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Glendale Priest Reported to DA

By Stephanie Saul
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The alleged-sexual-abusers list handed over to prosecutors by the Diocese of Brooklyn includes a Glendale priest who was accused of molesting teens in the 1980s, according to a law enforcement source.

Father Brian Keller, a parish priest at St. Pancras Church in Glendale, was the latest name emerging in the widespread investigation of sexual-abuse allegations.

A victims' organization released allegations yesterday from an anonymous victim who said Keller had abused several teens, both male and female, while serving at St. Matthias Parish in Ridgewood.

Some of the teens said they gave depositions to the Brooklyn diocese in the late 1980s, according to the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests.

It is not known what, if any, action was taken against Keller by diocesan officials following those depositions. Keller did not return calls left for him yesterday at St. Pancras.

A spokesman for the diocese, Frank DeRosa, said last night that he did not know whether Keller has been placed on leave pending the outcome of the district attorney's investigation.

Another priest who was the target of old sexual-abuse allegations in Queens, the Rev. Jim Collins, has been placed on administrative leave from his job as chaplain at Bishop Kearney High School, an all-girls school in Bensonhurst.

"He cannot celebrate Mass publicly and is not allowed to perform the sacraments," DeRosa said.

Before joining the staff of Bishop Kearney, where he also served as a coach, Collins had worked in four Queens parishes: St. Michael's in Flushing, St. Clare's in Rosedale, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in Forest Hills and St. Margaret in Middle Village.

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