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Las Vegas pastor pleads guilty to stealing \$650,000 from church

By editor on October 12, 2011 9:54 am in US News / no comments

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Catholic church in Las Vegas, gambling addiction, Internet gambling addiction, Msgr. Kevin McAuliffe, pastor, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

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Parishioners at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, a Catholic church in Las Vegas, were baffled. Why would their beloved pastor steal from their parish?



But steal, he did. Msgr. Kevin McAuliffe stole from the church mission fund. He stole from the gift shop fund. He even stole from the pot of money for votive candles.

Last week, McAuliffe pleaded guilty to federal charges stemming from the theft of \$650,000 from the parish over nearly a decade, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported. He faces up to 60 years in prison when he's sentenced in January, although his attorney, Margaret Stanish, said his sentence will likely be much shorter.

As the news spread in recent days, worshipers said the monsignor must have had some type of Robin Hood reason to steal. A pastor at St. Elizabeth's since 1997, McAuliffe was credited with building it into one of Nevada's largest Roman Catholic parishes. He wore scuffed boots and drove a banged-up Cadillac, churchgoers told the Review-Journal. There was no way he would have tried to enrich himself. [\[more\]](#)

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