

Gillespie, Thomas

Born in Minneapolis, MN on 24 July, 1937

Professed on 11 July 1958

Ordained on 30 May, 1964

Education and work:

EDUCATION

B.A. 1960 St. John's University (Philosophy)

Ordination 1964 St. John's University (Divinity)

ASSIGNMENTS

Associate Pastor
St. Bernard's Parish
St. Paul, Minnesota 1964 – 1966

Assistant Vocation Director
St. John's Prep School 1966 – 1968

Missionary/Teacher
San Antonio Abad
Humacao, Puerto Rico 1968 – 1975

Associate Pastor
St. Boniface Parish
Cold Spring, Minnesota 1975 – 1976

Associate Pastor
St. Bernard's Parish
St. Paul, Minnesota 1976 – 1978

Pastor
St. Mary's Church
Stillwater, Minnesota 1978 – 1986

Pastor
St. Joseph Parish
St. Joseph, Minnesota 1986 – 1996

Vicar of Parishes and Chaplaincies
St. John's Abbey 1990 - 1996

Chaplain (Team member)
St. Raphael's Convent

St. Cloud, Minnesota 1996 – 1999

Chaplain (Regular Substitute)

St. Scholastica Convent

St. Cloud, Minnesota 1996 – 2002

Chaplain (Team member)

St. Benedict's Monastery

St. Joseph, Minnesota 1996 - 2002

Computer Graphics/Signage

Physical Plant

St. John's Corporation 1997 – present

Assistant

Website manager 1996-present

1. [REDACTED] *v Thomas Gillespie*

- a. **Nature of the Abuse:** The case involved here was against a fourteen year old boy, a parishioner of St. Bernard's Parish in St. Paul, who had biked out to visit Fr. Tom Gillespie in the summer of 1978, when Gillespie was pastor at St. Mary's in Stillwater. The description of the abuse by the plaintiff: "rubbing and simulated anal intercourse with ejaculation by Gillespie." Not clear whether with or without clothes.
- b. **Date of the Abuse:** The abuse occurred in the summer of 1978.
- c. **Response of Gillespie:** Gillespie admitted the abuse.
- d. **Date on which SJA became aware of the abuse:** 23 February 1996.
- e. **Date of Settlement:** May 1997.
- f. **Response of SJA.** Abbot Timothy removed Gillespie immediately from the parish at St. Joseph when he became aware in 1996 of the abuse that had occurred eighteen years earlier. The victim was offered counseling and the case was settled in May of 1997. Gillespie went for in-patient treatment at St. Luke's in Maryland. After treatment, Gillespie returned to the Abbey where he has no contact with young people. He has been working for physical plant doing computer graphics and signage since his return to the Abbey. The Abbey has no further allegations of sexual abuse against Gillespie.