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Former St. Joseph Priest Sentenced for Child Porn

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) - A former St. Joseph, Missouri priest whose child pornography case led to a criminal conviction against a Roman Catholic bishop has been sentenced to 50 years in federal prison.

The Reverend Shawn Ratigan received the sentence Thursday. Prosecutors had asked that he get 10 years in prison for each of five young victims after he pleaded guilty in August 2012 to five counts of producing and trying to produce child porn.

The 47-year-old was charged in May 2011 after police received a flash drive from his computer containing hundreds of images of children, most of them clothed, focusing on their crotch areas.

Bishop Robert Finn, head of the Catholic Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, was convicted last September of one misdemeanor count of failing to report suspected child abuse to the state.

Associated Press