

**STATEMENT ON RELEASE OF LIST OF PRIESTS CREDIBLY
ACCUSED OF SEXUAL ABOUSE OF A MINOR**

Fr. Brian Bashista, Pastor

February 16-17, 2019

This past Wednesday, in fulfillment of a commitment made last year, Bishop Burbidge published a list of all Diocese of Arlington clergy credibly accused of sexual abuse of a minor. It is his hope that the release of these names will bring a continued and deepened healing for all victims of abuse. As we have mentioned here before, Fr. Perez and I, (like I am sure, all of you) have been horrified, angered and deeply saddened by these necessary disclosures.

In light of this, I would encourage all of us to do three things:

First, take an active role in rebuilding and healing Christ's Church, the Church that we deeply love by praying fervently for those who have been abused. Pray for the Pope and the bishops meeting in Rome later this week that they may initiate the necessary changes needed in dioceses and parishes around the world. Pray, by joining us each Friday at 3pm (as we have since August) as we prayer the Divine Mercy Chaplet in support of all victims and in reparation for the sins of the clergy. Visit our web-site and download and pray the posted "[Novena for Repentance, Renewal and Rebuilding](#)" sponsored by the Knights of Columbus; I encourage us all to recite this in union with those throughout the world, from Feb. 20-28. Together, our prayers will make a difference.

Second, please visit the Diocesan website to see the Bishop's letter on this issue and the list itself and take some time to review the many steps our diocese has taken since 2002 to protect children.

Third, while you are on our web-site view the three-minute video that is a grassroots initiative called "More Than You Realize". It is by a new, growing network of Catholics working in and for the Church, who care about being more proactive with our messaging and addressing the current crisis effectively together.

Finally, Fr. Perez and I are united with all of you and stand ready to help in any way we are able. We certainly do not have all the answers, but we will try to point anyone in the right direction. May the Lord bring healing to our Church and especially to all those who have ever been abused. God bless us all!