San Antonio from June 3, 1991 to June 2, 2003; as parochial vicar of Sacred Heart in Floresville from June 1, 1989 to June 3, 1991; as parochial vicar of St. Leo the Great in San Antonio from June 3, 1986 to June 1, 1989; and as parochial vicar and later as temporary administrator of St. Ann Church in San Antonio from June 1, 1983 to June 3, 1986.

I share this information with you with the hope that if any members of our community have been affected by sexual abuse, they will feel encouraged to seek all needed pastoral support or counseling as part of their healing process. If we can be of assistance to you, or if you have questions or concerns in regard to Rev. Pavlicek, please notify Mr. Steve Martinez, Director of the Office of Victim Assistance and Safe Environment at 210-734-7786 or 877-700-1888.

I pledge my commitment to continue to work toward making every Catholic Church, school and institution a safe harbor for all of our children. Please join me in prayer as we reach out to any and all who may be victims of sexual abuse.

*Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller, MSPS*