



## **September 30, 2005 - Statement of the Archdiocese of Boston Regarding Sentencing of Robert Burns**

**(Boston, MA) September 30, 2005...**The Archdiocese of Boston made the following statement regarding today's proceedings involving former priest Robert Burns:

"The Archdiocese of Boston has been informed that former priest Robert Burns plead guilty today to several crimes involving the sexual abuse of children. The Archdiocese cooperated fully with the District Attorney's investigation of the criminal charges against Robert Burns. Although not a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston, Robert Burns served at two archdiocesan parishes; St. Thomas Aquinas in Jamaica Plain from 1982-1986 and St. Mary's in Charlestown from 1986-1991.

Sexual crimes perpetrated on children are always reprehensible, but when these crimes are committed by a priest, they are especially shameful and grievous. With the conclusion of this case, Archbishop O'Malley on behalf of the Archdiocese extends his sincere apology to all survivors and their families. The Archdiocese reiterates its pledge of on-going support and prayers to survivors, families and parishes. The Office of Pastoral Support and Outreach continues to be available to offer pastoral help and counseling services.

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