

TIMELINE OF DOCUMENTS REGARDING ROBERT JOHN BUNDLE¹

1968 - Ordained

6/18/68 Appointed at St. John the Baptist in Plymouth, WI. (10377)

6/18/68 - St. John the Baptist in Plymouth, WI

5/19/70 Appointed Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Sorrows in Milwaukee, WI, effective June 16. (10288)

6/16/70 - Associate Pastor, Our Lady of Sorrows, Milwaukee

1/11/72 Appointed Associate Pastor at St. Patrick in Fond du Lac, WI, effective January 18. (10289)

1/18/72 - Associate Pastor, St. Patrick, Fond du Lac, WI

5/31/74 Appointed Associate Pastor at St. Mary in Menomonee Falls, WI, effective June 18. (10291)

6/18/74 - Associate Pastor, St. Mary, Menomonee Falls, WI

5/26/81 Appointed Associate Pastor at Holy Apostles Parish, New Berlin, WI, effective June 16. (10374)

6/16/81 - Associate Pastor, Holy Apostles Parish, New Berlin, WI

8/10/83 Appointed to the pastoral team at St. Mary Parish, Waukesha, WI, effective August 30. (10373)

8/30/83 – Pastoral Team Member, St. Mary Parish, Waukesha, WI

2/20/89 Letter from Bandle to “Dick” saying Bandle met with his therapist and the 2 of them agreed that it would not be necessary for Dick to contact the family prior to a transfer from St. Mary’s and that doing so may open old wounds. (10371)

3/23/89 Appointed Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Allenton, WI, effective May 30. Appointment includes mission to St. Matthias Parish in Nabob, WI. (10294)

5/30/89 - Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Allenton, WI; St. Matthias Parish, Nabob, WI

6/12/89 Letter from Sklba to Bandle. A family has requested that Sklba meet with parents and children because their concerns have deepened rather than healed over the past two years. (10370)

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.

- 8/16/91 Appointed Temporary Administrator of Ss. Peter & Paul in Nenno, WI and St. Anthony in Allenton, WI, effective August 19. (10402)
- 8/19/91 - Temporary Administrator, Ss. Peter & Paul, Nenno, WI; St. Anthony, Allenton, WI
- 5/15/92 Bandle approved to take a sabbatical at St. Francis Seminary for fall 1992. (10401)
- 6/29/92 Appointed Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Allenton, Ss. Peter & Paul Parish in Nenno, and St. Anthony Parish in Allenton, effective July 1. (10296)
- 7/1/92 - Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish in Allenton; Ss. Peter & Paul Parish, Nenno, WI; St. Anthony Parish, Allenton, WI
- 7/13/92 Letter from Fr. Tom Trepanier to Bandle thanking Bandle for his service as Temporary Administrator at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Nenno. (10399)
- 11/17/92 Letter from Bandle to Weakland, noting that his current sabbatical at the seminary is a "precarious situation" that puts Weakland in a "delicate situation" regarding his reassignment. Bandle also states that he regrets any stress that he caused Weakland over the past years. (10398)
- 12/2/92 Letter from Weakland to Bandle noting that it would be good for them to sit down and talk sometime. (10300)
- 12/7/92 Letter from Bandle to Weakland resigning as Pastor of Sacred Heart, Allenton; Ss. Peter and Paul, Nenno; and St. Anthony, Allenton. Bandle willingly resigned "given the circumstances of his present situation." (10303)
- 12/23/92 Letter from Trepanier to parish members regarding Bandle's resignation. (10397)
- 1/28/93 Letter from Weakland to Bandle formally accepting Bandle's resignation as Pastor of Sacred Heart, Ss. Peter and Paul, and St. Anthony. (10364)
- 7/15/93 Letter from Weakland to Bandle stating that after much thought, prayer, and consultation regarding what is best for the whole Catholic community, he cannot assign Bandle to any pastoral ministry in the future. Weakland does not explain the reasons for his decision in this letter, but will do so in another confidential memo to the attorney, Matt Flynn, so that it will enjoy the privileges of client-attorney confidentiality. Weakland places restrictions on Bandle, including: 1) no unsupervised contact with minors; 2) No public ministry; 3) avoid all places, persons, and situations, that have been occasions of serious temptation in the area of sexual morality. Weakland further notes that he has to "ensure the good of the community and preclude scandal regarding exercise of ministry." Outlines to Bandle the process for investigation and possible canonical dismissal from the priesthood. (10304-10307)

- 11/19/93 Letter from Clergy Personnel Office to Weakland regarding previous allegations of Bandle's inappropriate relationships. States that Log # 385 of 8/4/87 indicates that allegations of an inappropriate relationship were brought to Sklba's attention in August 1987. Also notes that on 10/30/92, Sklba met with Bandle and Bandle acknowledged two other past relationships, one with a 15 year old in Menomonee Falls (who was approximately 30 in October 1992), and another with a 12 year old in Waukesha (who was approximately 18 in October 1992). (10265)
- 12/2/93 Letter from Weakland to Bandle regarding allegations against him and the process to determine whether he can remain a minister. Weakland notes that he was waiting for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Canon Law to issue their guidelines but now they just needed to proceed without them. (10308)
- 12/2/93 Letter from Weakland to attorney Matthew Flynn regarding Bandle, noting that allegations of inappropriate relationships were made in 1987. Also says that scandal that could ensue and that Bandle's behavior poses grave risk to the Catholic community. (10309)
- 12/19/93 Bandle appoints Father Daniel Ward of St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, MN as his canonical procurator and advocate. (10312)
- 12/20/93 Letter from Bandle to Weakland indicating that he chooses the canonical trial option. (10311)
- 12/22/93 Letter from Weakland to Bandle, noting that the Diocese will absorb the costs of Bandle's procurator-advocate. (10310)
- 1/27/94 Letter from Weakland to Bandle regarding Weakland's scheduled meeting with Fr. Ward to resolve questions about Bandle's future ministry. (10313)
- 3/30/94 Letter from Weakland to Daniel Ward stating that the canonical procedures will be interrupted based on the case presented by Ward on Bandle's behalf. Bandle will instead be asked to undergo a program of evaluation at a local hospital and then Weakland will make determinations about lifting restrictions. (10353)
- 6/8/94 Letter from Weakland to Bandle's therapist in response to Bandle's desire to be re-integrated into active ministry, asking for an assessment of Bandle to determine the risks of Bandle giving pastoral care, especially to teenagers. Weakland suggests that a "limited and rather restricted" position may be necessary. (10314)
- 7/17/94 Letter from attorney Matt Flynn to Ward confirming conversation wherein Ward informed that Bandle is awaiting Weakland's further evaluation of Bandle's circumstances. (55743)
- 9/2/94 Letter from Weakland to Daniel Ward acknowledging that Ward's role as canonical advocate has ceased along with the procedures the Archdiocese was pursuing against Bandle. (10316)

- 10/10/94 Letter from Bandle's therapist to Daniel Ward writing at Bandle's request to inform Ward of Bandle's status in his treatment group for men who have had sexual contact with minors. Notes that Bandle first approached therapist regarding treatment on 6/28/93, and after an evaluation, has "faithfully attended" and "actively participated" in weekly groups, as well as more specific sessions geared to priests with celibacy issues. Bandle's treatment has been "adequate," and "he continues his efforts." (25376)
- 2/16/95 Letter from Weakland to Bandle detailing the arrangements for his limited entry back into priestly ministry based on the recommendations of Bandle's therapist. It was suggested that Bandle could help-out regularly at one or two places under surveillance designed and implemented by his therapist. Weakland notes that the therapist wants Bandle to make a full disclosure of all of the details of his case to the person supervising him. (10317)
- 4/28/95 Letter from Bandle's therapist to Weakland expressing his concern that no provision has been made to prepare the parish personnel for the use of a surveillance form with Bandle because therapist thinks that proper use of the form "is a crucial part of Father Bandle's reintegration into ministerial services and his continued treatment effort." (25338)
- 5/5/95 Letter from Weakland to Bandle's therapist thanking him for the priest surveillance form to be used for Bandle. Mentions that Father Loehr, the Pastor of St. Joan of Arc, is supervising Bandle when he is there merely for weekend help outs. Weakland will meet with Loehr on 5/9/95 and discuss the therapist's request at that time. (10346)
- 5/25/95 Letter from Weakland to Bandle detailing the necessity for ministerial restrictions "for the good of the whole community" and enclosing a Precept. Letter has handwritten note which reads: "This does not change our present understanding but hopefully clarifies it." The Precept restricts Bandle from unsupervised contact with children and from pastoral counseling. His public ministry is limited to the celebration of Eucharist in specifically designated parishes. He is to avoid all places and situations that are occasions for serious temptation in the area of sexual morality. His faculty to hear confessions is not yet restored. (10347-10348)
- 10/23/95 Document date stamped October 23, states that Bandle wants to remain a priest and be given some work, either administrative or chaplaincy. He is clinically depressed and needs pastoral support presently. Requests Archbishop to back off on canonical processes and notes that Bandle "came forward on his own." (25333)
- 4/15/96 Letter from Sklba to Bandle, requesting that Bandle become the Assisting Priest at St. Joseph/St. Kilian Parish in Lyons, effective July 1 and that he assume Nursing Home Ministry in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, effective June 18. He is to be supervised by Father David Braun and the Parish Director Mr. Daniel Hull. (10343)

6/18/96 - Nursing Home Ministry

- 5/1/96 Bishop Sklba grants Bandle faculties necessary for him to serve as assisting priest. (10322-10323)
- 5/2/96 Letter from Chancellor Barbara Anne Cusack enclosing list of Bandle's faculties. Also encloses the documentation that the supervising priests received. (10321)
- 6/25/96 Restrictions and Conditions of Ministry established by the Vicar for Clergy and signed by Bandle and Deacon McGuine. (25330-25331)

7/1/96 - Assisting Priest at St. Joseph/St. Kilian Parish in Lyons, WI

- 8/29/96 Restrictions and Conditions of Ministry established by the Vicar for Clergy and signed by Bandle and his monitor, Deacon Tom McGuine. Notes that civil authorities will be contacted if there is sexual misconduct with a minor. (10341-10342)
- 2/19/99 Bandle and McGuine sign Relapse Contract, which acknowledges that in the event of a relapse, any investigating party is authorized to protect others from Bandle, including the involvement of both church officials and legal authorities. (10338-10340)
- 6/29/99 Bandle's term as Assisting Priest at St. Joseph Parish in Lyons extended for three more years with the term to end on June 30, 2002. (10384)
- 1/8/01 Letter from Barbara Reinke to the file of [redacted], noting that she notified individual of the death of Bandle and that the individual seemed concerned about Bandle. (34856)