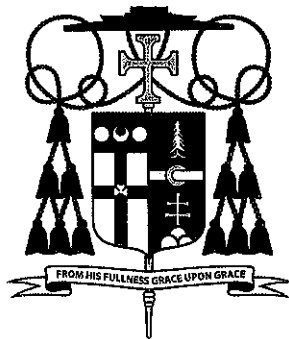


**DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**



(717) 657-4804  
FAX (717) 657-1370  
4800 Union Deposit Road  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17111-3710  
Bishop'sOffice@hbgdiocese.org  
www.hbgdiocese.org

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As I know many of you are aware, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy in February of this year. We made this decision in an effort to ensure our financial ability to both provide fair and equitable compensation for survivors of past sexual abuse and ensure the future of the missions and ministries of the Roman Catholic Church within our Diocese's territory.

In support of this effort, I have asked your Pastor (Parochial Vicar) to read this letter to all of you this weekend and again in September to ensure that we reach as many survivors as possible before the claims filing deadline. The claims filing deadline is November 13, 2020. Claims can be made confidentially. Information on how to submit a claim has been posted at every church and school within the Diocese. We have also made this information available on the Diocese's webpage and the webpage maintained by the Diocese's claims and balloting agent, Epiq Restructuring, at <https://dm.epiq11.com/case/rcdh/info>. Additionally, information will also be published at least twice in your parish's weekly bulletin and you can ask any priest within our Diocese for more information as well. I ask that you please share this information with your family and friends who are not here today. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Please be assured of my continuing prayers and I ask that you please keep me as well as all of the priests, deacons, and consecrated religious of our Diocese in your prayers as well.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Gainer".

Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer

**United States Bankruptcy Court  
for the Middle District of Pennsylvania**

**In re: Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg  
Case No. 1:20-bk-00599 (HWV)**

**Claims Notice for Victims of Sexual Abuse  
and Others with Claims Against the Roman  
Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg**

If you were sexually abused by any person connected with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, a Roman Catholic parish or Roman Catholic school within the geographical area of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, or have any claim against the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, you must file a claim by November 13, 2020.



For more Diocesan information, visit: <https://www.hbgdiocese.org>  
or <https://dm.epiq11.com/RCDH>

For U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania  
information, visit: <http://www.namb.uscourts.gov/>



**DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG - OFFICE OF THE VICAR GENERAL**

4800 Union Deposit Road • Harrisburg • Pennsylvania 17111-3710

(717) 657-4804 • FAX (717) 657-2453 • [general@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:general@hbgdiocese.org) • [www.hbgdiocese.org](http://www.hbgdiocese.org)

May 20, 2020

Dear Monsignor/Father:

I hope that this finds you safe and well. As Bishop Gainer made you aware previously, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy in February of this year. As a part of the bankruptcy proceedings, the bankruptcy court has recently entered an order approving, among other things, the form and manner of notice with respect to giving notice of the court-approved claims process for, among other things, the submission of claims by survivors of abuse. In connection with the notice process, and in accordance with the bankruptcy court's order, Bishop Gainer needs your cooperation in order for the Diocese to meet its obligations.

To that end, please:

- (i) display the attached Publication Notice and Sexual Abuse Claims Deadline Notice in a prominent location in every church, mission, and school within your Parish (such location(s) should at least include the location(s) in which you currently display information on how to report suspected abuse of minors in accordance with the Diocese's Youth Protection Program);
- (ii) publish the Publication Notice once per month in your Parish's weekly bulletin until November 13, 2020;
- (iii) have each priest within your Parish remind parishioners that information concerning the Claims Filing Deadline of November 13, 2020 is available at the posted locations around your parish, as well as by visiting [www.hbgdiocese.org](http://www.hbgdiocese.org) or <https://dm.epiq11.com/case/rcdh/info>;
- (iv) provide in a pinned posting a one-click link to the general proof of claim for and Sexual Abuse Claims Package on any Facebook or Twitter Parish/School account you maintain;
- (v) distribute the Publication Notice and Sexual Abuse Claims Deadline Notice via e-mail to your parish's e-mail distribution lists;
- (vi) Have you, or the parochial vicar within your Parish if you have one, read the attached letter from Bishop Gainer at a regularly-scheduled Mass at each church within your Parish at least two times, once in mid-June and the second time in mid-September, before the Claims Filing Deadline of November 13, 2020; and

- (vii) provide confirmation to me that your Parish has complied with the publication requests made in this letter, including (a) the dates of publication of the notices in your parish's bulletin and (b) a copy of each bulletin containing the notices. In addition, please send me a confirmation Letter listing the two weekends that the Bishop's Letter was read at.

It is of the utmost importance that the above-described procedures be followed and implemented. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your cooperation and support in this matter.

Fraternally Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danneker", written in a cursive style.

Very Rev. David L Danneker  
Vicar General/Moderator of the Curia

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG DIVISION

In re:

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF  
HARRISBURG,

Debtor.<sup>1</sup>

Chapter 11

Case No. 1:20-bk-00599 (HWV)

**NOTICE OF THE DEADLINE FOR TIMELY FILING PROOFS OF CLAIMS  
RELATING TO, OR ARISING FROM, SEXUAL ABUSE**

**THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NOTICE.  
YOUR RIGHTS MIGHT BE AFFECTED.**

**TO ALL PERSONS WITH CLAIMS ARISING FROM SEXUAL ABUSE FOR WHICH  
THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF HARRISBURG MAY BE LIABLE:**

**NOVEMBER 13, 2020**  
**IS THE LAST DATE TO TIMELY FILE**  
**PROOFS OF CLAIMS FOR SEXUAL ABUSE**

On February 19, 2020, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg (the “*Debtor*”) filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the “*Bankruptcy Code*”) in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania (the “*Court*”). The Debtor’s address, the case number, proof of claim form, and other relevant information related to this chapter 11 case may be obtained at the website maintained by the Debtor’s claims and noticing agent (<https://dm.epiq11.com/RCDH>). Individuals have asserted sexual abuse claims against the Debtor, on account of alleged actions by people associated with the Debtor. Any person who believes that he or she has, or may have, a claim (as defined in section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code) resulting or arising in whole or in part, directly or indirectly from any actual or alleged sexual offense as laid out in Chapter 31 of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Statutes, or as the phrase “sexual abuse” is defined in 42 Pa.C.S. § 5533(b)(2)(ii), as well as any sexual conduct or misconduct, sexual abuse or molestation, indecent assault and/or battery, rape, pedophilia, ephebophilia, or sexually-related physical, sexually-related psychological, or sexually-related emotional harm, or contacts, or interactions of a sexual nature between a child and an adult, or a nonconsenting adult and another adult, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual psychological or emotional abuse, humiliation, or intimidation, or any other conduct constituting a sexual offense, incest, or use of a child in a sexual performance, and seeking monetary damages or any other relief, under any theory of liability, including vicarious liability, any negligence-based theory,

<sup>1</sup> The last four digits of the Debtor’s federal tax identification number are: 4791. The Debtor’s principal place of business is located at 4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17111.

contribution, indemnity, or any other theory based on any acts or failures to act by the Debtor or any other person or entity for whose acts or failure to act the Debtor is or was allegedly responsible, including but not limited to, claims against clergy, deacons, seminarians, employees, teachers, or volunteers, should carefully read this notice.

**YOU SHOULD CONSULT AN ATTORNEY IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,  
INCLUDING WHETHER YOU SHOULD FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM.**

**LAST DATE FOR TIMELY FILING**

The Court entered an order establishing **November 13, 2020** as the last date for each individual with sexual abuse claim to timely file a proof of claim. The Claims Filing Deadline and the procedures set forth below for the Sexual Abuse Claim Forms apply to all sexual abuse claims against the Debtor, based upon alleged acts of sexual abuse occurring prior February 19, 2020.

**WHO SHOULD FILE**

If you believe that you have a sexual abuse claim, you should file a Sexual Abuse Proof of Claim to maintain and preserve any claims that you have against the Debtor. Even if you have already filed a lawsuit against the Debtor alleging sexual abuse prior to February 19, 2020, you should still file a Sexual Abuse Claim Form to maintain and preserve your rights in the Debtor's chapter 11 case.

**WHO SHOULD NOT FILE**

You should *not* file a Sexual Abuse Claim Form if: (a) your sexual abuse claim has already been paid in full or otherwise previously settled; **OR** (b) you do not have a claim against the Debtor.

**WHAT TO FILE**

**FILE A SEXUAL ABUSE CLAIM FORM, A COPY OF WHICH IS ENCLOSED.  
YOU MAY ALSO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE SEXUAL ABUSE CLAIM FORM BY  
FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW:**

**PROCEDURES FOR FILING A SEXUAL ABUSE CLAIM FORM**

To file a Sexual Abuse Claim Form, take the following steps:

Fill out the Sexual Abuse Claim Form in its entirety.

For additional copies of the Sexual Abuse Claim Form: (a) photocopy the Sexual Abuse Claim Form; (b) contact the Debtor's claims and noticing agent at (866) 977-0992; (c) visit the Debtor's website at: <https://www.hbgdiocese.org>; or (d) visit the website of the Debtor's claims and noticing agent at <https://dm.epiq11.com/RCDH>.

**Please note that neither the Debtor's staff nor the Debtor's claims and noticing agent is permitted to give legal advice. You should consult your own attorney for assistance regarding any such inquiries.**

Return the completed original Sexual Abuse Claim Form to the Debtor's claims and noticing agent at the address set forth below by the Claims Filing Deadline. Sexual Abuse Claim Forms will be deemed timely filed only if they are **actually received** by the Debtor's claims and noticing agent by **November 13, 2020**.

If you are returning a Sexual Abuse Proof of Claim by mail, allow sufficient mailing time so that the Sexual Abuse Claim Form is **received** on or before **November 13, 2020**. Sexual Abuse Claim Forms that are postmarked before that date, *i.e.*, the Claims Filing Deadline, but which are received by the Debtor's claims and noticing agent after the Claims Filing Deadline, will be considered tardy.

Sexual Abuse Claim Forms should be delivered to the following address:

<b><i>If by First Class Mail:</i></b>  Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, Claims Processing Center c/o Epiq Corporate Restructuring, LLC P.O. Box 4421 Beaverton, OR 97076-4421	<b><i>If by Hand Delivery or Overnight Mail:</i></b>  Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg, Claims Processing Center c/o Epiq Corporate Restructuring, LLC 10300 SW Allen Blvd. Beaverton, OR 97005
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**CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM**

There may be consequences for failing to file a claim. Please consult your attorney.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Filed Sexual Abuse Claim Forms will remain confidential in this chapter 11 case, unless you elect otherwise in Part 1 of the Sexual Abuse Claim Form. Therefore, the Sexual Abuse Claim Form that you file will not be available to the general public, but will be kept confidential, except that information will be provided to the Debtor, the United States Trustee for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, the Debtor's insurers, attorneys for the Committee, any unknown claims representative appointed by the Court, any settlement trustee appointed to administer payments to Sexual Abuse Claimants, prison authorities for any incarcerated Sexual Abuse Claimants, and such other persons as the Court determines should have the information in order to evaluate the sexual abuse claim, all of whom will agree to keep the information provided by you confidential.

**Dated: May 6, 2020**