John 6:54

ST. MICHAEL ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

PO Box 103

St. Michael, Pennsylvania 15951

Rev. Brian L. Warchola, Administrator MASSES:

(814) 495-9640 Saturday 4:00 pm



Sunday Morning 8:00 am

Secretary: Michele Panick 10:30 am

Bookkeeper: Kathy Kalicky Daily Mass See Bulletin

DRE: Laurie Sloan Holy Days See Bulletin

Maintenance: Rodney Turgeon

Office Hours:

PHONES: 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Rectory / Office: (814) 495-9640 Monday, Tues., Thurs., Friday

Fax: (814) 495-9424 Confessions:

Rel. Education: (814) 495-4873 Saturday 3:30 pm to 3:45 pm

Parish Website Sunday 7:30 am to 7:45 am

www.saintmichaelchurch.weebly.com 10:00 am to 10:15 am

Secretaries’ E-mail Anytime Requested

[saintmichaelsecretaries@yahoo.com](mailto:saintmichaelsecretaries@yahoo.com)

YEAR: 2018 NUMBER: 34

SERVING GOD AND COMMUNITY FOR OVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS!

BAPTISM: By Appointment. Reserve at least one month in advance.

Preparation classes are necessary.

MARRIAGE: Plan at least nine months in advance.

Preparation sessions are necessary.

FUNERALS: Arrangements are made in conjunction with the funeral home.

Eulogies should be given at the funeral home at the time of the wake service or at the luncheon.

REGISTRATION Those new to the area, newlyweds, and single adults, (even if registered

and before with their families) are asked to register by calling the Parish Office.

MEMBERSHIP: Every parishioner must be registered. This is a condition for admission

to our Program and reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, First Penance, First Eucharist, and Matrimony; also, for testimonial letters or sponsorship of Baptism and Confirmation outside the Parish.

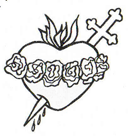
VISITATION: We are concerned and want to be advised when someone is ill at

home or in the hospital. Call the rectory to have the shut-in placed on our monthly Holy Communion calls or seriously ill prayer list.

SACRAMENTAL Parish registration and active Mass participation for Baptism is

POLICY: encouraged and is required for Marriage.

BULLETIN ARTICLES: Articles are due to the Parish Office by Noon on Tuesdays.

 Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 26, 2018

**Month of The Immaculate Heart of Mary**

**MASS INTENTIONS**: (August 27 – September 2, 2018)

Monday 8:00 AM Barbara Brezovec req. by Leonard & Ann Fornadel

Tuesday 8:00 AM Josephine Oshaben req. by Husband Frank Oshaben

Wednesday No Mass

Thursday 8:00 AM Walter M. Lorek req. by Wife & Family

Friday 8:00 AM Walter Christ req. by Paul Cooney

Saturday 4:00 PM Edward Yauneridge req. by Diane & Tom Sterle

Sunday 8:00 AM People of the Parish

Sunday 10:30 AM Aunt Jo Danel req. by Bernard & Janeen Oshaben

LITURGICIAL APPOINTMENTS:

Saturday, September 1 4:00 PM Offertory Procession

Lector: Devon Michaels Michael & Constance

Minister of the Host: Susan Blazosky Yauneridge

Ministers of the Cup: Karen Myers & Alice Podrebarac

Altar Servers: Ana & Eva Spangler

Cantor: Amy Spangler

Greeter: Darlene Marshall

Sunday, September 2 8:00 AM Offertory Procession

Lector: David Knepper Nick & Sally Kolar

Minister of the Host: Eric Tedjeske

Ministers of the Cup: Robert Grattan & Marie Jo Plummer

Altar Servers: Andrew Martin & Bryce Macy

Cantor: Sharon Dibble

Greeter: Pauline Minor

Sunday, September 210:30 AM Offertory Procession

Lector: Michael Caddy Jo Danel Family Minister of the Host: Sharon Paterson

Ministers of the Cup: Amanda Williamson & Michael Barton

Altar Servers: Luke Docherty & Evan Burkardt

Cantor: Amy Dobbins

Greeter: Deborah Macy

Sunday, September 2 Collection Counters

John Bizzarri, Camillus Long,

Sara Zybura

Weare placing names of the sick in the bulletin for prayer providing they give permission. *May the* *Divine Physician send healing grace for those for* *whom we pray:* Allen C. Rosemas, Patricia Murphy, Bernice Myers, Dwight Fyock, Lori Facciani, Dylon Wills, Dawn Hagen, Debbie Dibert, Missy, Joanne (Kolar) Hufford, Christine Flanagan, Ayden Alan Grata, Mary Lou Offman, Mary Zangaglia, Dorothy Rosemas, Natalie Zerby, Patricia Grata, Michael Wadsworth, Valencia & Frank Tursi, Homer Locher, Brayden Schofield, Michelle Kasper, Diane Kingera, Allison Krischer, Ted Paluch, Brandt Hutzel, Pearl Litzinger, Patrick Munro, Fran Baldassarre, Corey Lybarger, Kristen Sinosky Long, Helen Ranieri, Cresta Micik, Basil Costantino, Madison McCrory, Laura, Joe Yoder, Dolores Yanzetich, Sandy Krug, Wanda Gramling, Merna Smay, Muriel “Jean” Wiesheier, Agnes Plummer, Jennifer Hagans, Sean, Holly, Shane, Owen Taylor, Keith & Dawnetta Hoyer, Derrick Varnish, Daniel Koshute, Vincent Koshute, Karen Lovrich, Melissa Cordek, Michelle Elliott, Heather Romanow, Mackston Barrick, Connor Thomas, Erin, Pat, Mary Agnes Nastase, Mary Ann Bertolino, Dick Wilson, Izzy Bihun, Erica Mitzelfeld, Dorothy Kaminsky, Ed Ripper Sr., Bob Debias, Patricia Oshaben, Craig Kraber, Ashlee Madison, Susan Yanzetich, Mike, Mary Sivec, Danika Faith, Stacy Jarvis, Alina Rusnak, Fern Swartzentruver, Marcia Costlow, Gary Smay, Tammy Webb, Elizabeth Howell, Charles Smith, Mary Ann Cover, Helen Bowen, Bill Gideos, James Macy, Baby Vincent Andrew, Walter Bodziak, Rhonda, Dan Strinkoski, Anne Robinson, Marlene McCrory, Ken Kralik, Bonnie Moors and all of the sick of our parish, the homebound, those in nursing homes, those who care for them, and those in the military along with their families. *(Please call the Rectory to have your name removed from the list when no longer seriously ill. Thank You.)*



LAST WEEK’S COLLECTION

Adults $4,261.00

Loose $ 197.00

Youth $ 44.00

Monthly $ 475.00

Candles $ 10.00

Maintenance Fund $ 48.00

Feast of the Assumption $1,157.00

Catholic Register $ 5.00

Peter’s Pence (Holy Father) $ 20.00

Missionary Co-Op $1,165.04

Total $7,382.04

We sincerely thank and ask God’s blessing upon all who have care and concern for our parish.

*August 26, 2018 John 6:60-69*

*Even though many found the teachings of Jesus “difficult,” He did not back down. In our families it is important to say what is difficult to hear, to speak the truth with kindness, to correct with love and guide with understanding.*

BUS TO PILGRIMAGE AT MOUNT SAINT MACRINA, UNIONTOWN ~ A chartered bus from the Johnstown area will travel to the *84th Annual Pilgrimage* at Mount Saint Macrina, Uniontown on Sunday, September 2, 2018. The bus will depart from Saints Peter and Paul, 143 Church Drive, Portage Township, at 7:00 AM; and from the Senior Life, Broad Street in Cambria City Johnstown at 7:30 AM. The bus will return from Mount Saint Macrina in the evening following the Candlelight Procession (approximately 9:00 PM). To reserve a seat, please call Saints Peter and Paul Church (814-736-9780), or Deacon Daniel Perich (814-487-5153) by Sunday, August 19. Youth under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. All passengers must provide an emergency contact telephone donation of $10 is asked.

CATHOLIC PILGRIAMGE TO THE HOLY LAND ~ Nov. 7 – 17, 2018, $3,899.00 per person including air from Pittsburgh or State College. Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily are included. Holy Mass daily at the Holy Sites. For more detailed information please call Cathie or Michael Milano at 1-800-773-2660.

A BLUE MASS ~ Honoring first responders for their service at 11:00 AM, Sunday, Sept. 9th at St. John Gualbert Cathedral, Johnstown. This event is open to all police, law enforcement, public safety, firefighters, and EMTs and their families. The Blue Mass celebration will be open to the general public and honors those who serve our community in a most outstanding way as first responders. Anyone wishing to attend, plus those seeking further information, can contact (814) 659-6240 or [evyanz@hotmail.com](mailto:evyanz@hotmail.com).

CATHOLIC PILGRMAGE TO SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE ~ In Mexico December 8 – 13, 2018 to be there for the beautiful Mass of Roses on the feast day December 12th. $2,294.00 per person including air from Altoona. Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Daily. Mass everyday. For a Flyer or more detailed information please call Cathie or Michael Milano at 1-800-773-2660.

LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULES ~ Lay ministry schedules for the months of October through January are now being made up. Anyone who would like to serve as an Altar Server, Reader, Cantor, Greeter or any current minister who has scheduling preferences at this time, should call Suzi Blazosky at 495-5287 or e-mail her at [sublazosky@gmail.com](mailto:sublazosky@gmail.com). Deadline is September 21st, 2018.

R.CI.A. ~ Are you interested in becoming a Catholic? Are you a Catholic who would like to grow in faith understanding or has not been confirmed for one reason or another? The R.C.I.A. program will commence in October. For more information, please call Suzi Blazosky at 495-5287 or e-mail her at [sublazosky@gmail.com](mailto:sublazosky@gmail.com).



Catholic Ministries Drive $24,043.00

Raised: $ 9,325.00

Balance: $14,718.00

Number of responses: 74

Thank you to all parishioners who have responded to the *2018 Catholic Ministries Drive.* Please join them in supporting our Parish and a select group of ministries that provide outreach to the poor, family life, youth and seminarians. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail, you may give online at [www.dioceseaj.org](http://www.dioceseaj.org).

The Sanctuary Candle will burn for the

60th Wedding Anniversary of

Nicholas and Pauline Minor

requested by daughters, Michele and Nadine

and

The Our Lady of Grace Candle will burn

for the health of Baby Vincent

requested by Helen Slonac and Family

during the week of August 26, 2018.

[](https://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images;_ylt=A0LEV1kSWptXvOwAKINXNyoA;_ylu=X3oDMTEyZGdkcmRoBGNvbG8DYmYxBHBvcwMxBHZ0aWQDQjIwODlfMQRzZWMDc2M-?p=Clipart+of+a+sanctuary+candle&fr=ush-mailn_02&th=110&tw=110&imgurl=http://www.henningers.com/389-168-wall-sanctuary-lamp.jpg&rurl=http://pixshark.com/sanctuary-lamp.htm&size=43KB&name=Sanctuary+Lamp+Bronze+wall+sanctuary+lamp&h=600&w=600&turl=http://ts2.mm.bing.net/th?id=OIP.M68453c67108cdc5ab485d309b395bd03o0&pid=15.1&rs=1&c=1&qlt=95&w=110&h=110#inline&tt=Sanctuary+Lamp+Bronze+wall+sanctuary+lamp&sigr=116keh5le&sigit=13gvlt42j&sigi=11ip0pgm4&sign=119kp6100&sigt=119kp6100)



FR. BRIAN’S MESSAGE ~ Soon, you will be receiving a buzz call from me to speak on our upcoming parish photo directory. Our parish has been growing and many good things are taking place, thanks to all of you. This will give us an opportunity to learn of our new parishioners, as well as enjoying the photos of families we have known for years. It is my hope and prayer that all families will take part in this important keepsake.

*Fr. Brian*

CHOIR PRACTICE ~ Due to the Forest Hills Festival, the Sunday Choir practice will move to Tuesday, Sept. 4th at 7:00 PM. It will return to its regular time slot on Monday September 10th at 7:00 PM.

LABOR DAY FESTIVAL ~ The Labor Day Weekend is fastly approaching and our REACH Youth Group is looking to fill spots for the Apple Dumpling and Ice Cream Sundae booth. Please consider volunteering your time. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church.



ST MICHAEL HOLY NAME FUNNEL CAKE BOOTH ~ Sign-up sheets are available in the back of the church for the Funnel Cake Booth at the Forest Hills Festival on September 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. You don’t have to be a member of the Holy Name Society to help. This is the Holy Name’s biggest fundraiser of the year!

ST. MICHAEL BLUE MASS ~ We will be having a Blue Mass honoring all first responders (police, law enforcement, public safety, firefighters and EMT’s and their families) for their service at the 10:30 AM Mass on Sunday, September 30th. A small luncheon will follow in the Church Hall.

*Stewardship Reflections…*

Can you embrace Joshua’s choice as your own: “*As for me and household, we will serve the Lord”* (Jos. 24:15)? Christian stewards eagerly decide to serve the Lord, and strive to not let the destructive “gods” of society; materialism, relativism, individualism, and consumerism control their lives.



ARISE Together in Christ ~ For those interested, small group communities for ARISE will begin meeting in late October and finish the first six-week session before the holidays begin. The second session will begin during lent. There is still time to sign up and additional forms are available in the back of the church and can be returned in the collection basket or dropped off in the office. By the end of August, we hope to have those interested divided into small groups (6-8 members) according to the interest notated on the sign-up sheet.

OUR SAINT MICHAEL CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are getting ready to create a new photo directory and we need you to help make it complete! Our directory will showcase our families, provide contact information, and become a useful resource to keep us connected. By participating, you will receive a printed version of the new directory. Photographs create priceless family treasures and are great gifts. Signup sheets will be available starting next weekend, August 25-26, 2018.

Photos will be taken in our church hall. Please check your calendar. Below are the scheduled photography dates and times:

Thursday, September 20, 2018 2:00pm – 9:00pm

Friday, September 21, 2018 2:00pm – 9:00pm

Saturday, September 22, 2018 10:00am – 5:00pm

Thursday, October 11, 2018 2:00pm – 9:00pm

Friday, October 12, 2018 2:00pm – 9:00pm

Each family receives a FREE 8x10 photograph and directory for participating! Plan one hour for check-in, photography and image viewing and selection. You will have the opportunity to purchase additional photographs for yourself, family and friends. Pets are welcome at your upcoming photography session even if they do not wish to be in our church directory. Military families, Veterans and their families and Seniors ( Age 60 and over) are entitled to 20% off their portrait purchases.

Without you our directory will not be complete! 

Religious Education And Christian Helping

August 26, 2018

REACH Service Project

Forest Hills Labor Day Festival ~ The Forest Hills Labor Day Festival is upon us! This coming weekend, September 1st,2nd & 3rd, our REACH Youth Ministry will have 2 booths for selling Apple Dumplings and Ice Cream Sundaes.

*Help is still needed where noted \*. Student and Parent volunteers are still needed to help in the time slots marked on the sign-up schedule below.*

The sign-ups are as follows:

Saturday, September 1st: APPLE DUMPLINGS ~ ICE CREAM SUNDAES

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Carson, Dylan & Karen Kundrod ~ Brycen, Colby & Sara Rearick

1 to 3 p.m.: Ian, Elizabeth & Amy Dobbins ~ Alexis & Heather Henderson

3 to 5 p.m.: (*\*Workers still needed in Apple Dumplings)* ~ Luke & Laura Docherty, Haden Romanow

5 to 7 p.m.: Evan & Ken Burkardt ~ (*\* Workers still needed in Ice Cream)*

7 to 9 p.m.: Zachary & Heidi Fisher, Alex Bambino ~ (*\* Workers still needed in Ice Cream)*

Sunday, September 2nd:

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Brycen, Colby & Sara Rearick ~ (*\* Workers still needed in Ice Cream)*

1 to 3 p.m.: Kim & Alex Deighan, Nancy Wessel ~ Kirstyn & Michelle Vitez, Elisabeth Zajdel

3 to 5 p.m.: (*\* Workers still needed in Apple Dumplings)* ~ Haden Koch

5 to 7 p.m.: (*\* Workers still needed in Both Booths)*

7 to 9 p.m.: (*\* Workers still needed in Apple Dumplings) ~* Alexia, Mike & Jen Steele

Monday, September 3rd:

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: (*\* Workers still needed in Both Booths)*

1 to 3 p.m.: (*\* Workers still needed in Both Booths)*

3 to 5 p.m.: (*\* Workers still needed in Both Booths)*

\* If able to help us out with any of these available times, call the RE Office at 495-4873.

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Religious Education Registration is taking place for our 2018—2019 Religious Education Year. New Registration forms are available in the back of the church. Envelopes are labeled with family names. Extra packets are also available for newly registering members. Families must pre-register students every year so that all information is updated. Any questions can be directed to the RE Office at 495-4873.

Forms can be returned promptly by dropping in the weekend collection basket, or by dropping off at the Parish or Religious Education Offices, or by mail.

In addition, parents of K—5 students also need to return the enclosed Bus Permission card to the Elementary School Office by Monday, September 10th.

Religious Education Start Dates:

Grades K—5 begins Thursday, September 20th from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Grades 6—12 begins on Sunday, September 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to 10:20 a

ST. JOHN’S CHURCH ANNUAL PICNIC ~ August 26th at the New Germany Grove. Chicken & Ham Dinner with homemade noodle soup, 11:30 AM – 3:30 PM. Cruise-In 2 – 4 PM at the Church parking lot across from the picnic grounds. Entertainment: 12-3 PM Music by “Johnstown Button Box”, 3-4 PM Dance by “Le Dance Academie”, 4-7 PM That Oldies Band (Music of the 50’s & 60’s). Games for Young & Old. Dancing\*Bingo\*Food\*Music\*Theme Baskets. ALL ARE WELCOME!!

TOURS OF THE CATHEDRAL ~ The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona is conducting tours during the month of September. This is the month in which the Cathedral was formally dedicated in 1931. Parishes and groups from throughout the Diocese are invited to come for a one-hour guided tour. Plan to take part in one of these tours during September. Please call your Parish Office for further information.

PROUDFIT CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT & BASKET RAFFLE BENEFIT ~ Cresson American Legion Post #238 on September 9th, 2018. Basket Raffle starts at Noon with the Winners drawn at 5 PM. The basket raffle is $5/book. If interested in donating a basket, please contact Paul Myers at 814-502-5439 or Corey Rickens 814-414-9714. Registration for the Cornhole Tourney will be from 2 – 2:45, games start at 3. $10/person. Double elimination. Winner will get payout, which will be decided the day of. Do NOT need to be 21 to participate!!

BISHOP CARROLL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ~ Basket Raffle and Bake Sale Sunday, September 9, 2018, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Bishop Carroll High School Cafeteria, 728 Ben Franklin Highway, Ebensburg, PA 15931 Call 472-7500 ext. 101 for info.

 Sunday, August 26 Church Directory Picture Sign-ups

CCD Registration Pick-up

Pavilion Rental

Monday, August 27 Martha’s Group / 6:00 PM

Sunday Choir Practice / 7:00 PM

Tuesday, August 28

Wednesday, August 29 No Mass

Thursday, August 30 Saturday Choir Practice / 5:30 PM

Forest Hills Football Players Service / 6:00 PM

Friday, August 31

Saturday, September 1 Church Directory Picture Sign-ups

Forest Hills Labor Day Festival



UPCOMING EVENT

September 2 Church Directory Picture Sign-ups

September 2, & 3 Forest Hills Labor Day Festival

September 3 Labor Day / Offices Closed

Mass / St. Joseph’s Cemetery

PRIESTS COMMIT NO MORE ABUSE THAN OTHER MALES

By Pat Wingert on 4/7/10 Posted in Newsweek Magazine

The Catholic sex-abuse stories emerging every day suggest that Catholics have a much bigger problem with child molestation than other denominations and the general population. Many point to peculiarities of the Catholic Church (its celibacy rules for priests, its insular hierarchy, its exclusion of women) to infer that there’s something particularly pernicious about Catholic clerics that predisposes them to these horrific acts. It’s no wonder that, back in 2002-when the last Catholic sex-abuse scandal was making headlines-a Wall Street Journal-NBC News poll found that 64% of those queried thought Catholic priests “frequently” abused children. Yet experts say there’s simply no data to support the claim at all. No formal comparative study has ever broken-down child sexual abuse by denomination, and only the Catholic Church has released detailed data about its own. But based on the surveys and studies conducted by different denominations over the past 30 years, experts who study child abuse say they see little reason to conclude that sexual abuse is mostly a Catholic issue. “We don’t see the Catholic Church as a hotbed of this or a place that has a bigger problem than anyone else,” said Ernie Allen, president of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. “I can tell you without hesitation that we have seen cases in many religious settings, from traveling evangelists to mainstream ministers to rabbis and others.”

Since the mid-1980’s, insurance companies have offered sexual misconduct coverage as a rider on liability insurance, and their own studies indicate that Catholic churches are not higher risk than other congregations. Insurance companies that cover all denominations, such as Guide One Center for Risk Management, which has more than 40,000 church clients, does not charge Catholic churches higher premiums. “We don’t see vast difference in the incidence rate between one denomination and another,” says Sarah Buckley, assistant vice president of corporate communications. “It’s pretty even across the denominations.” It’s been that way for decades. While the company saw an uptick in these claims by all types of churches around the time of the 2002 U.S. Catholic sex-abuse scandal, Eric Spacick, Guide One’s senior church-risk manager, says “it’s been pretty steady since.” On average, the company says 80% of the sexual misconduct claims they get from all denominations involve sexual abuse of children. As a result, the more children’s programs a church has, the more expensive its insurance, officials at Guide One said.

The only hard data that has been made public by any denomination comes from John Jay College’s study of Catholic priests, which was authorized and is being paid for by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops following the public outcry over the 2002 scandals. Limiting their study to plausible accusations made between 1950 and 1992, John Jay researchers reported that about 4% of the 110,000 priests active during those years had been accused of sexual misconduct involving children. Specifically, 4,392 complaints (ranging from “sexual talk” to rape) were made against priests by 10,667 victims. (Reports made after 2002, including those of incidents that occurred years earlier, are released as part of the church’s annual audits.)

Experts disagree on the rate of sexual abuse among the general American male population, but Allen says a conservative estimate is one in 10. Margaret Leland Smith, a researcher at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, says her review of the numbers indicates it’s closer to one in 5. But in either case, the rate of abuse by Catholic priests is not higher than these national estimates. The public also doesn’t realize how “profoundly prevalent” child sexual abuse is, adds Smith. Even those numbers may be low; research suggests that only a third of abuse cases are ever reported (making it the most underreported crime). “However you slice it, it’s a very common experience,” Smith says.

Most child abusers have one thing in common, and it’s not piety-it’s preexisting relationships with their victims. That includes priests and ministers and rabbis, of course, but also family members, friends, neighbors, teachers, coaches, scout leaders, youth-group volunteers, and doctors. According to federal studies, three quarters of abuse occurs at the hands of family members or others in the victim’s “circle of trust.” “The fundamental premise here is that those who abuse children overwhelmingly seek out situations where they have easy and legitimate access to children,” he said. “These kinds of positions offer a kind of cover for these offenders.”

Priests may also appear more likely to molest children because cases of abuse come to light in huge waves. One reason is delayed reporting: less than 13% of victims abused between 1960 and 1980, for example, lodged a complaint in the same year as the assault. Two thirds filed their complaints after 1992, and half of those were made between 2002 and 2003 alone. “Offenders tend to be manipulative, often persuading children to believe that this is their fault,” said Allen. “As a result, the children tend to keep it to themselves. There are countless victims who though they were the only one.” So what looks like high concentrations of abuse may simply reflect long and diffuse patterns of abuse that mirror those among all males.

Another reason is that the church has historically been bad at punishing (or preventing) molesters, so that many cases might come to light when just one priest is finally exposed. A single predator priest with ongoing access to children might be responsible for an immense raft of abuse cases. (Marie Fortune of the Faith Trust Institute, which focuses on clerical-abuse issues, says Roman Catholics tend “to have many more schools and other programs that involve children.” “Plenty of other congregations have these problems, for instance, if they have a youth ministry.”) That helps explain the 200 children who were abused at a school for the deaf. It didn’t happen because the school was full of rapists; it happened because one man was never stopped. Overall, the John Jay study found that 149 priests were responsible for more than 25,000 cases of abuse over the 52-year period studied.

Allen suggests a final reason we hear so much more about Catholic abuse that transgressions in other religions: its sheer size. It’s the second largest single denomination in the world (behind Islam) and the biggest in the United States. (51% of all American adults are Protestant, but they belong to hundreds of different denominations.) “When you consider the per capita data,” says Allen, “I don’t think they have a larger incidence than other faiths.”