DIOCESE of NEW ULM

Catholic Pastoral Center

NEWS

Contact: Office of Communications Diocese of New Ulm (507) 359-2966 dnu@dnu.org NOTICE TO AREA MEDIA For Immediate Release Release #510 August 4, 2017

Statement from Bishop John M. LeVoir Regarding Fr. James Devorak

NEW ULM, Minn. – The Diocese of New Ulm recently received notice of an allegation of sexual abuse against Fr. James Devorak when he was assigned at St. Pius X parish in Glencoe in the 1990s.

Police, the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and affected parishes are being notified of this allegation.

Fr. Devorak is a retired priest of the Diocese of New Ulm. His last assignment in the Diocese of New Ulm ended in July 2015. From September 2015 to July 31, 2017, he was assigned within the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis as a parochial vicar.

The Diocese of New Ulm is not aware of any other abuse allegations against Fr. Devorak.

Pending the investigation, the Diocese of New Ulm has removed Fr. Devorak from public ministry. In accord with the *United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, this is standard procedure and it ensures the safety of all children and allows for an impartial investigation to be undertaken.