

TIMELINE OF DOCUMENTS REGARDING JAMES ARIMOND¹

5/29/65 - Ordination

6/21/65 Cousins letter to Arimond appointing him to Immaculate Conception Parish in Burlington, WI effective July 7. (25034)

7/7/65 - Curate, Immaculate Conception Parish, Burlington, WI

6/18/68 Appointed Associate Pastor at St. Gall's Parish in Milwaukee. (53114-53115)

6/18/68 - Associate Pastor, St. Gall's Parish, Milwaukee, WI

12/29/69 Cousins letter appointing Arimond as Associate Pastor to St. Alphonsus Parish in Greendale effective 1/13/1969 (date of letter or start date is obviously incorrect). (25044)

1/13/69 - Associate Pastor, St. Alphonsus Parish, Greendale, WI

9/20/79 Weakland letter to Arimond appointing him to Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Milwaukee, as Team Member and Administrator, effective October 16, 1979. (10058)

10/16/79 - Team Member and Administrator, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Milwaukee, WI

9/10/82 Carl Last letter (from the Albert Cardinal Meyer Institute) to Arimond confirming that the Vicar for Clergy Personnel approved Arimond's sabbatical for spring, 1983 for an independent course of studies in spirituality. (25020)

9/13/82 Janicki letter to Arimond appointing him Associate Pastor Pro Tem at St. Aloysius effective October 2, 1982 pursuant to an agreement Arimond reached with the priest at St. Aloysius. (25018)

10/2/82 - Associate Pastor Pro Tem, St. Aloysius Parish, West Allis, WI

11/23/82 Arimond letter to Weakland offering support for recent controversial public stances Weakland took on nuclear armament and other issues and stating that if he needs "someone to talk to or share a bottle of wine or a movie with – give call. (10069)

12/30/82 Janicki letter to Arimond formally assigning him to sabbatical at Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley for winter quarter: January 3 through March 18, 1983, and noting Arimond's request for a personal leave of absence from June 1983 through August 1983. (10026)

¹ This timeline was principally prepared by Jeff Anderson & Associates PA; Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek S.C. provided limited corrections to certain entries and assisted with redactions of abuse survivor information that could potentially have identified individual abuse survivors.

1/3/83 – Sabbatical, Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley, CA

10/1/83 Appointed Associate Pastor at Saint Bernadette Parish in Milwaukee. (53114)

10/1/83 - Associate Pastor, St. Bernadette Parish, Milwaukee, WI

2/11/87 Arimond letter to “those involved in priest personnel” requesting new assignment in almost any field or living arrangement if he has to leave St. Bernadette’s and stating, among other things, that he has a “special rapport with teens – for some odd reason, and would enjoy working with youth” and also has his degree in psychology and would function well as a counselor. (10096)

5/22/87 Weakland letter to Arimond appointing him Pastor of St. Frederick Parish in Cudahy effective June 16, 1987. (10097)

6/16/87 – Pastor, St. Frederick Parish, Cudahy, WI

1/16/90 Cudahy Police Dept. Incident/Offense Report detailing instances of sexual abuse perpetrated by Arimond from 1985-1989 involving two survivors who were teenagers at the time of the abuse. Report indicates that the first notice the Archdiocese had of these allegations was a 12/7/89 newspaper article, and Arimond was placed on administrative leave on 1/16/90. (10203-10214)

1/17/90 Public statement made by the Archdiocese: since first learning of the investigation by local authorities, the Archdiocese has been in contact with the police, and the priest has been placed on administrative leave in accord with archdiocesan policies. (10261)

1/24/90 Sklba letter to Arimond placing him on administrative leave from responsibilities as pastor of Saint Frederick Parish in Cudahy, WI to protect Arimond’s rights pending further inquiry into the recent allegations and to safeguard the wellbeing of all parties concerned. (10102)

Undated Weakland asked Arimond to act as Chaplain to the Sisters of St. Francis who were confined to nursing home care. 24919

1990 – Chaplain, Sisters of St. Francis

4/9/90 Letter from Weakland to Arimond formally accepting Arimond’s resignation. (10103)

7/13/90 Archdiocese’s media statement regarding Arimond with issuance of formal charges by Milwaukee County DA’s office. Arimond suspended from public sacramental ministry pending the outcome of the legal process. (9997)

7/23/90 State of Wisconsin Case Record and Judgment Docket – Arimond convicted of Fourth Degree Sexual Assault. (25233-25246)

- 8/16/90 Sklba letter to Arimond forbidding public ministry effective July 23, 1990, pending final resolution of his case, which is “the normal procedure of the Archdiocese in cases of alleged sexual misconduct.” (9992) (9997)
- 10/12/90 Sklba letter at the request of Atty. Gerald Boyle, copying Arimond, specifying duties to which Arimond is assigned during time of confined residence. Assigned to archival assistance and research and editorial assistance, as well as assistance to Director of Archdiocesan Office for Combined Collections and Coordinator for Chaplains involved in AIDS ministry. Also assigning him to office of pastoral assistance to patients and administration of Marian Franciscan Home. Per Archdiocese procedures, Arimond is also not allowed to exercise public sacramental ministry, nor be assigned to any activity that would include other than casual contact with adolescents. (10113)
- 12/14/90 Sklba letter to Arimond discussing limited pastoral work assigned during probation until March 31, 1992. (10114)
- 6/27/91 Arimond letter to Dick thanking him for his note and kind words. Still in AA, meeting with parole officer often, seeing his therapist on a weekly basis. (9971)
- 2/2/92 Arimond letter to Weakland indicating his openness to anything in the area of ministry and stating that things have been going “very well” in weekly therapy over the past year and his doctor has assured him there is at least a 95% cure-rate. Says that he would be pleased and honored to meet with Weakland before or after Easter. (10121-10122)
- 3/4/92 State of WI Dept. of Corrections letter to Arimond regarding Recommendations for Aftercare, as his probation is set to expire without issue on 4/3/92. (9966-9967)
- 7/6/92 Weakland letter to Arimond to set up program for him. Arimond should meet once a month with Tom Venne to discuss: whereabouts, residence, how work is going, how therapy is going, and whether he has had any unsupervised contact with male persons under age 18 and if so under what circumstances. Also report any counseling, non-alcohol programs and support group attendance. (9958-9959)
- 9/2/92 Arimond’s reflections on his conversation with Weakland indicating that Arimond believes Weakland said, “If it were up to me, I’d feel comfortable in placing you as a Parish Pastor tomorrow.” Arimond later questions whether Weakland meant what he allegedly said, as he has not confirmed this sentiment in writing. Providing options for future assignments the Archbishop agreed might be a possibility and Arimond suggested that any type of supervision could be set up if it was felt necessary to protect the diocese, but noting that the Archbishop stated the “best case scenario” would be for Arimond to find a job in the secular world for two or three years. (9960-9963)

- 7/15/93 Weakland letter to Arimond stating, "I do not see how I can assign you to any pastoral ministry in the future. The reason is the public scandal that is associated with your name that prevents fruitful ministry in the future." Also says that Weakland wants to do what is best for the whole Catholic community. Weakland also places formal restrictions on Arimond, including refraining from all unsupervised contact with minors, ceasing public ministry, and avoiding places, persons, and situations that have been occasions of serious temptation in the area of sexual morality. (10197-10200)
- 7/20/93 Weakland letter to Arimond stating that upon further checking, he cannot conduct any more masses for sisters and it is OK to continue on St. Michael's Priest Fund. (10131)
- 11/19/93 Per Clergy Personnel Office confidential memorandum to Weakland, there is an indication from Sklba's log that he met with Arimond on 1/29/88 concerning some of the rumors which surfaced regarding Arimond's relationships and lifestyle. Sklba expressed fear of people surfacing in a recriminating fashion in the future and Arimond denied any unacceptable activity. The log also indicates that on 4/24/90, "allegations began to surface regarding another allegation." Sklba met with that individual on June 5, 1990, who reported a single incident with Arimond approximately three years prior when he was 16. This is the second teenage survivor mentioned in the Cudahy PD report. (10193)
- 3/30/94 Weakland letter to Dan Ward OSB thanking him for taking time to go to Milwaukee to discuss Arimond's case and stating, "The only option presented was for Fr. Arimond to continue in some form of priestly ministry. Given the nature of past events and the publicity and scandal connected with them, I am not ready to consider that option." (10187)
- 9/2/94 Weakland letter to Ward stating that he does not agree with Arimond's unwillingness to pursue voluntary departure from the priesthood, Arimond's wishes to receive an assignment, or Arimond's desire for early retirement on disability. Indicating that if Arimond is unwilling to voluntarily depart from the priesthood, then "we are in a position to begin the process of dismissal from the clerical state" and Weakland is "not averse to using it." (25132-25133)
- 9/30/94 Weakland letter to Ward reiterating that they do not envision any possibility of providing Arimond with a formal position or assignment in the Archdiocese. (55767)
- 10/6/94 Matthew Flynn letter to Ward proposing that Arimond voluntarily leave priesthood and the Archdiocese will pay him \$25,000 to be used however he chooses as well as vested entitlements under priest pension fund. There is no prospect of the Archbishop providing Arimond with an assignment, and he will commence procedures for Arimond's dismissal from the clerical state if necessary. (25158)

- 11/4/94 Arimond letter to Sklba expressing frustration over a letter from Matt Flynn and the Archdiocese's handling of his departure from the priesthood. (25156-25157)
- 11/20/94 Ward letter to Cusack stating that the Archdiocese's offer of \$25,000 is not enough. (55757)
- 12/14/94 Sklba letter to Arimond indicating his profound concern as he struggles through his issues and transitions and answering questions regarding health insurance and other benefits that may be part of negotiations. (10163)
- 1/30/95 Arimond licensed by State of Wisconsin as professional counselor. (25211)
- 3/3/95 Signed Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release: Archdiocese will pay Arimond \$25,000 to agree to seek dispensation from vows as priest. (24924-24928)
- 4/11/95 Testimony of Petitioner Arimond refusing to speak about sexual misconduct allegations and stating that he has decided to leave priesthood because he is forbidden from functioning as a priest. (53327-53329)
- 5/15/95 Decree signed by Weakland stating there is sufficient indication that a penal process can be invoked in the case involving Arimond against the minor. (25134)
- 5/16/95 Memo regarding the commencement of penal process against Arimond. Weakland issued a decree on 5/15/95 beginning the penal process against Arimond under the Code of Canon Law in order to preserve the right to pursue that process. Weakland issued a subsequent decree suspending the action of the decree issued on May 15, 1995, until the Holy See resolves Arimond's petition for laicization, because a voluntary dispensation is preferable to a judicial process "a dispensation would restore and repair the scandal caused by Father's actions in a manner preferable to a judicial process." (53339-53340)
- 6/12/95 Weakland letter to Prefect, Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments, submitting petition of Arimond to be reduced to the lay state and dispensed from all obligations attached to sacred orders including that of celibacy. Letter states that Arimond entered a plea of "no contest" to a fourth degree sexual assault charge and describing Arimond's misconduct. (53085-53086) (draft of letter also at 53336-53337)
- 10/5/95 Geraldo M. Agnelo letter to Weakland requiring another, personally written and signed letter from the petitioner requesting dispensation to confirm that Arimond is freely and willingly making the request and truly desires the dispensation. (24918)
- 1/29/96 – Arimond Granted Dispensation From All Priesthood Obligations (53188)
- 3/13/96 Check from Quarles & Brady to Arimond \$25,000.00. (24915)
- 3/15/96 Check from Quarles & Brady to Arimond for \$12,500.00. (25228)

- 4/17/02 Kathy Walter e-mail to Sklba discussing the article regarding Arimond working as a state licensed counselor. Notes that it was Walter's impression Venne forbade Arimond from any counseling work and Sklba has done his best to do what is right and good. Counseling license likely obtained through deceit. (25174)
- 4/29/02 Vicar Log Entry No. 264. Sklba received a telephone call from Fr. Roscioloi reporting that another Arimond survivor from St. Alphonsus came forward and will probably be contacting the Archdiocese's office for Project Benjamin in near future. (25176)
- 6/25/03 State of Wisconsin Order accepting Arimond's surrender of his license as professional counselor. Notes that the Division of Enforcement first became aware of the 1990 conviction in April 2002. (25211-25213)
- 1/1/04 Dolan letter discussing dispute resolution becoming available in January, offering a support group through Catholic Charities, providing the contact information to request financial assistance with psychotherapy, and offering to meet with victim-survivors privately. (32613-32614)
- 2/19/04 Reinke letter on the release of the John Jay Study. (32611-32612)
- 7/8/04 Dolan letter on the release of names of priests who have been restricted from all priestly ministries. (35513)
- 9/20/04 Sexual Abuse Intake Report documenting a 2004 report of abuse that occurred around 1985-1989 at St. Bernadette and another parish in Cudahy. This is the first teenage survivor who talked to Cudahy PD in 1990. Report states that abuse was first reported in late 1980s/early 1990s to the police and Weakland. Family with Weakland at the time, who reportedly apologized; family had counseling sessions with church. (25195-25196)
- 9/21/04 Cusack letter to McCann, District Attorney, enclosing a sexual abuse intake form which states that the person making the report was initially interviewed in 1990 by the Cudahy police department as part of its investigation. (10215)
- 3/14/05 Settlement Agreement with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee for abuse by Arimond while survivor was a minor. (56647-56649)
- Undated Arimond letter to Pope John Paul II submitting formal request for dispensation from priesthood. (24919-24920)
- Undated In addition to the 1985 incident for which he was convicted, two other reports made since 2002 have reported one incident involving Arimond in 1975 and one in 1980. None of the incidents were known prior to Arimond's arrest in 1990. From the date of his arrest until the time he was laicized in 1996, Arimond was under restrictions and had no formal assignment. (29814)

