

9. Fr Finbarr Lynch SJ: 1933-2022

Born	April 27, 1933
Entered the Society	September 7, 1955
Ordained	July 10, 1968
Died	December 30, 2022

LOCATION	ASSIGNMENT
▪ Emo, Co. Laois	Noviceship
▪ Rathfarnham, Dublin	Studies at UCD
▪ St Stanislaus College, Tullamore	Studies Philosophy
▪ Mungret College Limerick	Teacher
▪ Clongowes Wood College	Teacher
▪ St Beuno's, Wales	Final Year of Training
▪ Belvedere College Dublin	Assistant Headmaster Junior School; Assistant Headmaster Senior School; Teacher
▪ Milford, Toronto, Guelph in USA and Canada	Sabbatical
▪ Peter Faber House, Belfast	Directs Spiritual Exercises
▪ Manresa House, Dublin	Directs Spiritual Exercises
▪ Milltown Park, Dublin	Reading Theology

Complaints

There are two child sexual abuse complaints against Fr Finbarr Lynch SJ relating to his time in Belvedere College, Dublin. These complaints were received in 2021 and 2022 respectively and were reported to the Gardaí and Tusla. Two complaints of physical abuse were also received by the Order.

What happened in consequence of the complaints?

Fr Lynch was required to step aside from public ministry on receipt of the complaint in 2021 and not to have unsupervised contact with minors.

In 2021, the complainant also made their complaint to the Gardaí. This resulted in an investigation. The DPP initiated a prosecution against Fr Lynch on a charge of indecent assault. Fr Lynch died before the trial could take place.

Acknowledgement and apology

We acknowledge how painful it must be for a survivor of abuse by Fr Finbarr Lynch SJ to read this. We are truly sorry for the pain inflicted on you, the abuse you suffered, and the fact that you were not protected by the Order. We know that words of sorrow from us, no matter how sincerely meant, will ring hollow if they are not accompanied by action. One of the key factors for the Order in naming deceased Jesuits accused of child sexual abuse is to try and reach out to those who have been abused by such Jesuits and encourage them to contact our safeguarding office and/or the relevant authorities. We want to assist you in whatever ways we can, and we have services on offer that you might want to avail of. So once again, we ask you or anyone who has suffered abuse or has any concerns relating to any Jesuit to contact our safeguarding office (email: safeguarding@jesuit.ie; mobile: 083-0874254) and/or the relevant authorities.