



Diocese of Oakland
Office of the Bishop

July 28, 2023

Dear Reverend Pastors,

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Oakland ("RCBO") is pleased the Court has set a definitive deadline of September 11, 2023, for survivors of sexual abuse to file claims in RCBO's Chapter 11 case. This deadline, known as a "Bar Date," is the date set for all claims to be filed in the Chapter 11 case. The Bar Date was set by Judge William J. Lafferty to provide a definitive date for any potential survivor to make a claim against RCBO, which filed Chapter 11 in order to facilitate a compassionate and equitable outcome for survivors.

To ensure potential claimants are aware of the Bar Date, the Court has ordered RCBO to post the Notice of Deadline for Filing Sexual Abuse Claims on its digital and physical properties in all its churches, schools, and social media accounts.

Accordingly, and in accordance with the Order of the Bankruptcy Court, please post the three-page Notice, provided to you in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese, in a prominent physical location, such as a community bulletin board or high-traffic site. For the avoidance of doubt, please post all three versions of the Notice on or before August 1, 2023. This posting will help to ensure potential claimants have a reasonable chance of seeing the Notice (in all three languages) in the myriad of locations where it will be placed.

We ask the Notice remain posted until the September 11, 2023, Bar Date has passed. Posting the Notice helps RCBO adhere to the Court mandate on Noticing, but you are not expected to provide additional information or answers regarding the claim-filing process. Please direct all questions to the Claims Agent website at <https://kccllc.net/rcbo>.

In addition to the physical posting of the Notice, the Court has ordered RCBO to provide information regarding the Notice of Deadline for filing Sexual Abuse Claims on its website and its social media accounts. Beginning on or before August 1, 2023, the Diocese will post a message to its Facebook page and its Twitter account with a one-click link to a package of information on the Claims Agents' website embedded in the message. This information will allow potential claimants to find the actual notice and instructions on the website and to file their claims.

Please also post the Notice on your parish website and include a post on your social media channels (such as Facebook or Twitter) on or before August 1, 2023, to be updated at least once every 15 days, until September 11, 2023. We ask the website and social media notice read as follows:

The Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California has set a definitive deadline of September 11, 2023, for survivors of clergy sexual abuse to file claims in the Roman Catholic Bishop of Oakland's (RCBO's) chapter 11 case. Information regarding the claim filing process can be found at <https://www.kccllc.net/rcbo/info/12282>.

In addition, RCBO requested, and the Court approved, specialized confidentiality procedures for submission and handling of Sexual Abuse Proofs of Claims to ensure the protection of abuse survivors and their confidential information. These procedures strictly limit disclosure of any proofs of claim filed by survivors of sexual abuse to certain parties approved by the Court.

Proof of claim forms may be delivered electronically using the interface available on the Claims Agent's website at <https://kccllc.net/rcbo>. The Court has also approved an *optional* supplement for claimants to utilize to provide additional information. Claimants will also be permitted to submit proofs of claim forms or the optional supplement in person or by courier service, hand delivery, or mail.

IF BY U.S. POSTAL SERVICE MAIL, HAND DELIVERY, OR OVERNIGHT DELIVERY:

RCBO Claims Processing Center
222 N. Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 300
c/o KCC
El Segundo, CA 90245

Thank you for posting the Notice of Deadline for Filing Sexual Abuse Claims. All instructions and information for filing a claim are included in the Notice. You, along with the other priests and lay leadership of our diocese, are generous and faithful. Please continue to join me in praying for the survivors of sexual abuse and their continued healing, and for all who are working to bring closure to this tragedy.

With my sincere gratitude for your prayers and ministry, I am,

Faithfully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Barber S.J." with a small cross symbol to the left of the name.

Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ
Bishop of Oakland