

**For Immediate Release**  
**August 4, 2005**

## **Abuse survivors to leaflet Del Cerro's St. Therese Catholic Parish where at least two children were allegedly raped**

**Msgr. William Armstrong Kraft, alleged molester accused in at least 12 San Diego child rape civil cases, is named in two civil cases at the parish**

**Help Us Keep Children Safe, Support Survivors, Seek Justice and Accountability from Abusers, Survivors Network Says**

*For more information:*

*Joelle Casteix, SNAP Southwest Regional Director (858) 882-7452*

*Jaime Romo (San Diego) (760) 519-0823*

### **What:**

An educational leafleting to inform parishioners at St. Therese about William Kraft, a founding priest at the parish who is named in two lawsuits claiming that he abused children there, as well as being named in ten other cases in the diocese. Members of SNAP will reach out to survivors who may still be suffering in silence, distribute materials about support meetings and tell parishioners what they can do to protect their children, prevent further abuse, and demand accountability from San Diego Bishop Robert Brom.

### **Where:**

St. Therese Catholic Church  
6016 Camino Rico  
San Diego, CA 92120  
Where Navajo, Colledge and Waring Roads meet

### **When:**

**Sunday, August 7, 2005**

**9:45 am to 10:30 pm - Leafleting photo opportunity**

(Survivors will leaflet after the 9 am and before the 10:30 am masses. Masses are approximately one hour long)

### **Who:**

3 to 5 members and supporters of SNAP, the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests

### **Why:**

This leafleting is a part of the monthly leafleting/education/outreach campaign by San Diego SNAP. Previous parishes have included Good Shepherd (San Diego) and Our Lady of Guadalupe (Calexico)

For more than a decade, St. Therese was the parish and home of Msgr. William Kraft, now deceased, who is named in more than 12 cases of sexual abuse in the Diocese of San Diego. Two of the cases involve underage parishioners at St. Therese: a woman who was molested as a teen while on her deathbed and a male who was molested during a four-year period starting when he was 15. ([http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20030608-9999\\_1m8clergy.html](http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20030608-9999_1m8clergy.html))

SNAP's goal is to provide support to these survivors, inform parishioners of abuse, and protect children currently at the parish.

During the past two years, San Diego Bishop Robert Brom has stonewalled the California law that allows survivors of sexual abuse by priests to seek documents, justice and accountability from the men, women and institutions that committed, allowed and/or fostered the rape of children. Even after settlements and document releases in Orange, Stockton and San Francisco, Brom last month attempted to overturn the child protection law that has allowed thousands of Californians to seek healing. (<http://www.sbsun.com/Stories/0,1413,208~12588~2868749,00.html>)

In reaction to Brom' s continued victimization of abuse survivors, SNAP, the Survivors Network, has commenced twice-monthly parish leafletings and sent letters to every parish in the diocese asking pastors to post information about SNAP support meetings in parish bulletins. In May, members also hand-delivered a letter to Bishop Brom' s office staff, asking that he support the children who were abused in his diocese. There were no responses to either action.