

Rev. Wanjiru Ndung'u

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you that we have received a report that Father Wanjiru Ndung'u sexually assaulted a parishioner of St. Rose of Lima Church. This has resulted in his arrest by the Bexar County Sheriff's Department on charges of aggravated sexual assault on September 28.

During his time in the archdiocese, Father Wanjiru received summer assignments for his pastoral year in 2016-2017 to St. Gabriel, St. Martin de Porres, and Our Lady of Good Counsel parishes, all in San Antonio. He served a diaconate internship at St. Dominic Church in San Antonio from Fall 2017 to Spring 2017, and then again at St. Gabriel's from July 2017 to May 2018. Father Wanjiru was ordained to the transitional diaconate on May 20, 2017, and to the priesthood on June 2, 2018. Following his ordination to the priesthood he served as parochial vicar at St. Mary's Church in Stockdale and St. Ann Church in La Vernia from July 2018 to July 2019. In 2019 he was assigned as parochial vicar at St. Peter and Paul Church in New Braunfels and St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Canyon Lake. Lastly, Father Wanjiru served as parochial vicar at St. Rose of Lima Church in San Antonio from July 2021 to the present.

I would like to publicly express my gratitude to the survivor for bravely coming forward and helping our Church by sharing this personal and painful experience. I hope that this will also assist the healing process and provide inspiration to other survivors of sexual abuse to report to the authorities these tragic incidents.

The archdiocese takes seriously any allegation of sexual misconduct, most especially children and vulnerable adults. The safety and wellbeing of all people are very important, and the church's safe environment policies seek to protect everyone. We encourage anyone who is a victim of sexual abuse to contact law enforcement. We also ask that victims within the Archdiocese contact the Office for Victim Assistance and Safe Environment at (210) 734-7786. Any violation of our Code of Conduct can be reported through our third-party Archdiocesan Misconduct Hotline (844) 709-1169.

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

*Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, MSpS*