



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Charges laid against Fr. Arul Savari, sdm, pastor of St. John the Evangelist R.C. Church in Little Grand Rapids, Manitoba, of the Archdiocese of St. Boniface

Winnipeg, Manitoba, May 30, 2023

Upon learning from the Little Grand Rapids RCMP detachment that Fr. Arul Savari, pastor of St. John the Evangelist R.C. Church, had been arrested and charged with several criminal offenses on May 29, the Archdiocese of St. Boniface expresses its deep sorrow to the victim who has come forward as well as to that person's family, and the entire community of Little Grand Rapids who have been affected by the allegations. The Archdiocese will do all it can to assist the victim who has come forward and any who may make known their suffering.

The Archdiocese will cooperate fully with the RCMP in their investigation.

Following its own diocesan policy for the protection of children, youth and vulnerable adults, the Archdiocese immediately suspended Fr. Arul Savari from all ministerial activity in the Archdiocese. Fr. Savari has been forbidden to have anything to do with former parishioners and children. In fairness to Fr. Savari, he is presumed to be innocent until proven guilty.

The **Diocesan Policy for the Protection of Children, Youth and Vulnerable Adults** can be found on the archdiocesan website at: www.archsaintboniface.ca or by [clicking here](#).

Every single abuse case involving a minor, no matter when it took place, is wrong. Each time the heinous crime of sexual abuse is reported, we must listen attentively and respond compassionately to those who have been victimized and hurt, particularly if the abuser is connected in any way with our Church. And every time sexual abuse is reported, all victims of such abuse, as well as their families and communities, are hurt again. The Archdiocese of Saint Boniface stands in solidarity with all victims of sexual abuse.

For more information:

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