April 26, 2006 - Statement of the Archdiocese of Boston Regarding Rev. Anthony Laurano

(Brighton, Massachusetts) April 26, 2006...The Archdiocese of Boston today provided the following statement regarding the arrest of Fr. Anthony Laurano:

"We were saddened to learn of the new charges brought by the Plymouth District Attorney against Fr. Anthony Laurano. Fr. Laurano, 81 years of age, retired in 1995. In 2002, the Archdiocese of Boston placed him on administrative leave after receiving an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor. While on administrative leave, Fr. Laurano cannot minister or function publicly as a priest.

As has been well documented in the public domain, Fr. Laurano had previously been indicted on two counts of child rape. He was arraigned in Plymouth Superior Court in April 2005 and was released on his own recognizance. We are unable to comment further on any criminal proceedings involving Fr. Laurano.

The sexual abuse of children or vulnerable adults by clergy is reprehensible and an egregious violation of the trust placed in members of the clergy. Cardinal Sean expressed his concern for the suffering that is experienced by survivors and their families in the midst of these new charges against Fr. Laurano."

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