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Two Men Say They Were Molested by Priests

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Two men sued the St. Louis Archdiocese Thursday claiming that as young boys, priests sexually abused them.

Both lawsuits say the church should have protected them from abuse and that the church should have known that Rev. Romano Ferraro and Rev. Norman Christian were dangerous.

The lawsuit filed by John Doe GS, a computer industry worker who lives in the St. Louis area, says Ferraro molested him multiple times between 1980 and 1983, while Romano was at St. Joan of Arc Parish.

The lawsuit filed by John Doe 111C says that Christian fondled him in 1970 to 1971, when the boy was 11 to 12 years old. Christian was at Sacred Heart Church in Crystal City, the suit says.

John Doe 111C also sued a man from Festus, Robert E. Oberle, claiming that Oberle witnessed some of the abuse and did nothing to help the boy.

Christian died in October. Ferraro is serving a life sentence in Massachusetts for sexually assaulting a young boy there.

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