



May 19, 2026

Dear Fathers, Sisters and Deacons,

As you are aware, we have been faced with making reparations with the survivors of child sexual abuse by clergy, employees, and volunteers representing the Church. We have also worked hard to establish Safe Environment protocols to prevent this evil from happening again. In July 2023 we filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy protection to allow us to reach a global settlement for abuse claims filed under the Child's Victim Act. Today I announce a big first step in forming a Chapter 11 plan that will lead the Diocese to settle with survivors and emerge from bankruptcy.

The Diocese and the parishes, schools and other Catholic entities within the Diocese (the "Catholic Family") today announced that we have reached an important milestone in the Reorganization case. The Catholic Family has reached a settlement in principle with the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the "Committee"), who represents the interests of the survivors in the Chapter 11 case, under which the Catholic Family will contribute \$45 million to a survivor Trust to be formed under a plan of Reorganization (the "Plan") to be developed and proposed jointly by the Diocese and the Committee.

My hope is that this process and this settlement will bring peace and healing to survivors and to the faithful whose hearts were broken by the sinful conduct of Church leaders and representatives.

While this settlement is a good first step, there is more work to be done. The Diocese and Creditors' Committee will continue to negotiate details of Child Protection policies and protocols to enhance measures already undertaken by the Diocese to protect young parishioners, students and all persons entrusted to the care of the Church. The Diocese of Ogdensburg is committed to ensuring the safety of

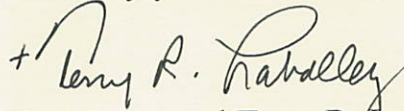
everyone entrusted to our care. The great harm caused by this gravely sinful behavior must never be allowed to happen again.

Additionally, negotiations will continue with our insurers. Our insurers, upon reaching a settlement in this case, will pay additional funds into the settlement Trust for survivors. When these remaining matters are settled, the Diocese will submit its plan of Reorganization. The Plan will be subject to a vote of all claimants in the Chapter 11 case (including survivors of abuse) and must be confirmed by the Bankruptcy Court before its terms (including payment of the Catholic Family settlement) will become effective. Once the plan is confirmed, the Diocese and its insurers will pay the funds into the settlement trust, and the Diocese will emerge from Bankruptcy.

My hope and prayer is that this process will bring peace and healing to all survivors. I ask for your continued prayers for all survivors. In addition, please pray for our Diocese and the people we serve.

I want to thank all of you for your support and prayers in these trying times. It is important that we work together to complete this task and emerge from bankruptcy. While the settlement might shock you, I ask you to remain positive and hopeful. Our parishioners need our guidance to understand the urgency and importance of settling these cases. We will be a Church that is poor and dependent on the grace of God. But we must persevere. We must continue to serve and sanctify the flocks entrusted to us. Asking God to bless you abundantly, I am

Faithfully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry R. LaValley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley  
Bishop of Ogdensburg