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From: Ned McGrath
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Response to SNAP Release

In a news release issued today, February 20, the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP) made three requests. The following is the Archdiocese of Detroit's response to those requests:

Change statute of limitations: Quoting Msgr. Ricardo Bass, the Delegate for Clergy Matters in the Detroit archdiocese, "...the statute of limitations has served our society well in protecting the rights of everyone, especially after a long passage of time."

Additionally, a person can bring forward a complaint at any time, regardless of when the activity might have occurred. We have and will continue to offer counseling and pastoral support as needed.

Complaints brought to us are always taken seriously. We've had a policy on clerical sexual abuse since 1988 and it has worked. Twenty-nine priests and one deacon have been removed from ministry. We've re-constituted our local review board, entered into a voluntary reporting agreement with prosecutors in the six counties of the archdiocese, established a victim assistance coordinator with a toll-free number (866.343.8055), issued codes of conduct, and trained thousands of our priests, parish and school staffs, and volunteers in child-safe environment programs.

Use of archdiocesan media: Every week there is information included in The Michigan Catholic on how to bring a complaint forward. On the archdiocesan web site, in the section titled '[Promise to Protect. Pledge to Heal](#),' there is additional contact and resource information.

Our contacts with victims have been through the archdiocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, a process handled with the utmost professionalism and sensitivity. We intend to continue that practice rather than entering into some sort of arrangement with advocacy groups like SNAP.

Fr. Rabideau situation: This priest never served in the Detroit archdiocese. If someone knows information about him, we would encourage them to contact civil authorities. Telephone numbers for the prosecuting attorneys in the six counties of the archdiocese are listed on our web site.

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