

Assignment Record – Rev. Michael Stephen Baker

Summary of Case: Rev. Michael Stephen Baker has been called by authorities one of the Los Angeles archdiocese's most prolific child molesters, with estimates of at least 23-28 victims, one of whom is known to have been as young as age 5. Baker told Cardinal Mahony in 1986 that he had sexually abused children. Mahony sent Baker to treatment, then allowed him to return to ministry. Baker is accused of molesting many more children after 1986. He was removed from active ministry in early 2000, when the archdiocese learned of a pending lawsuit against him. He was defrocked in December of that same year. Baker pleaded guilty in 2007 to the sexual abuse of two young brothers, and was sentenced to 10 years and 4 months in prison. He was released early, in October 2011. Within weeks he was arrested on a parole violation. In August 2012 he was arrested again when caught violating parole. Two more cases against Baker were scheduled to go to trial in November 2012.

Ordained: 1974

Incardinated: Los Angeles

Defrocked: 2002



Start	Stop	Parish/Assignment	Town/Accusations	State	Position	Notes
June 1974 Los Angeles archbishop was Timothy Manning (1970-1985).	June 1976	St. Joan of Arc	Los Angeles	CA	3/3 , 2/2	St. Joan of Arc's had a school with 281-284 students.
June 1976	July 1982	St. Paul of the Cross	La Mirada • Baker was charged in 2002 with molesting an altar boy during his time at St. Paul's. The case was thrown out in 2003 due to a Supreme Court ruling on the statute of limitations. The abuse is said to have begun when the boy was 7 years-old, continuing until the boy was 14 .	CA	2/2	St. Paul's had a school with 317-296 students.
July 1982 Manning was succeeded by Roger Michael Mahony (1985-2011)	1986	St. Hilary's	Pico Rivera • Baker was accused in a 2000 lawsuit of sexually abusing two boys, who were 5 and 7 year old brothers, beginning at St. Hilary's in 1984, and continuing until 1999 .	CA	2/3 In residence.	St. Hilary's had a school with 311-405 students. The brothers sued and received a confidential settlement from the archdiocese in 2000. The boys'