April 26, 2006- Statement of the Archdiocese of Boston Regarding Rev. James Nyhan

(Boston, MA) April 26, 2006… The Archdiocese of Boston made the following statement regarding the criminal proceedings involving Rev. James Nyhan:

“The Archdiocese of Boston has been informed that Rev. James Nyhan has pleaded guilty to charges involving the sexual abuse of children while serving in Charleston, South Carolina 25 years ago. In light of his pleading, the Archdiocese of Boston will resume the canonical process to permanently remove Fr. Nyhan from ministry. When even a single act of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest is admitted (or established after an appropriate process in accordance with canon law), the Church’s law and archdiocesan policies mandate that the offending priest be permanently removed from ministry.

Sexual crimes perpetrated against children by priests are especially shameful and grievous. With the conclusion of this criminal case, Cardinal Sean extends his sincere apology to survivors and all persons impacted by clergy sexual abuse. He further reiterates his commitment to continue working with survivors to address the profound emotional and spiritual suffering they and their loved ones endure.”

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