

ITALIAN ARCHDIOCESE ROCKED BY SCANDAL: DRUGS, GAY PROSTITUTION, BLACKMAIL - CATHOLIC CHURCH RATCHETS UP THE PERVERSIONS

NEWS: [WORLD NEWS](#)

 [Italian Archdiocese Rocked by Scandal: Drugs, Gay Prostitution, Blackmail](#)

 [Print Friendly and PDF](#)

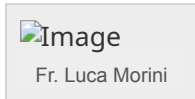
by [Juliana Freitag](#) • [ChurchMilitant.com](#) • February 28, 2018

[1129 Comments](#)

As many as 60 priests implicated

 You are not signed in as a Premium user; we rely on Premium users to support our news reporting. [Sign in](#) or [Sign up today!](#)

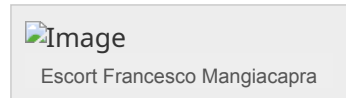
An Italian archdiocese is embroiled in scandal as reports are surfacing of a gay priest on trial for allegations of blackmail, embezzlement and other crimes.



Father Luca Morini, known to his flock as "Don Euro" for his extravagant lifestyle, has recently been [scheduled](#) for a hearing in the Court of Massa, the medieval town in Tuscany where he used to run two parishes. The preliminary hearing is set to take place on March 8, where the judge will examine the evidence for accusations of fraud, drug distribution, embezzlement, extortion and self-laundering.

The case began when male escort, Francesco Mangiacapra, decided to go [public](#) about services he had been rendering to Fr. Morini, who falsely presented himself as a judge. When the escort found out that his prodigal client was a simple parish priest, he decided to inquire about the financial source for all the lavish dinners and expensive gifts. Mangiacapra suspected the money came from the faithful and decided to report Fr. Morini to the diocese of Massa Carrara-Pontremoli.

But the diocese only acted once it found out that national broadcast show *Le Iene* was after the priest, so the bishop suspended him from his activities "due to sickness" and then transferred him to a €200,000.00 house, bought [especially](#) for him (monthly utility bills and maid included). These were allegedly obtained from the bishop of Massa Carrara-Pontremoli, Giovanni Santucci, through [blackmail](#), as Morini had "threatened to expose to the public eye unpleasant facts about many diocesan priests." Bishop Santucci also gave Don Euro €4,500,00 from his own personal bank account, as well as €1,000.00 from diocesan [funds](#). The bishop is also currently under investigation.



The [episode](#) aired by *Le Iene* shows footage of Fr. Morini snorting cocaine and parading in the company of several male escorts, as well as interviews with many of the parishioners, who testify that the priest was [constantly](#) pestering them for money, even during confessions.

One of the priests interviewed by *Le Iene* declared that Morini "arrived to the point of blasphemy: He would choose a member of the faithful and tell them he had seen Padre Pio in the Host, and that Padre Pio had mentioned that person by name. ... He would then request thousands of euros from that person, promising that the offer guaranteed Padre Pio's protection."

Another diocesan priest wrote an anonymous letter to the show's staff: "It hurts me to say that Fr. Morini has behaved this way for approximately 20 years, stealing and deceiving the elderly and those most in need, all seemingly under the protection of the powerful."

Fr. Morini has behaved this way for approximately 20 years, stealing and deceiving the elderly and those most in need, all seemingly under the protection of the powerful.

[Tweet](#) —

When the investigation was [concluded](#) last June, the police managed to trace to Fr. Morini €700,000 in cash and €150,000 in diamond investments. He was known in the best restaurants,

resorts and five-star hotels in Rome and in Tuscany, and would always provide the drugs.

"The cocaine was always Morini's," said Mangiacapra. "I'm an escort, I'm not a drug dealer."

Last week Mangiacapra handed a 1,200-page [dossier](#) to the archdiocese of Naples with documents (including sexually explicit pictures) that prove the escort's involvement with 60 priests from all over Italy. Explaining his motivations to newspaper *Corriere della Sera*, Mangiacapra [said](#), "The goal isn't to hurt the people I've mentioned [in the dossier], but to help them understand that their double life ... isn't useful to them or to the people who rely on them for guidance."

He continued, "Their behavior is, in many cases, a result of the impunity that the high hierarchy of the Church has made habitual: that unjust tolerance that feeds the idea that it is possible to separate that which is lived from that which is professed, as typical of those who have a schizophrenic, double morality."

Mangiacapra received an anonymous [death threat](#) in early January. The letter made [references](#) to his [book](#) *Il numero uno: confessioni di un marchettaro* ("Number One: Confessions of a Male Escort"), where he mentions many of his adventures with Italian priests (no names were disclosed in the book).

"I am worried because the letter arrived at my home address, which is not public," the escort [said](#). "I am reporting it to the police, because if others letters were to arrive, we can take action."

The initial letter indicates more notes may be forthcoming: "Your popularity makes you very traceable, as you can see now, and will see again in the future."

Allegations about 40 gay priests in Italy sent to Vatican

 [Associated Press](#) • March 4, 2018
ed Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The archdiocese of Naples says it has sent the Vatican a 1,200-page dossier compiled by a male escort identifying 40 actively gay priests and seminarians in Italy.

In a statement on the diocesan website, Cardinal Cresenzio Sepe said none of the identified priests worked in Naples. But he said he decided to forward the file to the Vatican because "there remains the gravity of the cases for which those who have erred must pay the price, and be helped to repent for the harm done."

The dossier, containing WhatsApp chats and other evidence, was compiled by a self-proclaimed gay escort, Francesco Mangiacapra. He has told Italian

media that he outed the priests because he couldn't stand their hypocrisy any longer.

None of the 34 priests or six seminarians was accused of having sex with minors, Mangiacapra was quoted as saying in the diocesan statement.

"We're talking about sins, not crimes," the escort was quoted as saying in the statement.



It's the latest sex scandal to convulse the Italian church and the Vatican.

Last month, a Vatican judge pleaded guilty in a Rome tribunal to having child porn on his computer after police were brought in when he allegedly tried to fondle an 18-year-old man. Monsignor Pietro Amenta was a judge on the Roman Rota, the Holy See tribunal that hears marriage annulment cases, as well as a consultant to various Vatican congregations. He resigned after the plea deal, the Vatican said.

This current Marxist pope has made me rethink my allegiance to the Catholic Church. Martin Luther's acts way back make so much more sense to me now.

Way to go Jesuits! You built this morally reprehensible institution, own it!

 Reply Replies (6)

 15 



 Kevin67

in 22 hours ago

"Do not confuse the humanity of The Church with The Divinity of The Church."

 Reply Replies (2)

 8 



 jump

un yesterday

Look on the bright side. At least they're not pedophiles like most of the catholic clergy

