

# Archdiocese of Detroit

## Media Briefing

**To:** News Editors, Assignment Desks and Other Interested Persons

**From:** Ned McGrath

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**Date:** Thursday, August 12, 2004

**RE:                   Media Briefing on the Canonical Process  
                          Involving Clerics Accused of Sexual Abuse of Minors**

The Archdiocese of Detroit has moved to a new phase in its handling of cases of clerics accused of sexual abuse of minors. The preliminary canonical investigations have been completed and sent to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) at the Vatican as required by Church law. The archdiocese is now receiving responses from the CDF on how these matters are to be resolved.

Canon (Church) law differs markedly from civil law. The Archdiocese of Detroit will hold a Media Briefing to help reporters understand this canonical process.

**The Briefing will be held on Thursday, August 12, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the Metropolitan Tribunal, located on the 8th floor of the Gabriel Richard Building, 305 Michigan Avenue (at the corner of Washington Boulevard), in downtown Detroit. You are invited to attend. For more information, call 313.237.5943.**

Although specific details of individual cases will not be discussed, a general overview of this canonical process will be presented and a panel of experts will be available to answer your questions.

Participating in the Media Briefing will be: Bishop Walter Hurley, Cardinal Maida's delegate; Fr. Joseph Fox, OP, canonical advisor; Fr. George Miller, judicial vicar of the Archdiocese of Detroit; and Ned McGrath, director of communications for the Archdiocese of Detroit.

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