

Falls City priest on administrative leave

(KLZA)-- Father Thomas Dunavan, chief administrator of Falls City Sacred Heart School, and pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Church in Falls City, has been placed on administrative leave according to a story in the Lincoln Journal Star.

In a statement issued Sunday by the Diocese of Lincoln, the action was taken by Bishop James Conley due to allegations of sexual misconduct dating back approximately 20 years.

The release indicates the allegations do not involve any recent conduct or recent allegations.

Bishop Conley took the action following consultation with a four-member independent lay task force currently reviewing past allegations of sexual misconduct within the diocese. The Bishop determined the allegations warranted further investigation. An independent, private investigator has been retained to investigate the matter.

Father Dunavan will be on administrative leave pending a full investigation by the diocese. Information related to the allegations have been provided to law enforcement in connection with the Nebraska Attorney General's investigation into clergy misconduct.

No conclusions have been reached by the diocese about the allegations.

Father Kenneth Hoelsing has been appointed administrator of Saints Peter and Paul Parish in Falls City and Doug Goltz has been named the interim chief administrative officer of Sacred Heart School.

Many Signals Communications