



DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

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Memo

To: Pastors, Parochial Administrators, Parish Stewards
From: Glen Faulkner – Parish Security Coordinator
Date: March 17, 2023
Re: Suspicious individual in Sacramento Diocese

Earlier this month the Sacramento Diocese received a message from the Diocese of Santa Rosa alerting us to a suspicious subject who had attempted to gain entry to four different parish offices or rectories in one day by representing himself as a Catholic priest. Father Frazer forwarded this warning to priests in the Sacramento Diocese on March 9, 2023.

On March 15, a priest in the Sacramento delta area was away from his parish when he received a notification from the rectory's doorbell camera. The priest immediately recognized the individual at the rectory door as the same subject whose photo appeared in the warning message from Santa Rosa. This individual was seen entering the church before leaving the area on foot. In this incident there is no information indicating the subject committed any criminal offence.



Image of suspicious subject taken in the Sacramento Diocese on March 15, 2023

Please remain alert to the possibility that this individual is active and is now in the operating area of our Diocese. He has not been seen wearing a priest's attire but has convincingly represented himself to be a priest to gain access to private areas in church offices or rectories. His actions indicate he may be deliberately targeting parishes located in remote areas. Although we believe he may be seeking valuables, we are not certain of his motivations for entering rectories and offices.

Your safety and that of your staff and parishioners is always of greatest importance. Please advise staff they should never allow anyone who is not recognized as an authorized person to have unescorted access to a private part of any parish building.

Should the pictured individual be encountered at your parish, notify your local law enforcement agency immediately and call me at (916) 747-6146. If it is possible to safely observe this individual, try to determine how he arrived at your parish. Please preserve any video images you might have of this individual or his vehicle.