



Rev. Edward C. McDonagh Reinstated as Pastor of Saint Ann Parish, West Bridgewater

February 13, 2003 - The Archdiocese of Boston opened a preliminary investigation into an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor made against the Reverend Edward C. McDonagh. This investigation was conducted to ascertain the facts and circumstances concerning the allegation made against him.

After the completion of the investigation, Bishop Lennon received a report and recommendation from the Delegate and from the Review Board. Having considered the recommendations and facts presented, Bishop Lennon determined that the allegation could not be substantiated.

The complainant making the allegation was informed of this decision and was afforded the right to an appeal. "Throughout the investigation, every effort was made to ensure that the canonical and civil rights of the person who made the complaint and those of Father Edward C. McDonagh were respected and protected. Care was taken to investigate this allegation appropriately following the norms of Canon Law and the policy of the Archdiocese," noted Bishop Richard Lennon.

In accordance with Canon 1718, this investigation has been closed and Father Edward C. McDonagh is reinstated in his position as pastor of Saint Ann Parish, West Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

The Office of Healing and Assistance Ministry will continue to reach out and provide the appropriate pastoral care to all involved with the situation.

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