
Diocese of Buffalo

Office of Communications



For Immediate Release

Diocese of Buffalo Announces Resolution of Complaint on Diocesan Priest

Buffalo, N.Y., May 31, 2023 – The Diocese of Buffalo has resolved a claim against a diocesan priest.

As a result of an investigation and upon the recommendation of the Independent Review Board (IRB), Bishop Michael W. Fisher has determined that an allegation that Rev. F. Patrick Melfi engaged in a sexual relationship with an adult female in 2007 has been substantiated. Based on the circumstances of this relationship, Rev. Melfi’s response to the investigation, and his faithful behavior since the relationship ended, the IRB recommended, and Bishop Fisher has determined that Rev. Melfi be returned to ministry.

If you, or someone you know, has any information specific to clerical sexual abuse that needs to be communicated, please contact Jackie Joy, our Victim Assistance Coordinator, who may be reached at 716 895-3010.

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