In the spirit of justice and transparency, the Diocese of Cheyenne must report that two credible allegations of sexual misconduct with adolescent females have been made against Father Joseph Fraher, a priest of the Diocese of Cheyenne. These occurred in the 1950’s when he was assigned to the parishes in Sheridan and Ranchester. The first allegation was reported in 1990, and we became aware of it in March 2019 due to the clergy file review. After the June 2019 publication of the list of Catholic clergy with substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of minors, the second allegation was reported in August 2019.

Father Fraher has also served in parishes located in Newcastle, Rock Springs, Lander, Jeffrey City, Hudson, Laramie, Riverton, Gillette, Worland, Wheatland, and Chugwater, as well as St. Rose of Lima Parish and St. Joseph’s Children’s Home in Torrington. He was ordained in 1950 and retired in 1995. Father Fraher currently resides in Cheyenne.

Father Fraher has been restricted from celebrating the sacraments publicly and also from any contact with minors. The Diocese has provided outreach to the victims, from 1993 to 2008 and from August 2019 to present.

If you or anyone you know has been a victim of sexual abuse by a member of the clergy, or if you suspect abuse of a minor, we urge you to contact your local law enforcement agency or the Department of Family Services.

Upon notification of authorities or if you have questions, please contact Chancellor Jean Chrostoski at 307-638-1530, ext. 105 (jchrostoski@dioceseofcheyenne.org) or Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Adams at 307-220-0485 (adamsmaryj@outlook.com).