

## Porter jailed

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. (CNS) — A former Catholic priest was sentenced Dec. 6 to 18 to 20 years in prison for molesting 28 children in one of the worst-ever cases of sexual abuse involving a member of the U.S. clergy.

James Porter, who left the priesthood in 1974 and is now married with four children, was sentenced to several concurrent jail terms by Judge Robert Steadman in a Bristol County superior court in New Bedford, after pleading guilty to 41 counts of sexual assault between 1960 and 1968.

The 18- to 20-year term — the longest of the concurrent sentences imposed — meant that Porter will serve a minimum of six years in prison before becoming eligible for parole.

He was also ordered to be placed on probation for another 10 years after he is paroled and will not be allowed to be alone with minor children without supervision.

Porter, in handcuffs, was taken immediately after sentencing to prison in Cedar Junction, Mass.

# Franciscans acknowledge abuse

GOLETA, Calif. (CNS) — A three-year investigation by the Franciscan order has found that 12 Franciscan friars sexually abused 34 boys over two decades at a now-closed seminary.

The results of the independent board of inquiry were announced at a Nov. 29 press conference by Franciscan Father Joseph P. Chinnici, provincial of the order's Oakland-based St. Barbara Province. The Franciscans ordered the investigation after former students brought charges of abuse.

"To the victims and their families, I want to express on behalf of all the friars our most profound apologies," the provincial said. "We totally abhor what has occurred ... The abuse perpetrated by our own brothers on the victims and their families is truly horrific."

He said the order was taking "every step possible to support the victims through the provision of professional counseling and, where requested, personal visits."

One of the 12 priests was prosecuted in 1989 for sodomizing a minor. He pleaded no contest to a reduced charge in 1989, was sentenced to a year in jail and released after serving six months. The order did not release his name.

Other former students subsequently came forward with charges of sexual abuse, leading the Franciscans to establish the review board, which comprised an attorney, three psychotherapists, a Franciscan and a parent of a victim.

The report said abuses took place between 1964-87 at St. Anthony's Seminary in Goleta, located outside Santa Barbara. The seminary closed in 1987 because of financial difficulties.

The 72-page report said most of the victims were ages 14 to 17, although some of the victims' younger brothers also were abused.

Since the investigation began, one of the 12 priests has died, another left the order and the third's case is under review by the board. The other nine have been removed from ministry and placed in sex-offender treatment programs, said Father Chinnici.

"Only where the findings and evaluation warrant it and in consultation with professionals ... have we allowed restricted work or ministry," he said.

The friar first charged is the only one to face prosecution. Santa Barbara police Lt. John Thayer said no other charges would be filed because the statute of limitations has expired.

Father Chinnici said the order will establish a permanent board of assessment consisting of Franciscans and professional psychologists specializing in treatment of sex-abuse victims.

The provincial said that — when the investigation process began — he had believed that only a few cases of sexual abuse had occurred at the seminary.

"In the past 12 months the perseverance of the board has taught all of us the importance of establishing a 'safe and independent space' in which victims can come forward," Father Chinnici said.

"From the very beginning there has been a desire to face the truth about ourselves and our brothers," the provincial continued. "It is not easy, and we acknowledge this terrible truth in a public way because the public trust has been violated."

Father Chinnici apologized to the victims and their families, to the members of the St. Anthony's community and to members of the Catholic Church in general, whose trust has been violated by the abuses.

## Mother Teresa most admired

NEW YORK (CNS) — Mother Teresa is the most admired woman in the world, according to a poll of 10,000 readers of Good Housekeeping magazine.

Mother Teresa traded places with Barbara Bush, the top finisher in last year's poll.

Pope John Paul II was fifth among most admired men. The Rev. Billy Graham repeated his top finish of 1992. He was trailed by President Clinton and former presidents George Bush and Jimmy Carter. The pope had finished fourth last year.

Mother Teresa has been on the top 10 list for women 17 times since the poll started in 1968. Mr. Graham has been in the top 10 men's poll every year since its inception in 1980.

Following Mother Teresa and Mrs. Bush in the women's poll were first lady Hilary Rodham Clinton, Attorney General Janet Reno, television talk show host Oprah Winfrey, Princess Diana of Great Britain, Marilyn Quayle, former first lady Rosalynn Carter, actress Katharine Hepburn, and columnist-author Erma Bombeck.

Trailing Mr. Graham, Clinton, Bush, Carter and the pope in the men's poll were retired Army Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, entertainer Bob Hope, retired Army Gen. Colin Powell, Presbyterian clergyman the Rev. Norman Vincent Peale, and former vice president Dan Quayle.

## Catholic Child Sponsorship For Just \$10 a Month



Little Conchita lives in a small village in the mountains of Guatemala. Her house is made of cornstalks, with a tin roof and dirt floor. Her father struggles to support the family as a day laborer. Your concern can make the difference in the lives of children like Conchita.

Your opportunity to help one very poor child is much too important to miss. And *Christian Foundation for Children and Aging is the only Catholic child sponsorship program* working in the twenty desperately poor countries we serve.

For as little as \$10 monthly, you can help a poor child at a Catholic mission site receive nourishing food, medical care, the chance to go to school and hope for a brighter future. *You can literally change a life.*

Through CFCA you can sponsor a child with the amount you can afford. Ordinarily it takes \$20 per month to provide one of our children with the life changing benefits of sponsorship. But if this is not possible for you, we invite you to do what you can. CFCA will see to it from other donations and the tireless efforts of our missionaries that *your special child receives the same benefits as other sponsored children.*

And you can be assured your donations are being magnified and are having their greatest impact because our programs are directed by dedicated Catholic missionaries with a long standing commitment to the people they serve.

You will receive a new picture of your child each year, information about your child's family and country, letters from your child and the CFCA quarterly newsletter.

Please take this opportunity to make a difference in the life of one poor child. *Become a sponsor today!*

Yes, I'll help one child:

Boy  Girl  Child in most need  
 in  Latin America  Africa  Asia  Any

My monthly pledge is:  \$10  \$15  \$20  \$25  \$50  \$100

I wish to contribute:  monthly  quarterly  semi-annually  annually

Enclosed is my first contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I cannot sponsor now but I enclose my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

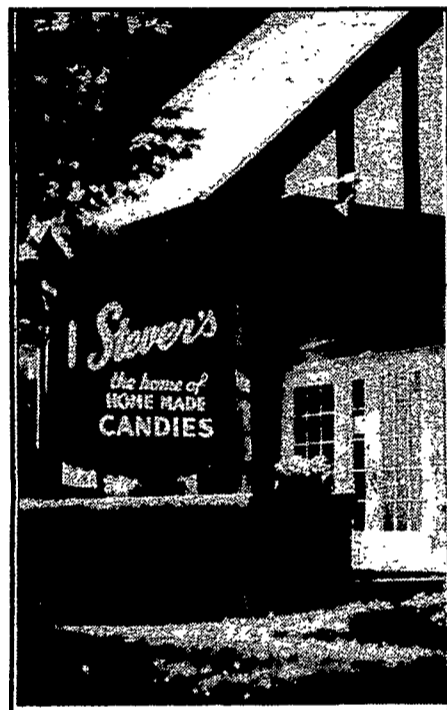
Please send me further information regarding:  
 Sponsorship  Volunteer Program  U.S. Homeless Program

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

If you prefer, simply call  
 Bernie Puglisi at the  
 Catholic Courier  
 (716) 328-4340

Christian Foundation for Children and Aging (CFCA)  
 c/o CATHOLIC COURIER/150 Buffalo Road/Rochester, New York 14624  
 Make checks payable to: Christian Foundation for Children and Aging (CFCA)  
 Financial Report available upon request / Donation U.S. tax deductible.

Member: U.S. Catholic Mission Association - Nat'l Catholic Development Conference - Catholic Press Association - Int'l Liaison of Lay Volunteers in Mission - Nat'l Catholic Stewardship Council - Nat'l Catholic Council for Hispanic Ministry



## Stever's

HOMEMADE CANDIES  
 GIVE AND ENJOY FINE CANDIES  
 A Rochester Tradition for over 45 years.

- Cream Wafers
- Assorted Chocolates
- Molded Christmas Items • Croquettes
- Assorted Brittles
- Chocolate Covered Fruits • Sponge
- Hard Candy & Canes
- Decorated Chocolate • Truffles
- Marshmallows
- Gingerbread Houses
- Ribbon Candy
- Almond Butter Crunch • Marzipan
- Mixed nuts
- Much, Much More!**

OPEN DAILY 10-6  
 Christmas Hours  
 December 15-24  
 10am - 8:30pm  
 Sunday 1-6pm  
 623 Park Ave.  
 at Vassar  
 Rochester, NY  
**473-2098**

**Beat the Rush!**  
 Leave Your Orders for  
 Christmas Mailing now!

SPECIALIZING IN ALL TYPES OF CERAMIC  
 TILE WORK SINCE 1922

**Jacobs  
 Tile &  
 Marble**

SALES  
 INSTALLATIONS  
 REPAIRS  
 FREE ESTIMATES  
 1011 CULVER RD. 288-5514