

The Roman Catholic Church spent 660 million dollars to pay off more than 500 victims of Priest sexual abuse, reports *Ecumenical News International*

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Los Angeles

The archdiocese of Los Angeles' agreement to a \$660 million US clergy abuse settlement will amount to \$1.3 million for each plaintiff, and it prevents Roger Cardinal Mahoney, the archbishop of the Roman Catholic diocese, from having to testify on the issue.

...Cardinal Mahoney would not have to disclose whether diocesan leaders had covered up the incidents of abuse as they occurred.

Total dollars paid out for US abuse cases alone exceeds \$2,000,000,000 according to a July 14th, 2007 *Associated Press* article:

"The settlements push the total amount paid out by the U.S. church since 1950 to more than \$2 billion, with about a quarter of that coming from the Los Angeles archdiocese."

However, this total was quickly raised by another whopping \$200,000,000 for more abuse by Priests of the San Diego Diocese as reported by the *New York Times* on Sept 7th, 2007:

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 7 — The Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego agreed Friday to a settlement that would pay nearly \$200 million to 144 people who have said they were sexually abused by clergy members under lax supervision from the church.

One of the victims, Michael Bang, speaks of his outraged at the Roman Catholic Church during the investigation and settlement proceedings. In the same New York Times article, Mr. Michael Bang is quoted as saying,

"I am mad from the standpoint that we will not be able to move to trial so I would have an opportunity to articulate the horrendous crimes the church has covered up and the priest perpetrated on me," said Michael Bang, 46, who accused a priest of molesting him from age 8 to 16.

The money paid to victims of Roman Catholic Priest abuse now stands at more than \$2,200,000,000 for the U.S. alone.