

February 12, 2004

His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Piazza del S. Uffizio 11
00193 Rome, Italy

Your Eminence:

In accord with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Youth* and *The Essential Norms* which are in effect in the United States, I am referring several cases for your consideration. I take very seriously the problem of sexual abuse of minors by clergy and the ensuing public outcry over past inaction by church officials. The demand for justice is one that receives a favorable hearing from me.


However, I also believe firmly that some situations call for justice tempered by mercy. I have reviewed carefully all of cases of alleged sexual abuse of minors by clergy. We are in the methodical process of preparing all such cases for referral to the Congregation. In the course of that review, I have come to the conclusion that some clerics, even though we are convinced about the substance of the allegations and even though, in some cases, the cleric has confessed, should not be imposed with canonical penalties.

I am sending in this mailing the cases of those priests whose life situations are such that a canonical penal trial or an administrative dismissal would be unreasonable. They are either of such advanced age or fragile health that such actions could be tantamount to a death sentence. Therefore, in each case I am asking that the priest be permitted to live out whatever may remain of his life in prayer and penance. The elements of such a life will be designed along the protocols presently being prepared by the Conference of Bishops. In all cases, there would be no public ministry permitted and the priest would not present himself publicly as a priest by title or attire.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests. Should Your Eminence determine that an alternate action be taken, I stand ready to accede to your wishes.

With sentiments of esteem, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

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ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

NAME: Reverend Raymond Joseph Adamsky
 DATE OF BIRTH: July 27, 1931
 AGE: 72
 PRESBYTERAL ORDINATION: May 31, 1958
 YEARS OF MINISTRY: 35 years
 DIOCESE OF INCARDINATION: Milwaukee
 ADDRESS: 3253 S. Lake Drive, St. Francis, Wisconsin 53235

ASSIGNMENTS:

YEAR	PARISH	LOCATION	APPOINTMENT
1958-1961	Blessed Sacrament	Milwaukee, WI	Assistant Pastor
1961-1964	St. Joseph	Grafton, WI	Assistant Pastor
1964-1969	St. John	South Milwaukee	Assistant Pastor
1969-1971	St. Mary	Fond du Lac, WI	Associate Pastor
1971-1973	St. Philip Neri	Milwaukee	Associate Pastor
1973-1974	St. Leonard	Muskego, WI	Associate Pastor
1974-1975	St. Casimir	Milwaukee	Associate Pastor
1975-1978	St. Vincent de Paul	Milwaukee	Associate Pastor
1978-1981	St. Stanislaus	Milwaukee	Associate Pastor
1981-1986	St. Kilian	St. Kilian, WI	Pastor
1986-1992	St. Joseph	Racine, WI	Associate Pastor
1992-1993	St. Monica Nursing Home	Racine, WI	Chaplain
August 31, 1993	Disability Retirement		

ACCUSATION AGAINST THE CLERIC

YEAR	VICTIM'S AGE	IMPUTABLE ACTS	DENUNCIATION
1983	10	Inappropriate and forced kissing, embracing, attempted fondling done repeatedly	1983
1983	12	Repeatedly engaged in forced kissing, embracing; sexually explicit "gift" of underwear	1983
1964	10	Forced kissing and fondling of breast on several occasions	1994
1964	13	Not specified	1993
1965	12	Forced kissing and fondling	2004
1971	12	Forced kissing and fondling of breast four times	1995
1961	10	In confessional told to insert finger in vagina as penance	2002

CIVIL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE CLERIC

The Milwaukee District Attorney reviewed the files and determined that all cases were beyond the statute of limitations.

Civil settlements were reached with two of the victims in the amounts of \$20,000 and \$50,000.

MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE DIOCESE

YEAR	ACTION TAKEN
1961	Parents reported to Chancellor who met with them and then arranged for a transfer to another parish for cleric
1983	Parents reported to Vicar for Clergy; cleric referred for counseling and associate pastor informed to monitor activities; cleric sent for evaluation and reassigned; cleric says his actions misinterpreted
1989	Cleric confronted and he declares he does not remember; placed under restricted ministry; sent for counseling
1992	Cleric transferred to non-parochial ministry with restrictions on contact with minors; moved to supervised housing
1993	Cleric retired and moved to retired priests' residence
1995	Restrictions on ministry formulated into canonical precept
2004	Cased referred to Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

SUSTENANCE PROVIDED TO THE CLERIC

Father is fully vested in the priests' pension plan and receives the same monthly payment as any other retired priest. He resides in diocesan sponsored housing with reduced room and board.

RESPONSE / RECOURSE MADE BY THE CLERIC

Father admitted the events from 1983 but said they were misconstrued. All other allegations he claims lack of memory even though none of the accusers know one another and all sequence of dates match up not only with the place of assignment but also with transfers that are not explained in the files.

BISHOP'S VOTUM

The pattern of the allegations has an internal consistency. All of the dates and places are verified in the records. The accusers have no knowledge of or contact with one another. Father admits to one incident but dismisses its seriousness. He claims lack of memory for all others. These cases have been given no public notoriety and there has been no scandal. Despite the evidence of probable guilt, I am asking that Father Adamsky not be subjected to a penal trial. His health has deteriorated significantly in recent years. He has agreed not to appear in public wearing priestly attire and to live with the restrictions contained in the precept, namely that he have no contact with minors and no public ministry. He is permitted to say private Mass only and his confessional faculties have been revoked.

I ask that Father Adamsky, for reasons of advanced age and poor health, be permitted to live a life of prayer and penance the details of which will be worked on with him.

