



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

*d told Fr. Ventura
that it was not intended
in Fr. Becker working
living at the Seminary
(though he could teach a
course there).*

August 26, 1986

*+JB
9/5/86*

Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Off: (312) 642-1837
Res: (312) 528-0540

TO: Cardinal Bernardin
FROM: Tom Ventura *TV*
RE: Bob Becker

CONFIDENTIAL

1. [Redacted]

2. [Redacted]

Could you give me your reactions to these questions and ideas so I can communicate more definite information to Bob?

A. What work would he do?

- Bob's first choice would be to teach Canon Law at Mundelein if Ed Stokes is leaving as rumored and if Jerry Kicanas would want him. It is an adult community. He would have the support of people like Wayne Prist and Lou Cameli whom he values.

- His second choice would be to work in the Tribunal in an ordinary capacity. He does not want to be officialis or vice-officialis.

B. Where would he live?

- Obviously if he taught at the Seminary he would live there and help at a parish on Sundays.

- If he worked at the Tribunal he could live at Holy Name Cathedral where there would be little or no contact with families or children.

- He could be resident at a parish that had room.

C. Supervision

- He agrees that his "on site supervisor" -- eg. pastor, rector, department director -- should know the full story of his case so that person could effectively supervise him.

- I would see him once a month for supervision.

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]

June 18, 2002

Archdiocese of Chicago
Office of Professional Fitness Review
Chicago, IL

Dear Members of the Fitness Review Panel:

On June 13, 2002, I transmitted to you by fax a letter containing a summary of the reports I received from [REDACTED], an inactive Chicago priest [REDACTED] concerning alleged serious sexual misconduct on the part of Rev. Kenneth Brigham

[REDACTED] is aware I have contacted the Archdiocese and the States Attorney, and is willing to speak with Cardinal George and members of the Fitness Review Panel. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sincerely in Christ,

[REDACTED]

Cc: Cardinal Francis George

① Cloutier - ord. - 1975

② 1st Ass. - St. Francis Cab. (Ed Duffing)

a) Complaints immediately - taking out same 8 boys

b) "fag"

c) filthy language - screaming

d) Riot - incident - home keeper

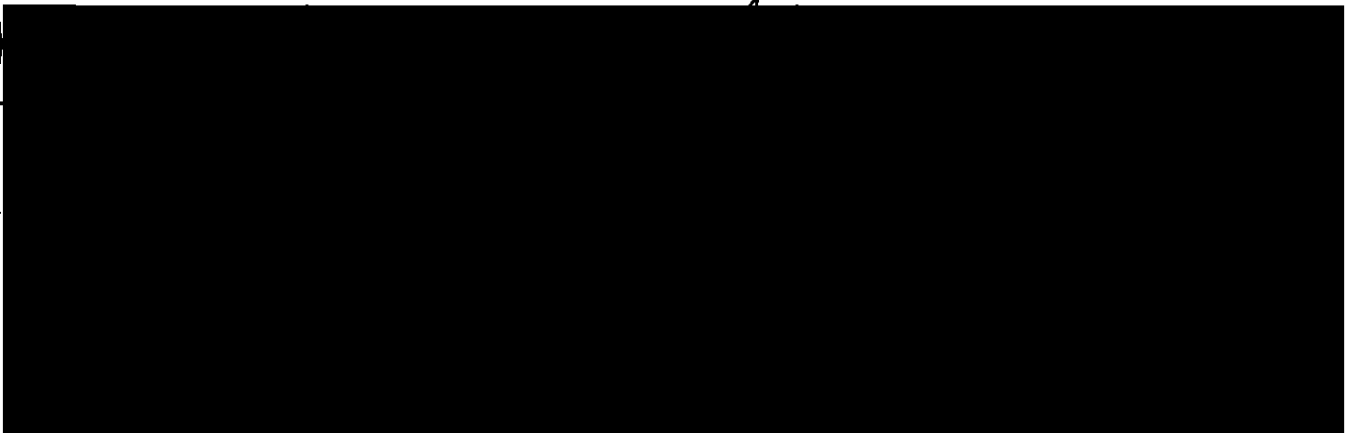
e) Principal doesn't want him in school (all in last two yrs)

f) Duff asks him to leave parish Sept. '76.

③ N.B. Polygraphed 6/29/79 -

"Results conclusive, telling truth, no violence."

④



⑤ Are there any materials in files at C.O.? Ref. is made to items not in this file.

⑥



⑦ Letters to Chgo. - late June, 1981 - assigned to John Paul St. Ct.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

December 30, 1991

[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. [REDACTED],

I received your letter with your spirited support of Fr. Bill Cloutier, who formerly served at St. Peter's Church in Skokie. I know he would be pleased to hear your feelings about him and his service there. It is also a wonderful thing to see that he had influence on young men who are going on to priesthood. I hope and pray that they stay the course.

With regard to your statement about how the Archdiocese has dealt with Fr. Cloutier, the fact is that the Archdiocese in no way has condemned him. Our policies and procedures dictated that we had to remove him from the parish because of the nature of the allegations made against him. He is presently under our care, [REDACTED] and he seems to be in a good frame of mind.

As the weeks and months go on, we will be working with him to see how he may continue to exercise his ministry in the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese has begun to address this serious problem openly and we promise to be as forthright as we possibly can in the future.

We have enlisted the help of public relations people and crises management professionals in handling this case. No decision is made without wide consultation.

I assure you that we are doing everything possible to handle this problem with openness and honesty, and with care for both victims and those who are at fault. Please keep us in your prayers and we promise to do the same for you. Thank you for taking time to write. I hope you have a very good 1992.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fr. Pat O'Malley".

Rev. Patrick O'Malley
Vicar for Priests

AOC 001579



Off. (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
VICAR FOR PRIESTS
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: Nov. 10, 1990

RE: Fr. X

1. At a meeting with the Cardinal, I filled him in on the results of my conversation with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I felt that we could consider the matter closed.
2. We agreed that I would not indicate to Fr. X that the Cardinal was aware of anything, unless Fr. X asked me directly. The Cardinal also agreed that he would make no reference to this, unless Fr. X himself brought it up. Therefore, unless Fr. X himself raises the issue, neither the Cardinal nor I will give any indication that the Cardinal is aware of the charges. On the other hand, if asked by Fr. X, neither the Cardinal nor I would deny that the Cardinal was aware of the charges.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of Professional Fitness Review
1 East Superior
Suite 504
Chicago, IL 60611

(312) 751-5205
1-800-994-6200
Fax (312) 751-5279

August 18, 1997

Most Reverend Francis E. George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago
155 East Superior Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Archbishop George:

Please be advised that the Review Board met on August 16, 1997. The Board fully considered all oral and written reports in the matter of Reverend John Curran. The Board conducted a Supplementary Review pursuant to Article 1104.11 of the Review Board Process for Continuation of Ministry.

The Board recommends a change in Fr. Curran's current protocol. Specifically, Fr. Curran is to reside at Koenig Hall, located in Mundelein, IL, under monitoring restrictions

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernadette Connolly".

Bernadette Connolly
Professional Fitness
Review Administrator

cc: Members of the Review Board
Rev. Thomas Paprocki
Archbishop's Delegate to the Review Board
Vicar for Priests

AOC 001945

Personal File of Joseph Fitzharris

ST. ALOYSIUS CHURCH
2300 West LeMoyne Street
Chicago, Illinois 60622
Phone: 312 278-4808

January 2, 1969

Most Rev. John L. May, D.D.,
Chairman of the Priests' Personnel Board,
Harrison and Hillside Avenue,
Hillside, Illinois 60162.

Dear Bishop:

For about a month, now, I had planned to consult you, or some other member of the Personnel Board, about the situation in our house here at St. Aloysius. I had decided to wait until after the holidays before bringing the matter to your attention.

Quite directly, the problem centers in Father Joseph Fitzharris, who is the first assistant, as you know. The other men in the house include Father Jose Acevedo, newly ordained, and Father John Vlazny, professor at Quigley North.

Father Fitzharris' difficulty is a serious personality problem which I am convinced calls for professional help. I am no diagnostician, nor am I attempting to play the part of one, but from my own observations I would say that unless Joe gets some professional help he is going to have serious problems wherever he is assigned. For my part, after allowing a reasonable period of time for observation and personal efforts to help, and after careful reflection, I can come to only one conclusion: For the good of the spirit in this house, and for Joe's own good, I am requesting a change from this Parish of Father Joseph Fitzharris.

I have reached this conclusion quite dispassionately, and, as I say, after careful reflection and discussion with others who know and have lived with Father Fitzharris. If ever he is to mature and "level off", this can only come about by way of some change (under direction) in Joe. Nothing will be achieved by his denying his problem, or by attempts at escaping from it into other areas of activity. I would suspect that this sort of attitude might well lead to much more serious difficulty in the future.

Rather than discussing this matter in detail here and now, I would prefer to speak with you in person, John, and look forward to doing so in the very near future.

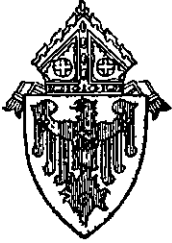
Wishing you every blessing of God in the New Year, and with a promise of prayers for you, I remain,

Sincerely and Respectfully Yours,

Rev. George F. Aschenbrenner

Rev. George F. Aschenbrenner

AOC 001536



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

Off: (312) 642-1837
Fax: (312) 642-4933

Memo to File

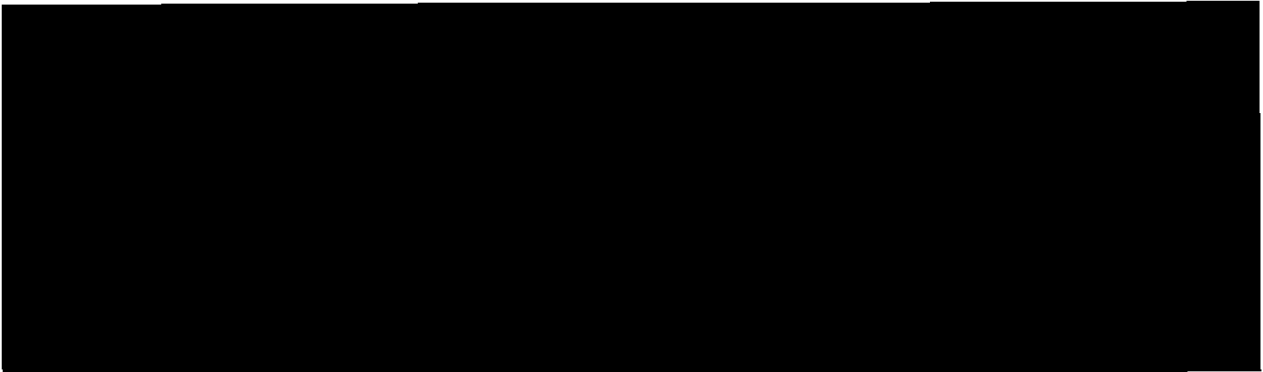
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley

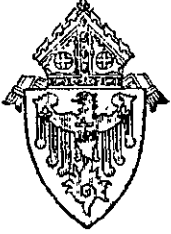
Date: 6/2/93

Re: Joseph Fitzharris

On 6/1/93 John Canary and I met with Joe Fitzharris at his apartment. We explained to him the meaning of Canon 1044 and what that means in terms of his ministry. We also explained to him how he would get out from underneath the 1044. We told him that we would need an assessment from an independent group. After he has dealt with the question of Canon 1044, then down the future, according to the direction given by the Cardinal, there may be a possibility of having his case reviewed by the Fitness Review Board.

We told him that there has to be at least two years between the time of the last incident with the adult, which would be around December of 1991, and when he might be able, at the Cardinal's permission, to go before the Fitness Review Board.





ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
VICAR FOR PRIESTS
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

Off: (312) 642-1837

December 4, 1991

Rev. James Hagan
St. Denis Parish
8301 South St. Louis Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60652

Dear Jim,

I am writing this letter rather than phoning you because it is so difficult at times to make connections by phone. I call, you're not there; you call back, I'm not there! And so it goes.

I want to set your mind at ease a bit. You undoubtedly know that the Cardinal recently appointed a commission to review all cases of alleged or real child abuse in our archdiocesan records. We presented to the commission every case that has come to our attention in the past thirty years.

One of those cases was the situation in which you were involved in May of 1988. When we presented the facts, the commission agreed with our assessment and our handling of the incident. They also agreed that there was no need for action at this time. As far as they were concerned, the incident is closed.

While it is always painful to bring that incident up again, I felt you might well be worried as to whether it had been considered by the commission.

Not to worry. We can put it away for good now. If you want to pursue this matter any further, don't hesitate to call. But, as I said, I'm now going to place the file on the inactive list.

I hope things are going well with you, Jim, and I hope this Advent season will be a fruitful and expectant one for you and your people.

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat".

Rev. Patrick O'Malley
Vicar for Priests

AOC 002508



Off. (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File
DATE: April 8, 1990
RE: Mark Holihan

1. I called Our Lady of the Snows to talk to Jim Mezydlo and Leo Kinsella. Jim was not available. I did speak to Leo at length about the importance of him not making any comments to anyone regarding the case. I told him he should not make reference to the rumors that have been circulating for the last 10 years, etc., and especially to say nothing at all about the comments made by the cook. I emphasized the importance of him to refer any inquiries from lawyers to Jim Serritella and any other inquiries to simply say that the case is under investigation and it would be inappropriate for him to comment.

2. I said all this to Leo as gently as I could and I think he understood what I was getting at. He mentioned that someone at the Sunday night meeting mentioned that the eighth grade boys were trying to scare the sixth grade boys with comments like: "Wait until you get to eighth grade!" Evidently the eighth grade teacher, Sr. Paulette, is very much in Mark Holihan's corner and the kids are implying that she will really give it to the sixth graders for having blown the whistle. She is very defensive of Mark.

April 9, 1990

1. I was able to reach Jim Mezydlo. He said things were going pretty well. Because of the lengthy Palm Sunday services, there was not much of an opportunity for people to talk about it after Mass. A few have inquired about how Fr. Holihan is doing. One mother said she felt that the parish and school were handling the situation very well. She had been in attendance at the Thursday evening meeting.

2. Mike Ritchie said only one older man was very upset because he didn't know anything about the meeting on Thursday. He has no children in school and when Mike explained that it was just for the parents of the children and the reasons why, he seemed to understand.

3. Jim said that the meetings with the parents on Thursday went well, but the second meeting was a little rougher than the first. Someone said they heard that Fr. Holihan left St. Jane de Chantal because of similar allegations. This wasn't really addressed directly, but Carol Craddock handled the meeting very well and simply said we are not dealing with issues that may or may not have happened, but we are dealing with the present situation.

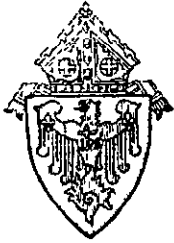
AOC 002927

[REDACTED]
July 20, 1986

Dear Cardinal Bernardin,

We are faced with a very unpleasant and potentially dangerous situation at Our Lady of the Snows Parish. Rumors have been running rampant about the sexual activities of our pastor, Father Holihan, and little boys. As reasonable adults of normal intelligence, two neighborhood women and I dismissed these rumors as ill gossip and never repeated the nonsense.

Recently, however, this nonsense struck closer to home. My closest friend's son came home from a Mass he had just served, very upset. He had just witnessed Father Holihan's unzipping the other altar boy's pants and fondling his genitals. The molester boy also told his mother of the incident. Both mothers discussed the incident together. The mother of the molester boy was afraid to do anything



Off (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File
DATE: April 4, 1990
RE: Mark Holihan

1. Leo Kinsella called at 11 A.M. He wanted to talk to me on a very important matter. He does not want our diocese to end up like Lafayette, Louisiana. Leo apparently spends a lot of time there since he retired. In view of the fact that I was leaving shortly for St. Louis, I asked Leo if he could discuss it over the phone. He then went to a private phone in order to not be overheard.

2. Leo said that they have a cook at the rectory who is approximately 77 years old. Her name is [REDACTED]. She was born in the United States and then went back to Poland at age 3. She was raised in Poland and married there. She was separated from her husband during the war and eventually she herself came to the U.S. She speaks broken English. Leo thinks she is nuts and wonders why Mark has never gotten rid of her. In the light of all that has happened, Leo has been thinking and felt obliged to let me know something that has happened.

3. Leo said that within the last year, on at least two different occasions, [REDACTED] came to him and told him what had happened at the rectory one Sunday afternoon. Evidently [REDACTED] does the laundry, and thinking that Mark was gone for the day, went to his room to put the laundry away, and when she opened up the bedroom door, she discovered Mark in bed with a young boy. When she first told Leo this, he didn't pay much attention, as he did consider her to be "nutty as a bed-bug."

[REDACTED]

4. Leo said that several people have asked him why Fr. Holihan doesn't get rid of [REDACTED]. Actually, Fr. Holihan treats her very well, even though she has no particular regard for him. Leo is beginning to wonder if the reason why Fr. Holihan keeps her on is in order to make sure that she doesn't ever talk. But if this case went to court, Helen could be discredited by any number of people.

5. Leo said there have been all kinds of rumors around the parish for the last ten years. Leo had heard Mark's nickname "Happy Hands Holihan", but Leo says he never saw anything himself of this nature.

6. Leo said it is ironic, because he himself tried to get Mark to come to Our Lady of Snows. Mark was in the neighboring parish, St. Jane de Chantal, and when his term expired there, Leo talked him into coming to the Snows. Leo thought that he was a very good worker. He and Mark got along quite well, as long as Mark was the associate. Once Mark became the pastor, Leo feels he turned on him and in Mark's mind, Leo is now "Uriah Heep".



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Off: (312) 642-1837
Res: (312) 528-0540

TO: File
FROM: Tom Ventura *TV 8-18-86*
RE: Mark Holihan, pastor, Our Lady of the Snows

7-16-86: Call from Fr. Roache. Parishioner expressed concern about rumors concerning pastor's relationship with young boys. Overnights to his family cottage. Former principal supposedly expressed her concerns. Pastor is currently up for renewal of his 6 year term.

7-16-86: I called Fr. Holihan. (████████) Explained the concern. Arranged a meeting to discuss situation. He denied any problems and wants to get to the bottom of the rumors.

7-21-86:

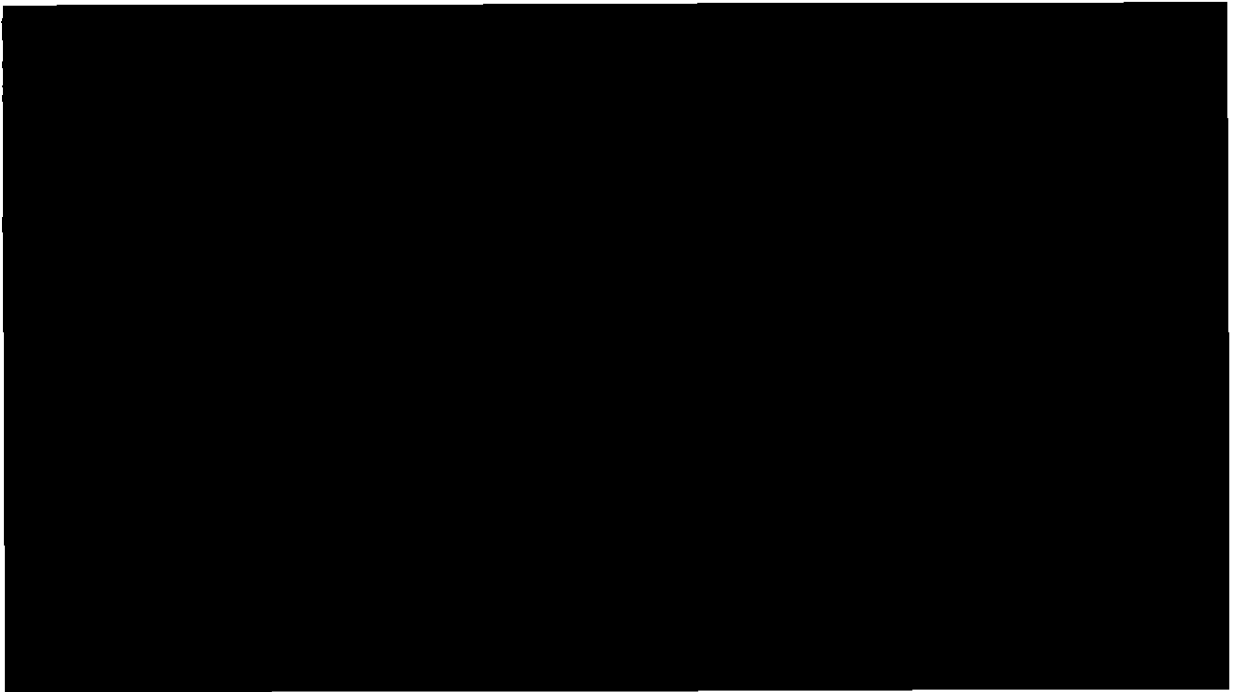


7-22-86: Call to Sister Alberta, (████████), former principal. During her term at the parish, there had been periodic rumors, but when she pressed people for factual information, they never produced any. She had experienced difficulties in communication with H. but nothing in this area. She left because she felt she was becoming a figurehead principal. Recently some women from the parish contacted her about concern about an alleged incident involving pastor and 2 servers, age 12. However, again the facts are vague and they are reluctant to have their names used. I urged her to have them call me so we can get to the bottom of this either to protect innocent children if something is going on or to protect the pastor's good name, if nothing is going on. She agreed.

7-22-86: Call to John Curran, (████████), classmate and friend. He said he has heard nothing and personally knows of no reason for concern. Years ago he recalls

children were at risk. If the story seemed to lack substance it is important to end the rumors. She said that the pastor relates much better with boys than with girls or adults. Also, he plays favorites among the boys and the non-favorites feel resentful or neglected. Also, he does too much "rough-housing" with the boys.

8-15-86:





ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

9/22/86

COPY

of an original document from the files of
VICAR FOR PRIESTS OFFICE
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

This is a red ink stamp!
DO NOT COPY

Vicar for Priests
800 North Clark Street, Suite 311
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Off: (312) 642-1837
Res: (312) 528-0540

TO: Chancellor's file
FROM: Vicar for priests
RE: Rev. Thomas Job '70

November 1983: Rev. Peter Heidenreich, O.P., informed me that [redacted] age 17, told him that he had engaged in sexual activities with Fr. Job while he was associate pastor at St. Cletus, La Grange.

A meeting was arranged between Fr. Heidenreich, [redacted] father and the Vicar for Priests to discuss the accusations.

I confronted Fr. Job. On Nov. 22, 1983 he [redacted]

Fr. Job agreed to monthly supervisory sessions with the Vicar for Priests. He was also ordered to avoid further contacts with young people.

The pastor of St. Joseph's Parish Libertyville is serving as on-site supervisor.

April 1984: [redacted] mother, contacted the Vicar for Priests to report that her son is [redacted]. She is relieved to know that Fr. Job is [redacted] and expressed the hope that this never happens again.

November, 1985: Sister Peg Ivers, former principal of St. John Vianney Parish, Northbrook, Il., informed me that there had been accusations of improper activities between Fr. Job and boys when he served as associate at that parish during her time as principal there.

I contacted Fr. Mike Adams who had been on the Personnel Board at that time. He said that he knew very little about it but that Fr. Richard Keating had dealt with the case and had arranged treatment for Fr. Job. He thought that Fr. Keating had served as Fr. Job's supervisor during that period.

[redacted]

September 1986: [redacted] and Sister Jean Oursler met with me. [redacted] expressed her happiness with the progress she has made personally as a result of the Families Anonymous program. Sister Jean was the Principal of St. Cletus School during the time Fr. Job was an associate at that parish. She said that there were no signs that anything was amiss, and that she was very much surprised when she had heard of Fr. Job's involvement with [redacted]. Both expressed the wish that we continue to help Fr. Job with this problem.

THE DIOCESAN CLERGY PERSONNEL BOARD
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

A G E N D A

Meeting No. 73 - The Fifth Board

Place: Clergy Personnel Board Office

Time: 10:30 A. M.

Date: Friday, March 4, 1977

1. Approval of the Minutes of Meeting No. 72

2. Reports:

A. Jim Brett spoke with McNamara and Adams about his problems with Bob Mayer.
If he wants to confront the situation, he was advised to structure a meeting with
the Vicar, a member or two of the CPB and Mayer.

B.

C.

3. Approval of the Agenda

4.

5.

6.

IV-162

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

To: Father Keating

From: Archbishop Bernardin

Re: Father Robert E. Mayer

Date: October 5, 1982

When you return, we will need to decide how we are going to handle the Father Mayer situation. Basically, we have agreed that we will review the matter. Our goal will be to arrange for a transfer, but on grounds other than those brought by those who have complained.

The next question is this: Do we simply permit him to be assigned elsewhere, or must there be some evaluation of the difficulty? If there is really a problem with him, it will not be long for a crisis to develop elsewhere.

Should there be some contact with the Personnel Board about this?

Many thanks,

+ JLB Bernardin

*10/15/82 Spoke with the Archbishop today.
Suggested procedure:
- M sees Fr. McDonagh
- JLB - JRK - + " confer + decide.
JRK*

CONFIDENTIAL

May 13, 1987

TO: CARDINAL BERNARDIN
FROM: JIM ROACHE
RE: BOB MAYER: TOM VENTURA MEMO 5/13/87

Alternate Scenario Proposed by Jim Roache

In light of what appears to be a certain "softness" of data, another approach might be envisioned. The reasons for this more conservative approach are:

- a) Information arrived at through an unsolicited phone call from Rich Daley that would indicate the Police Captain was operating merely on an anonymous telephone call. There did not appear to be a "stake-out." Furthermore, the Police Captain is not held in high esteem by the State's Attorney's Office. More information on this is available through Daley's associate, Ken Maltesta.
- b) The directive given Bob may have been ambiguous. It was not clearly communicated whether he should not have young people below the age of 18 or below the age of 21 in his room. He maintains the only visitors are three 17-year-old juniors from Maine Township High School.

In light of this, the alternate scenario would have:

- a) Jim Serritella getting more information from Ken Maltesta;
- b) putting Bob under a 3-month supervisory situation with
 - (1) Ray Goedert having weekly or bi-monthly sessions with him;
 - (2) requiring a total examination by Dr. James Cavanaugh;and then, one of the major pieces:
- c) having Tom Ventura and Bob Kealy meet with the Police Captain to advise him:
 - that we are making further internal investigations (e.g., with the Pastor, Business Manager, etc.);
 - that we are putting him under direct supervision of a priest/spiritual director, and having a thorough physical/psychological testing done;
 - and that we are requesting of him (the Police Captain) any specific data that the Police Department has over and above the anonymous telephone call. If that data is of a damning nature, obviously we would fall back on the Ventura scenario.

#

AOC 001138

DRAFT OF MESSAGE TO BE GIVEN BY CARDINAL TO BOB MAYER ON JULY 1, 1991

1. I cannot tell you how hurt and disappointed and angry I am that this meeting today has become a necessity. I feel that you have betrayed me and violated the trust I placed in you. Over the years, you have repeatedly been the subject of allegations of sexual impropriety, and yet you have refused to modify your behavior in such a way that the risk to yourself and to the Church would be eliminated. Your appointment to St. Odilo, as you well know, was approved by me only after I received your solemn assurance that you would no longer engage in the kind of behaviors that caused so much distress for your parishioners and yourself in your previous assignments. I regret to say that I now have reason to believe that you have broken this promise.

2. On June 2, 1987, you signed an agreement which included among other things the following condition for your continuation in ministry:

"A canonical mandate is given to Fr. Mayer to avoid all unsupervised contact with all persons under the age of 21. This applies especially to his private living quarters in the rectory. He is not to have persons under age 21 as guests at his cottage unless other adults are present".

I ^{have recently learned} know that you have violated this mandate on more than ^{recently learned} one occasion in the short time that you have been at St. Odilo's. Moreover, I also ~~have knowledge~~ of grossly inappropriate behavior on your part towards a young man, involving touches, sexual innuendos and pornographic material. Even if you deny any sexual intent, your judgment in these matters is so obviously impaired that I cannot allow you to continue in this position of trust any longer.

3. I am convinced, Bob, that you are laboring under the kind of psychic defect referred to in Canons 1041 and 1044, and for this reason I am withdrawing your faculties and I forbid you any and all exercise of your Sacred Orders until such time as it is evident that you are capable of resuming effective priestly ministry.

4. You are no longer empowered to act, therefore, as pastor of St. Odilo Parish. Because you have so seriously violated the trust I placed in you, I am asking you today to submit your resignation. If you refuse to do so, I will initiate immediately the canonical process for your removal.

5. Furthermore, I direct you to [REDACTED] on Wednesday, July 10. The Vicar for Priests and I will remain in contact with you [REDACTED] and a determination will eventually be made as to whether or not you will be permitted to return to the active ministry.

6. This decision, Bob, grieves me deeply. I can only hope and pray that you will commit yourself to participate fully [REDACTED] and, with the Lord's help, return to the Archdiocese a much better man and a much better priest.

DRAFT OF STATEMENT READ AT ST. ODILO AT WEEKEND MASSES

My dear parishioners,

It is with heavy heart that I must bring to you information that I know will be extremely distressing. Prior to Fr. Robert Mayer's appointment as Pastor of St. Odilo, there had been allegations of inappropriate behavior on his part with minor children. These allegations were investigated ~~carefully and exhaustively~~, and no substantiation of serious misconduct was ever found. On the other hand, it was evident to me that some of his actions were quite imprudent and could ~~easily~~ give rise to such allegations. Because of this, careful directives were given to Fr. Mayer restricting his behavior and these were a condition for his assuming the role of pastor of St. Odilo. I regret to say that he has violated these directives, and because he has shown such poor judgement in doing so, I have ordered him to undergo an intensive program of psychotherapy.

*** Fr. Mayer has agreed to do so and has already entered a treatment facility for this purpose. In his absence, I have asked Rev. _____ to administer the affairs of St. Odilo parish.

Please pray for Fr. Mayer, that he might return to us a much better man and a much better priest. Pray, too, for Fr. _____, for myself and for your parish, that Our Lord will help all of us get through this most difficult period.

With prayers and my own personal blessing, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ

Joseph Cardinal Bernardin

*** In the event Fr. Mayer refuses to undergo treatment, this paragraph will read as follows:

Fr. Mayer has refused to undergo such treatment, leaving me no alternative but to remove him as pastor. Until such time as a new pastor is appointed, I have asked Rev. _____ to administer the affairs of St. Odilo parish.

add (1) I will have to notify the parish of what happened. *
(2) move out of rectory within 24 hrs.

* Card. feels he has to say the new evidence is what is prompter
the action is: ~~_____~~ case -



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
 VICAR FOR PRIESTS
 800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

*I spoke with Fr. O'Brien
 on Oct. 11. He categorically
 denied that he had been
 to a Sox game with [redacted]*

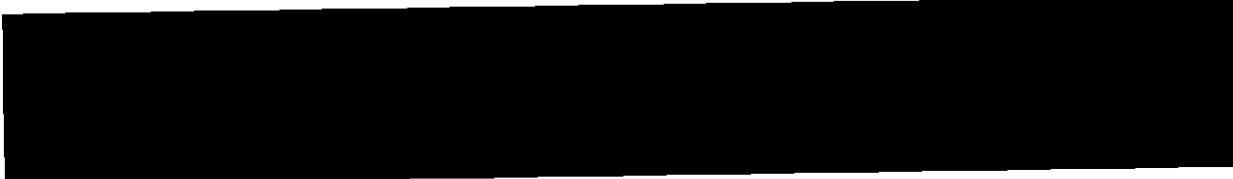
Off: (312) 642-1837

TO: Cardinal Bernardin
 FROM: Bishop Raymond Goedert
 DATE: 9/28/91
 RE: Rev. William O'Brien



1. You will recall at our meeting a month or so ago, when we were reviewing all of the more serious cases, I brought up the situation concerning Bill O'Brien. You said that you would be willing to handle this case directly.

*+ JLB
 10/14/91*




4. You had also agreed to confront Bill on other information that came to my attention within the last year or so. I think the simplest thing would be to enclose copies of my file memos of Sept. 13, 1990 and Sept. 15, 1990. I have never confronted Bill on these matters, but Jim Roach had made it quite clear to Bill that he should not be seeing [redacted]


5. [redacted]


But, if it is true that Bill was with [redacted] at the ball game last summer, then he is certainly playing with fire. If [redacted] decides to go public, Bill's reputation and priesthood could be utterly destroyed.

*cc: [unclear]
 Vicar for Priestly Office
 Archdiocese of Chicago
 [unclear]*


One of my recommendations, after talking to Ray Goedert, is that Bill O'Brien should get his own lawyer. The Cardinal asked whether Bill ought to be removed from his high profile position and I said we needed to discuss that at the next Advisory Board meeting.



Bill did admit to both Tom and to Ray that he was "involved". He also felt he was injured by the relationship as was 



At the time, Bill was offered separate legal counsel but declined, feeling he would get that if needed. It was suggested that he resign at the time, but he refused to, saying that he would run his course at the Propagation of the Faith and leave some time in 1990 and then be re-assigned. Obviously that date went by. Perhaps his assignment was for a longer period of time. At least he appeared to be open to the possibility of leaving the Propagation of the Faith.

He was ordered not to have any contact with the  after this time and also to stay away from the south side.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

VICAR FOR PRIESTS

645 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, SUITE 543

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

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THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
VICAR FOR PRIESTS
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Off: (312) 642-1837
Fax: (312) 642-4933

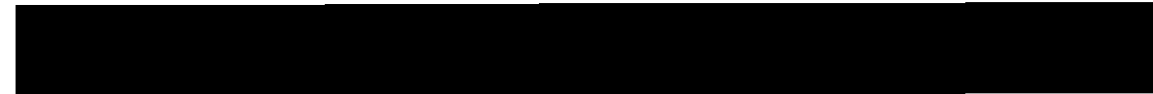
Memo to File
From: Rev. Patrick O'Malley
Date: 11/16/93
Re: Rev. William O'Brien

Fr. William O'Brien came to see John Canary and me today. When we had last met in May, we said we would get together sometime after September. O'Brien was to make a retreat and report back to us how things were going after that retreat.

He made the retreat late in September with Fr. Rich McCaslin up at the Jesuit Retreat House outside of Kenosha. According to O'Brien the retreat went very well and has been helpful to him in any number of ways.



I directly asked Fr. O'Brien whether he thought at this time he would ever act out again as he has in the past. He assured us that he would not, and that he had taken precautions in his personal life to see that those situations would be handled properly next time around. If they do occur, he says he is ready to respond to them in an appropriate manner. He wishes to remain a priest and knows that there will be a price to be paid personally for that. He is willing to pay that price.



We told him that we cannot at this time give him direct and specific information on what he will be eligible for in terms of assignments in the future, specifically, for the pastorate. He seems aware of this and finds it OK. He would however like to know what will happen at some point along the line. We did tell him that that was a question we would bring before the Advisory Board at the appropriate time.



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We asked O'Brien directly whether there is anyone who could monitor him while in Rome. We felt this would be a concern of the Advisory Board. He then assured us that Fr. Mike Wulsch, a classmate and good friend who knows his entire situation, will be accompanying him. We told O'Brien that, once we have talked to Wulsch, he will be most acceptable to us as a monitor during O'Brien's stay in Rome. The Sabbatical will take place from Sept. '94 until Dec. '94 in Rome.

O'Brien seemed to be in a good place at this time.

Rev. Raymond Skriba

Sat. March 22, 1970

Your Eminence:

At your request I saw Father Skriba on March 17th, and his testimony is enclosed. At that time he asked if he could write a statement concerning the case, and that statement is enclosed.

In the course of his testimony I gathered that there was guilt here. Towards the end of the interview he stated that at his first appointment he had complete freedom of the rectory. He lived alone in a bungalow - this was at Queen of the Universe - and he had no guidance from the pastor. He had people in and out of this rectory day and night, and said that he became too free with lay people as a result.

Also, the girls he named and suspected as testifying against him are not the girls that I had seen. I admit that it is most difficult to handle a case like this when there can be no confrontation and when names cannot be used. However, this was the solemn request of those interviewed.

I doubt if medical treatment would mean much. He is pretty well shaken by what he heard. I do not think that he should remain at St. Walter, even if he is not guilty. His testimony claims that the girls were seeking him; their testimony claims that he was seeking them. In either event the girls are still there, and this is not a good situation.

F.W. Byrne
F.W. Byrne

December 10, 1964

The Very Reverend T. J. Kubowski,

I am a parishioner of St. Rosalie's. In recent years we received a new pastor, Father Marion Sneig. I have strong suspicions that things are not as they should be on the grounds of St. Rosalie's. I am referring to several things, but utmost in my mind is the strong association that Father Sneig has with the young boys. I have seen him on several occasions, give these under aged boys alcoholic beverages on church grounds. He also shows them an unnecessary amount of affection. He seems to always have to hug them and touch them. He also takes these boys to his private home in Galena for week-ends. I know that there was definitely drinking on these outings. Many people have started to notice these strange things.

I am also upset about the handling of the parish finances. The totals of our fundraising affairs do not coincide with the totals that are published in the financial statement. People are talking about these discrepancies and are becoming totally disillusioned with the parish. People work long and hard at our fundraisers and want to see the profits go to benefit the parish of St. Rosalie's.

I am sorry I have to write this letter, but I can no longer see the situation as it is. Please do something to help calm the people of St. Rosalie's.

I hope this will be kept in confidence, for I truly fear retaliation.

sincerely,

She ([redacted]) moved out of
the parish

[redacted]

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces a letter dated March 21, 2002 from Victim HZ to attorney Jeff Anderson, that was subsequently sent to the Office of the Chancellor. In the letter, Victim HZ describes that he attended a parish school in the late 1950's where Fr. Snieg was assigned. According to Victim HZ Fr. Snieg paid extra attention to the older boys and took them swimming at Quigley seminary and on vacations. Fr. Snieg also liked to take boys out in his car to go to a restaurant, and to tickle and wrestle with them. Victim HZ stated that when he was 13 years old, in late 1958 to early 1959, began giving him attention and took him on an errand and then to an apartment where he molested Victim HZ. On another occasion, while preparing to serve mass Fr. Snieg fondled his genitals in the sacristy. The abuse consisted of fondling and masturbation. Victim HZ also identified the name of another priest at the parish, and stated that a member of his family discovered and reported the abuse to the priest in 1959. According to Victim HZ the Cardinal was also informed of the abuse shortly thereafter.

to R. Ponsacco

Other allegations in
Marion Suiq's file

- 1) January, 1987 [redacted]
1956 or '57 @ St. Jean
de Chantal
- 2) 1958-1959 [redacted]
St. Jean de Chantal
(memo - Anderson 3/25/02)
- 3) 1971 [redacted] Maternity
BUM
- 4) 1954 [redacted] - consult Laura
not clear
St. Jean de Chantal PFR-89
- 5) 1954 [redacted] St. Jean de Chantal
- 6) 1968 [redacted] Maternity BUM
PFR

Victim Statement Abstract

This abstract replaces the transcript of an interview of Victim DL, conducted by Jen Hibben of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Child Abuse Investigations and Review, on September 10, 2010, in which Victim DL formalized his allegation of abuse against Rev. Marion Snieg. The alleged abuse consisted of fondling and masturbation to ejaculation, which occurred numerous times when Victim DL was 12-13 years old in 1957-1958, and a student at St. Jane de Chantal Elementary School. The alleged abuse took place at a swimming pool at a seminary in Mundelein, a movie theatre, and in Fr. Snieg's car. Victim DL also remembers that Fr. Snieg would pull boys' pants down to see their underwear.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Archbishop

MEMO

To: Father Ventura

From: Cardinal Bernardin *JB*

Date: February 25, 1987

Re: MARION SNIEG *867-8817*

I am in agreement with Marion's inclination to become an associate. It is safer.

I am encouraged, though, that he was so candid with you. It does seem that everything is now under control.

I do not think that it is necessary to write again to [REDACTED] do you?

Many thanks.

AOC 005002

(16)

9/10/72
Do - call him

in J

MEMORANDUM

August 31, 1972

TO: HIS EMINENCE
FROM: FR. KEATING
RE: FR. HENRY SWIDER

At my request Father Swider came to my office to explain his situation and plans. He has spent the last three winters on extended leave in Acapulco. There he owns a condominium. He never presented himself to the local Bishop there, for he has not functioned as a priest.

He looked remarkably healthy, spoke often of his money and possessions, stocks and bonds, Merceds-Benz auto, motor boat, land acquisition near Acapulco airport, reconsidered \$10,000 donation to Benedictine monastery in Cuernavaca, etc.

My impression is that his sick-leave patterns of the last few years are clearly without bona fide justification and he should be faced with the sharp alternatives of either assuming a full assignment in the Archdiocese or resigning. This I think is necessary both for his own moral recuperation and for the general good of Chicago priests, some of whom have taken grave offense at Swider's situation.

He is temporarily authorized to reside and serve at St. Casimir's, until Dec. 31, 1972. He was given to understand clearly that he needs explicit permission of Your Eminence for further sick leave. He said that he would seek approval of his plans later this year.