Last Name	First Name	Date of Birth	Date or Ordination	Assignment	From		Current Status
E	G	1917	1942	Holy Assumpt (W Allis)	1942	1958	Deceased
		T		Sacred Ht (Allenton)	1958	1966	
	1	Ť		St Anthony (Pewaukee)	1966	1967	
	Ì			St. Martin (Ashford)	1967	1984	

#### BACKGROUND FOR MEDIATION

#### ALLEGATIONS:

4/7/92 – CURRENT CASE sent letter reporting sexual abuse by E. Described that it occurred at his residence where she would go to help with housekeeping tasks. It consisted of his washing her feet and rubbing her body as "therapy" for his arthritic hands. This was the first report. E was already retired at the time.

4/15/92 – Vicar went to hospital to confront E with the report. He admitted back rubs but denied anything sexual about them.

4/21/92 - Vicar and Liz Piasecki met with CURRENT CASE. She reported again about the "rubs" and stated that they started when she was 14 and continued weekly for three years and then were less often. She said she went to confession to E but these matters were not discussed in that context. She felt he asked her inappropriate questions about her boyfriend. She said he also kissed her. She reported that her sister was similarly abused but her sister has not come forth according to the records. (There could be an issue of married / maiden name, however.) She also reported that she had heard he gave children baths. Her main concern was that E not have contact with children. She had been in counseling at that time for two years. It began as then moved into the E issues. She was told that E was retired and would now be restricted from public ministry and from having any unsupervised contact with minors.

4/25/92 – Vicar met with E and confirmed the restriction that had been placed on him 10 days prior. He was also told that the local pastor would be informed to ensure that the restrictions were observed. He was referred for counseling.

7/1/92 - CURRENT CASE called the Vicar and asked for a meeting with E and he agreed to set one up.

8/2/92 - The meeting took place. CURRENT CASE read a prepared statement and expressed her anger and hurt. E gave a brief apology.

10/23/92 – CURRENT CASE asked for assistance with counseling co-pays and she was told this would be provided. (I do not have any access to counseling payments so I do not know for how long this went on.)

8/93 - Second report received. Similar to CURRENT CASE's report.

2003 - E died.

2004 - Third report received through the mediation system.

E's name is on the website as a substantiated offender. (http://www.archmil.org/aboutus/ShowNews.asp?ID=1952)

339. Etzel, George

On Tuesday, April 21, 1992 Dr. Liz Piosecki, a member of Project Benjamin and I went to to respond to the request of concerning her allegations of sexual misconduct by George Etzel. We met her at her residence. The ritual described in her letter of George Etzel rubbing hor body to help his arthritic hends occurred weekly for 3 years and less frequently after that. It continued when she was home from college The relationship stopped when she moved in with her boyfriend and George Etzel disapproved of this arrangement. She stated that he would hear her confession after these sessions. The above incidents were not included in the confession but he would ask her about her relations with her boy friend. This confession was face to face in the same room as the "rub sessions", as she called them. She said she was very confused by all this. She also stated George Etzel was a friend of her family and her father was George Etzel would be called to help, but she felt he could have done more. She seemed to trust him as a father figure and feels very betrayed. She also claimed he would kiss her on the lips. She has felt very angry at the Catholic Church and was angry at God. She started counseling as an adult child of the issues of George Etzel were discussed with her therapist. She brought them up 7 to 8 months ago but when they resurfaced recently, her therapist suggested her notifying the Archdlocese. Some told her the letter would be thrown away and she said she was surprised that she had been contacted by the Diocese as soon as we received the letter. Her main concern was she did not want George Etzel to do this to other children, so that they would have to go Lhrough what she did. She has been counseling for two years now and says she wants to forgive him. She has left the Catholic Church but is searching for a religious community by attending various denominations. For the most part she was able to tell her story but occasionally had tears in her eyes and had to stop. She said her sister also received the same "rub sessions" on occasion. She also said she had heard stories of George Etzel giving baths to 10-12 year olds. I told her again we took these allegations seriously and that I had talked to George Etzel twice about having no contact with minors in his house or elsewhere. I told her he was no longer able to say Mass publicly. I told her I had talked to him in the hospital and would certainly see to counseling for him when he his health improved. We offered whatever help we could give and she only wanted assurances that he would not be allowed to have other children abused by him. She seemed to be comfortable that we were serious in our response to her letter and would follow through on or policy. I also told her I would try to have a priest in the area aware of the allegations so George Etzel would have at least some supervision. It did not seem like she would proceed any further. She had told 2 of hor sisters of the allegations and that she wrote the Archdiocese.

RTV

Etzel, George

believe her.

On Saturday, April 25, 1992 I visited George at his residence in Campbellsport. I informed him of the meeting with her concern that other minors be protected from any inappropriate behavior on his part. We talked about what happened and George realized that it was inappropriate behavior. He was advised not to have any unsupervised contact with minors. He had informed two of his priest friends of the allegations. I told him I would inform Mike Moran of the allegations, and he said he would like to talk to Mike. I also gave him the names of several psychologists and he agreed to make an appointment. He called me on April 27 and informed me that he had made an appointment for May 8.

Her mother knows nothing of this because she doesn't think she will

RTV

## 126. George Etzel

February 5, 2003 George Etzel was visited by Vicar at St. Francis Home, Fond du Lac. Hornacek delivered the letter from the Archbishop which repeated importance of maintaining restrictions in place since '95 and '96. Etzel was also told his name would be submitted to CDF, Rome.

JFH

April 5, 1992

Archdiocese of Milwaukee 3501 South Lake Drive P.O. Box 2018 Milwaukee, WI

Dear Archbishop Weakland,

I am writing this letter in order to alert you to a potentially abusive situation involving a priest in your diocese George Etzel, who now presides in Campbellsport, Wisconsin.

An abusive situation existed during the time Fr. Etzel was pastor at St. Martin's Church in Ashford, Wisconsin. From November 8, 1977 at which time I was

after eating and doing dishes a ritual took place. First Fr. Etzel would wash my feet in his kitchen sink and clip my toenails. We would then proceed to the living room where he would have me lay on the couch, pull my shirt up, open my bra and then rub my back. He would work his way down my body-having me take my pants off-keeping a towel over my midrift. Often as he was rubbing my back he would go up along the side, brushing the side of my breast. After doing my backside, he would have me flip over and do my front-legs, then stomach, then chest. As he did my stomach, his fingers would run under the line of my bra. After I was finished he would take off his shirt and have me do his back. He also had me sit on his lap and pluck the hairs in his ears.

At the time of the abuse, he told me this was to help his arthritic hands. Often times during a "rub session" the doorbell would ring. He'd tell me to cover up with a blanket because "people wouldn't understand."

I feel his behavior was inappropriate and sexually abusive. It was a violation of the pastor-child relationship. I was the child and he was the adult, what he did was wrong. I knew it felt wrong at the time but I didn't know who to tell. I completely trusted his motives.

The abuse was emotionally and sexually confusing. I have no idea if his motives were sexual or otherwise, but either way having me take my pants off for him one minute and then hearing my confession the next (which often took place) was too confusing for a teenage girl to handle.

I want you to look into this matter. I know I was not his only victim because He did the same to my sister while I sat and watched

I fear that he continues to abuse. I want to spare anyone the pain of dealing with this in the future by coming forth with my story now.

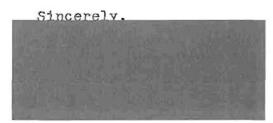
I request to be notified in writing, thirty days from today's date, the results of your investigation and what you intend to do. I will take further action if you do not.

I am willing to talk to you and answer any questions that you might have.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

TV. I halso know of other people (young girls)

I would supply names at your request.





May 25, 1995

Reverend George A. Etzel

Campbellsport, WI 53010-0455

Dear Father Etzel,

As you are aware I must frequently review the situation of priests who have had allegations of misconduct placed against them. You know of my comments at the Spring Assembly for Priests where I indicated that even retired priests may have to have some restrictions placed on the ministry they can offer. My concern is both to ensure that the integrity of the priesthood is upheld and to protect the diocese from any allegations of improper monitoring which might place persons at risk.

I have pondered how best to proceed with decisions regarding your status and exercise of ministry. I must bear in mind both my responsibility toward the good of the whole community and respect for your individual rights.

Given the serious nature of the obligations of celibacy, as well as the seriousness of violations alleged to have occurred by you, I find that some necessary and prudent precautions must be taken. This decision is ultimately a pastoral measure to protect the rights and reputations of all involved.

Therefore, I am enclosing a document which specifically details any ministerial restrictions which are to be observed by you.

I know that I can count on your cooperation and obedience in this matter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.

+ Relet Co. Will low

Archbishop of Milwaukee

#### PRECEPT

In response to the pastoral needs of this Christian community, in virtue of my authority as diocesan bishop (c. 381, §1), and in accord with the provisions of canon 49, I formally place upon Reverend George Etzel the following obligations:

- 1) To refrain from all contact with minors;
- 2) To cease until further notice all public ministry including the celebration of Eucharist in other than a private setting with only another priest or priests in attendance; the celebration of any other sacraments will require my explicit permission in each case;
- 3) To avoid all places and situations that, from past experience, have been occasions of serious temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 4) Until further notice the faculty to hear confession is revoked.

The reasons motivating this decree are the allegations of sexual activities in violation of the obligation of clerical celibacy (c. 277, \$1). These restrictions are seen as necessary and prudent precautions and will remain in effect until notice of their revocation.

Given this 25 day of May, 1995

+ Kreen G. Weakland, O.S.B.

Archbiehop of Milwaukee

Chance//lor/Notary
SEAL

3501 South Lake Drive, P.O. Box 07912 Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414)769-3497



December 28, 1995

Rev. George A. Etzel

Campbellsport, Wisconsin 53010

Dear Fr. Etzel:

I write at the request of Archbishop Weakland who had the opportunity to review your status prior to departing for his Sabbatical on December 27, 1995.

After careful consideration of all the factors involved in your situation, the Archbishop stated his intention to restore your faculties for public celebration of the Eucharist at the parish on weekdays if requested, effective January 1, 1996. He also stated his willingness to restore faculties for private Confession if asked, effective that same date.

I join in prayer for your own ongoing recuperation and for much peace during the new year.

Sincerely,

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

RJS/rt Copy:

> Fr. Carrol Straub Fr. Edwin Kornath

# January 22, 1996 Teacher Newsletter Dear Teachers,

## NO MUSIC TIME:

No Music Time tonight. We will start next week with the every other week Sunday reading/Music combination.

## COPIER:

I will have the copier moved into the music room pending Fr. Ed's approval. I was assuming I could just go ahead and do it, but given Fr. Ed's recent bulletin concerns I think it would be best to check with him first. The school uses that room as a locker room when the basketball team has a home game, and Donny felt there would be the possibility that the copier could be damaged. For tonight, I will have the hall monitor ask you if you need copies and they can make them at the parish center.

## RECONCILIATION SERVICE:

Fr. Ed has agreed to do a Reconciliation Service Monday, April 1 at 6:00pm, the first Monday of Holy Week. We'll have regular class on April 29, which is a change on your calendars, please note.

## PROGRESS REPORTS:

Teachers who were not at teacher planning: I put progress reports in your baskets. Please explain to the students that you want them to go over these with their parents, and have their parents sign and return them.

## SACRAMENTS TEACHERS:

Please pass the notes on parents meetings out to your kids. Please note that because of the Reconciliation Service, the second First Communion date is different than I told you at teacher planning.

## 6TH, 7TH, 8TH:

Please pass the notes regarding bibles out to your students.

## PARENT PACKETS:

All teachers please pass these out to the students in your class that receive them. They are passed out according to the youngest child in each family. If you did not receive one yourself because you do not have kids in religious ed, please let me know, I will make extra copies.

## FR. ETZEL:

Fr. Etzel is still more than willing to say Mass or hold a reconciliation service privately for a class in his home. Please take advantage of this. His number is 4008 or call me and I will set it up.

## FIRST AID:

First Aid is scheduled for Saturday, February 10, from 8:00am to 12:00 noon. This is an overview course, not certifiable, but recommended because we work with children. I will get a response sheet out to you next week and we may have others join us from Christian Formation, but reserve the time on your calendar now.

God bless you all and thank you for your dedication.

Christopher

### 11/13/95 Teacher Newsletter

Dear Teachers,

## Music Time:

We will try meeting in the Church again tonight. Don't let the kids sit any further back than the 10th pew.

First session, start bringing your classes down at 5:55pm.

Second session, meet in your classrooms first, then come down afterwards.

Fr. Ed installed by Bishop Skiba: Sat., Nov. 18, 5:00pm Mass

Remind your students to attend this special event if they are able,

## Mass or Reconciliation:

Chalm

I have talked to Fr. Etzel and he is very willing to say Mass or have a reconciliation service in his home. He could only take a small group, one class at a time. He also cannot speak very loudly so the group would have to be mellow. He would also explain to the sacraments' classes the Mass and Reconciliation to help in their preparation. Let me know your interest and we can set these up.

## Scrip:

Please check your baskets each week and pass out any handouts from the Scrip people.

Teacher Meeting Next Week: Monday, November 20, 6:00pm

Remind your students there are no classes next Monday. Remind me to tell them this again at Music Time.

## St. Martin's Congregation

ASHFORD, WISCONSIN

R. 1, Campbellsport, W1 53010

November 15, 1984

The Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O S. B. Archdiocese of Milwaukee 3501 South Lake Drive, P. O. Box 2018 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Dear Archbishop,

On the past October 16th, I had an appointment with Father Joseph A. Janicki concerning my health problems and the difficulties I encounter in caring for and continuing my pastoral duties here at St. Martin Parish, Ashford. I write you, therefore, for your kind permission to retire.

I have given my decision much prayer and thought and sought advice. I have been at St. Martin's for seventeen years. I have come to know and love the children, the people, and their spitit of cooperation. I would leave here with many wonderful and pleasant memories and associations. I believe I can say that I am "better" for my years here.

I am sixty-seven years of age, as of the past 19th of May. I was ordained December the 8th, 1942.

For many years already I have had a continued heart and ulcer condition for which I have been under constant medical attention and medication for some twenty years. Medication has kept me from driving any distance by myself, except for my teaching assignments in Campbellsport, the hospital, and parish sick-visits. In this time, also, I was hospitalized some nineteen different times. (Bonestly, all of my vactions were spent in hospitals.)

In this past summer I was hospitalized in May, August, September. I had a pace-maker implant in August. While this has helped my fainting and dizziness spells considerably, it still leaves me with difficulties in normal functions and activities. The list of difficulties is long: on many occasions I cannot raise my arms above the level of my heart; cannot reach out to lift; place my left hand into the right inside pocket of my suit coat; difficulty in washing my face; opening jars; or the use of gestures - without the feeling of dizziness or fainting. (Previous to the pace-maker implant I had fainted at lecturn and altar).

When Father Walter Morgan retired as chaplain for the Sisters at St Joseph Convent, Campbellsport, I thought that I would be able to assume the care of the sisters, if they would have me. (I would not have been able to assume administration of the Mission Parish in Auburn). For that reason I had made an appontment with Father Janicki, but since my visit and the advice of others, I now feel that I would not be able to carry on the duties expected in the schedule of a permanent chaplain. Presently, I find difficulty in placing an alb or chasuble over my head, lifting or rasing a lectionary, enthroning or raising the monstrance for Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

## St. Martin's Congregation

ASHFORD, WISCONSIN R. 1, Campbellsport, WI 53010

Because of my present health condition and its problems, I kindly ask your understanding and permission to retire. I would assume some priestly duties in the area for which I am able. I have possible arrangements to live in Campbellsport. I would be in walking distance to St Joseph's Convent where I would continue to assist as regular confessor as I have in the past fifteen years.

At the Campbellsport residence I would be a few doors away from Parish of St. Matthew where I want to be of help in religious instruction work of the younger children at the parochial school where I have been engaged in this work since 1968. Since Father Victor Kemmer, pastor at St Matthew, is not certain of the Capuchin Fathers' continued week-end help, I could be of help to the people there on week-ends.

My physician agrees that the duties of the parish are getting to be too draining for me, and I am not standing up well under the tension.... My physician is M. D.,

Dr. has stated "that it would be very desirable and medically beneficial if there were some other position available which did not require as long as hours as being on charge of a parish, and keep me active, and medically speaking, that I would do well with such a position".

Therefore, I ask your kind permission to retire, and assume what duties I am able at the convent as confessor, part-time substitute at convent, religious instructor at St. Matthew's, week-end help to the people of the parish, and help asked otherwise - where I am able.

I am grateful for your time and consideration now, and my request for retirement. I give you the assurance of my prayers each and every day for the task which is yours, and the work you do. (You know, I get dizzy just thinking about all you undertake and accomplish - for Church - here locally, nationally, and globally). Congratulations, and many, many a thanks.

Exaternally in Christ, Design A Ctyll (Rev) Crorge A. Etzel

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

July 5, 1895-

Der Vin,

Thanks for your letter comming George Etzel. It is good of you to be supportive of him. For his own good I had to restrict his public ministry. Otherwise, I could not great that the allegations could be kept out of the press.

Peace & you, Vie.

Fraterelly,

ij

December 16, 1942

The Rev. George Adam Etzel

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

My dear Father Etzel:

I hereby appoint you to assist the Rt. Rev. Magr. J. H. Burbach, pastor of Holy Assumption Parish, West Allis, Wisconsin. You will please to report to Monsignor Burbach before noon on Saturday, December 19, 1942.

Wishing you every blessing and success in your new field of labor. I remain

Singerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Milwaukes.

The Rev. George A. Etzel
West Allis 14, Wisconsin

Dear Father Etzel:

This letter is to inform you that I am transferring you from your present assignment as assistant at Holy Assumption Parish, West Allis, and appoint you pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Allenton, with attached Mission of St. Mathias, Nabob, effective Monday, August 18th, on which date you will kindly report to your new assignment.

Inasmuch as this is your first pastoral appointment you will kindly provide to make the Profession of Faith and to take the Oath against Modernism required by Canon Law of newly appointed pastors. You may do this either before the Most Reverend Vicar General or the Very Reverend Chancellor acting as my delegate.

Wishing you every blessing of God in your new field of work, I remain

Very sincerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Milwaukee



## February 7, 1966

The Reverend George A. Etsel Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Allenton

Allenton, Wisconsin 53002

Dear Father Etsel:

By this letter I herewith transfer you from the pastorate of Sacred Heart Parish, Allenton, and I officially appoint you pastor of St. Anthony Parish, Pewaukee, effective Monday, February 21, 1966, on which date you are asked to report to your new assignment.

Permit me to advise you that you are dispensed from making the Profession of Faith and taking the Cath Against Modernism as is required by Canon Law for newly appointed pastors.

With the warmest of personal regards and wishing you God's choicest blessings in your new field of endeavor, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Cousins Archbishop of Milwaukee



October 3, 1967

The Reverend George Etzel
Pastor. St. Anthony Parish

Pewaukee, Wisconsin 530/2

Dear Father Etsel:

By this letter I herewith transfer you from the pastorate of St. Anthony Parish, Pawaukee, and I officially appoint you pastor of St. Martin Parish, Ashford, Wisconsin, effective Tuesday, November 7, 1967, on which date you are asked to report to your new assignment.

Permit me to advise you that you are dispensed from making the Profession of Paith and taking the Oath Against Modernism as is required by Canon Law for newly-appointed pastors.

With the warmest of personal regards and wishing you God's choicest blessings in your new field of endeavor, I am

Fracernally yours in Christ,

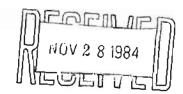
Most Reverend William E. Cousins Archbishop of Milwaukee



## **ARCHDIOCESE** OF MILWAUKEE

3601 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE . P.O. BOX 2018 . MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201 . PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP



November 26, 1984

The Reverend George A. Etzel

Campbellsport, Wisconsin 53010

Dear Father Etzel,

Thank you for your letter of November 15th in which you ask for permission to resign as pastor of St. Martin's, Ashford, and to retire. With this letter I hereby grant your request. This will become effective on the date that you and Father Joseph Janicki agree on.

I would like to thank you for all the gracious priestly service you have offered the people of the Archdiocese in these many years of active ministry in the priesthood. May God bless you for your zeal.

You are in my prayers these days. I hope the Lord blesses you and your health improves.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

+ Render G. Oedlor

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.

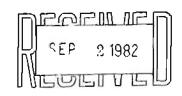
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Copies to: \( \sigma\_{\text{Father Joseph Janicki}} \) Father Eugene Neuman

St. Michael's Priest Fund

## St. Martin's Congregation

ASHFORD, WISCONSIN
R. 1, Campbellsport, WI 53010



August 30, 1982

Vicar for Priest Personnel P. O. Box 2018 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201

Reverend Joseph A. Janicki

Reverend and dear Father:

I do want you to know that I am sincerely grateful to Reverend John A. Furtmann for the time given, as my interviewer, for my recent periodic review.

I feel that his Review Resume of the interview is satisfactory, sufficiently complete and, in fact, complimentary. I appreciate his kind consideration and our pleasant meeting.

There is one item on the resume which could be explained further as it does appear questionable. It has reference to a meeting with the Ombudsman, Fr. Donald Weber, on August 16, 1978. "I made eyes at the girls". The explanation follows.

In 1968 our parish school closed and our children were then enrolled in the neighboring parish school of St. Kilian. For four years, until St. Kilian School closed, I taught religion classes twice each week. During the pastorate of Revs Anthony Zukaitis and Edgar Braun and Adrian Trost, I came to know the children and parishioners of St. Kilian closely. I was the help-out on occasions when parish was without a pastor.

When Reverend Arthur Kulinski came to St. Kilian I tried to befriend him. Took him out to dinner on one occasion and introduced him to his parishioner, a waitress and member of his parish; one who was to be married soon. This was the girl at whom I was supposed to have made eyes. The statement of resume says that I ade eyes at the "girls".

A short time after this introduction this girl came to Father Kulinski to make arrangements for forthcoming marriage. The young man to whom she was engaged desired to become a Catholic, and asked for instructions. Father Kulinski said there was not sufficient time for the instruction. They told me later that he would not give instruction unless he had two years of preparatory instruction.

I did not know that Father Kulinski had refused them when they came to me. I did give him instruction over a period of four months, and this fact did disturb Father Kulinski. That was his reason for calling the Ombudsman and the statement that "I made eyes at the girls". Father Kulinski was very hard to approach. The young people feared to approach him. I had two other couples who had come here for instruction. Theere were families who changed parishes because of his attitude and the charges he made against them. I accepted the opportunity of befriending these people. That is my story and hopeful clarification about "making eyes".

Sincerely in Christ, Lings de Etzel



January 17, 1996

Reverend George A. Etzel

Campbellsport, WI 53010-0455

Dear Father Etzel,

Enclosed for your files is the document which effected the changes in your exercise of ministry referred to in my earlier correspondence. If you have any questions about any of these matters, please feel free to contact me.

With the assurance of continued prayers, I am,

Sincerely

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

Enclosure

Copy: Fr. Carrol Straub

Henge The commits tell me that another dorwnent is beguined to make formal the centents of the last letter & sent to you. Thuch place in '960



#### PRECEPT

In response to the pastoral needs of this Christian community, in virtue of his authority as diocesan bishop (c. 381, \$1), and in accord with the provisions of canon 49, on May 25, 1995 Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland formally placed upon Reverend George Etzel a precept for the purpose of restricting his exercise of ministry. The circumstances calling for these restrictions have now been reviewed and it has been determined that modifications in that precept can be made without endangering the good of the ecclesial community. Therefore, effective this date, the following modifications to the original precept are in effect:

- 1) The faculty to hear confession is restored but may only be exercised when a penitent explicitly requests the individual celebration of the Sacrament of Penance;
- 2) The public celebration of Eucharist on weekdays at St. Matthew Parish in Campbellsport is permitted provided the pastor has no objections.

The remaining restrictions continue and will remain in effect until notice of their revocation since they are seen as necessary and prudent precautions.

Given by special mandate this 1st day of January, 1996

Most Reverend Richard J. Sklba Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

Var Ormen a. Connelle

Chance//lor/Notary

SEAL

December 16, 1992

J.

#### Dear Father George:

Thank you for the card and thoughts at Christmas. Christmas comes near the end of the year and it is a time for reflecting upon the past year and our past life and what the next year may bring. It is also a time of hope and a time for forgiveness.

By the tone of your note and the obituary, I see that you are also reflecting on your past life. No, reflecting is too mild! You are probably wrestling and agonizing over some parts of it. Parts that have affected me personally and driven me from the Church. Parts that have also had a traumatic effect on other "girls" from St. Martin's, Ashford. other "girls" that have since left the Church either out of confession or guilt and you know exactly what I am talking about.

As I stated earlier, it is a time for forgiveness and hope. I forgive you for the things you have done to me. I hope you can make peace with your God. But I cannot come to visit you. I cannot accept your money! Give it to charity!

"For God so loved the world, ..."



Dear

The wonder of Christmas-May it fill your heart with peace and joy

Greetings, prayers, and wishes for Godo beet to you. Haven't seen you for so long - miss you lots. Maybe I wouldn't recognize you if I met you on the street - except for your gleam of kindness. I'm sad and sorry, and I wonder why. Enclosed is a "little" that St. Nicholas left in my sock for you Ar. Heorge Etzel

ADOM033334

CAMPBELLSPORT, WI 53010

## LV. OLOROL A. EILE

THURSDAY, October 24th, 1991

Dear

Do you remember me? I used to see you numbers of times each week here in Campbellsport; and on four and times more each week you had to tolerate me and the table and the sink. Don't know how you stood it so long? To tell you the truth - I miss you lots - and l am sure you are so much more happy with no one to bother you as you were tormented on Camp-bellsport.

I spend lots of time preparing T.V. dinners, and washing dishes. It is sort-a lonely eating all thos scruptious T.V. goodies - all by myself. Now, too, lot of the birds are gone from the feeder, So, I miss you at my table. Nobody to check on you as too how slowly you eat.. I miss all that since you no longer find me here in the woods.

I know that you have been real busy with all your projects and the people at work. Hope that you are in better health and that you are able to keep up with all that is being asked of you. Hope that you are not putting in those long long hours. Maybee, pretty soon you will be the

I have been very, very occupied and busy her in these past two months. Never realized thatre would be so much to do as "durable Power of Attorney, along with Rev, Rolland Glass, with the task to be done for Father Gerald Schmitz.

Ther have been endless tasks with getting his boook of accounts settled; finally that is completed. It took many, mnay hours of time and lots of sleep-less nights to get things settled. There was the cleaning of his lake residence by Maids 4 U; many TRIPS TO THE Lake Residence; arrangements for getting the outside premises cleaned up; there was sale of some of his furniture, and finally the auction this past Sunday (which, for me, showed a very sad result. And, now, we are still working on the sale of this lake property. It is bewautiful, everyone aggrees; but they will not come cup with the appraisewd value. How happy we will be when all this is cared for. I will be so glad.

Never thought of this! You knew that Father Schmitz had an accidnet on August 18th. He severly injured his right foot when it was accidently cut by riding lawn mower. In emergency he was taken by ambulance to St. Agnes Hospital, and thaken immediately by anbulance to Milwaukee County Medical Complex for surgery and eleven days of hospitalizatiln. Then, we had to find a nursing homee where he would reside. Happily, and God Helped, we were able to find place for him at St. Francis Home, Gillett Street, Fond du Lac. So, we have him on on regulatr list for visits. He suffers from loss of memory and confusion. He does retain his Humor and wit. remarkably better than myself — WHO EORGET OR OVERLOOKED YOU BIRTHDAY — I"M "SORRY"

Nappy Birthday

no more Room: Sitt.

ADOM033340

Got no cash lithu.

#### CONTACT REPORT

COMPLAINANT:

Date of Interview: 8/9/93
Place: Holy Trinity Rectory
Kewaskum

. .

Present: Dr. Elizabeth Piasecki, Ms. Diane Knight,

was interviewed at her request. She alleges the following:

- 1. that she was sexually abused by Rev. George Etzel at St. Martin's Church in Ashford, Wisconsin starting in 1967 when she was in the grade and continuing until December of 1992.
- 2. that Father Etzel has continued to harass her in the recent past by way of numerous phone calls by himself or by his "clique" of followers causing her to need to acquire an answering machine and an unlisted phone number.

  confirmed that had received many phone calls at work and that it had interfered with her ability to perform her job.)
- 3. that she was but one of many victims of Father Etzel and that the "whole town of Ashford" knew about his behavior but nothing was said to him or the Archdiocese of Milwaukee for fear that the parish would not get another priest.

detailed the following complaint:

involvement with Father Etzel began at the age of "11 or 12" when she was in the grade. She said that Fr. Etzel had a habit of asking girls to prepare his meals and do housework for him. In addition he would ask high school girls to drive him around and also took girls to a private home "outside Allenton" for swimming. Fr. Etzel gave money to a number of minor girls and bought them special things which were noted because most of the community was not well to do and could not afford to give their children these kinds of things.

The provided that Fr. Etzel was very kind to the girls and "very gentle and loving." He presented as a sick man who needed to be babied because he "could die at any time." Consequently he asked minor girls to "cuddle with him and kiss him on the lips."

### Page 2

said that when they refused he would get mad or sad and then they would kiss him to please him or make him happy. Fr. Etzel was reported to have a practice of having minor girls rub his feet with lotion because he had a migraine headache. Said she did this often and saw other minor girls also do it to Fr. Etzel.

recalled that one time when she was still a minor child and when she was alone in the house with Fr. Etzel, he asked her if he could rub her back. Fr. Etzel then took her top off and unsnapped her bra. He wanted her to take it off but refused.

says she remembers being very nervous and scared "even though [she] knew it had happened to other girls." He then proceeded to rub her back. On other occasions as a minor Fr. Etzel would request that massage him, asking her to rub up to his knees, then on to his legs, hips, back, and buttocks "wherever he felt tense." Fr. Etzel would ask as a minor to "comb" his legs and body using a fine steel comb. She reported that he would make her take the comb and go up and down his body. At the time he would request this kind of contact, he would generally be dressed in his underwear only or in a swimming suit. Fr. Etzel would indicate that was "special" and that "he had never asked any one else to do this."

She reported that Fr. Etzel wanted to "do things to her as an adult" but that she refused. There was, however, a continuation of mutual massage through his initiative up until 1991 when to realize that Fr. Etzel had abused her. indicated that Fr. Etzel's overtures to her were always unwanted and that she was very confused because she thought of him as God and because she knew that her parents would blame her if she reported Fr. Etzel's behavior to them.

also detailed what she described as Fr. Etzel's general practice of individual "confession" with each freshman and sophomore aged students in his parish (boys and girls). Fr. Etzel reportedly asked each one to come to the rectory individually at night. He would then turn all the lights off and they would go into the living room and sit on the couch together in the dark. Fr. Etzel would then ask them explicit questions about their sexual behaviors (e.g. Did you ever let a boy touch you in your private parts?). He would then discuss how boys got aroused and engage in other talk about erections.

This scenario did happen to the felt more like an interview. This scenario did happen to as a minor child. Fr. Etzel also reportedly taught sex education in religion classes. recalled that he showed slides and had written materials that at the time she felt was shockingly explicit.

## Page 3

Fr. Etzel was reported by to live in a house by himself in Cambellsport presently. She reported that he has a "clique" of people around him who " were threatening to her when [she] tried to get away from him in 1991." gave the interviewers original copies of correspondence she has had with Fr. Etzel and others writing to her on his behalf. Her last contact with him was by mail in December of 1992 when she returned money that he had sent to her at Christmas.

asked for the following:

- 1.) That Father Etzel be confronted about his behavior. She would like him to "acknowledge and accept responsibility" for his behavior. expressed concern for other victims of Fr. Etzel and asked that the Archdiocese learn of the scope of his involvement with minor children.
- 2.) That be reimbursed for the cost of her psychotherapy. Present therapist is
- 3.) That the cost of her medications be reimbursed.
- 4.) That the cost of a private phone line and answering machine be reimbursed.

asked for "protection" by the Archdiocese in its handling of this matter. She is afraid of much harassment by others if her name becomes public or if Fr. Etzel is aware that she is the complainant. She did give her permission for her name to be used internally.

Elizabeth C. Piasecki, PsyD.

Licensed Psychologist

#### AGREEMENT AND MUTUAL RELEASE

This Agreement and Mutual Release (hereafter "Agreement") is made by and between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and all of its affiliated entities, schools, and parishes (hereafter "Archdiocese").

has brought to the attention of the Archdiocese that she was sexually abused by George Etzel (hereafter "Etzel"), a priest of the Archdiocese, when was a minor.

and the Archdiocese entered into mediation to achieve reconciliation and restoration, to address issues of concern to both sides, to further prevent sexual abuse of minors and to enhance Church practices in this regard, and to otherwise resolve and settle all disputes between them.

Accordingly, the parties to this Agreement wish to resolve and satisfy all claims of any nature that has against the Archdiocese, and all of the Archdiocese's employees, agents, insurers, officers, directors, affiliates, and assigns, including, without limitation, all members of the Roman Catholic clergy and all parishes, schools, and any person or entity affiliated with the Archdiocese, and including without limitation any claims arising from the sexual abuse of by Etzel without the necessity of further proceedings or expense of any nature, and all parties wish to generally release one another from all liability for any claims that may exist to the date of the signing of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, any claims for sexual abuse of

So, in consideration of the mutual promises made here, and other valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties to this Agreement agree as follows:

- 1. The Archdiocese agrees to provide with \$50,000 for personal injury and emotional pain and suffering sustained as a result of the sexual abuse referenced in this Agreement. These funds shall be used at discretion.
- 2. The Archdiocese agrees to provide \$25,000 to assist with past therapy and other counseling she may seek. At request, this amount is being provided in a single payment. Understands that the Archdiocese considers this amount full and final payment for any therapy expenses may incur at any time in the future.
- 3. The Archdiocese agrees to pay for a one-week program at "The Farm," a facility for individuals abused by clergy. All arrangements for registration and scheduling are to be made with Amy Peterson of the Archdiocese.
- and the Archdiocese will each bear their own costs and any attorney's fees associated with the settlement, and there will be no payment to other than that specifically enumerated in these paragraphs.
- 5. In return for the payments set out above, and for the mutual promises contained herein, releases and forever discharges the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and all of the Archdiocese's employees, agents, insurers, officers, directors, affiliates, and assigns, including, without limitation, all members of the Roman Catholic clergy, and all parishes, schools, and religious orders and any person or entity affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church in the territory of the

1

Archdiocese of Milwaukee from, and covenants not to suc them for, all claims, causes of action, charges, and demands, whether in tort, contract, or otherwise, of any nature that she may have had at any time up to and including the date of signing of this Agreement, including, without limitation, any claim of any nature arising from the assault, injury, whether physical or mental, or any other activity by Etzel.

- 6. The Archdiocese hereby releases and forever discharges from all claims, demands, and causes of action of any nature that were in existence up to and including the date of the signing of this Agreement.
- 7. This Agreement supersedes all prior understandings and agreements between the parties, and constitutes the full agreement of the parties. No change to this Agreement shall be enforced against any party unless it is in writing signed by both parties.
- 8. The undersigned represent and warrant that each has read the foregoing Agreement; had an opportunity to discuss it with a lawyer; and fully understands its terms; voluntarily, freely, and without coercion signs the Agreement; and that Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack is an authorized representative of the Archdiocese and is duly authorized to execute this Agreement and Mutual Release.

Archdiocese of Milwaukee Date

by: Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack

#### AGREEMENT AND MUTUAL RELEASE

1

This Agreement and Mutual Release (hereafter "Agreement") is made by and between (hereafter "hereafter"), and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and all of its affiliated entities, schools, and parishes (hereafter "Archdiocese").

has brought to the attention of the Archdiocese that she was sexually abused by George Etzel (hereafter "Etzel"), a priest of the Archdiocese, when was a minor.

and the Archdiocese entered into mediation to achieve reconciliation and restoration, to address issues of concern to both sides, to further prevent sexual abuse of minors and to enhance Church practices in this regard, and to otherwise resolve and settle all disputes between them.

Accordingly, the parties to this Agreement wish to resolve and satisfy all claims of any nature that has against the Archdiocese, and all of the Archdiocese's employees, agents, insurers, officers, directors, affiliates, and assigns, including, without limitation, all members of the Roman Catholic clergy and all parishes, schools, and any person or entity affiliated with the Archdiocese, arising from the sexual abuse of by Etzel without the necessity of further proceedings or expense of any nature, and all parties wish to generally release one another from all liability for any claims that may exist to the date of the signing of this Agreement, including, but not limited to, any claims for sexual abuse of by Etzel.

So, in consideration of the mutual promises made here, and other valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties to this Agreement agree as follows:

1. The Archdiocese agrees to provide with \$40,000 for personal injury and emotional pain and suffering sustained as a result of the sexual abuse referenced in this Agreement. These funds shall be used at discretion.

. !

- 2. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee agrees to provide \$20,000 to assist with past therapy and other bills.
- 3. The Archdiocese agrees to provide payment for the professional services of a counselor, psychologist, psychiatrist and/or other mental health provider for and her spouse as deemed necessary and appropriate by such counselors. The Archdiocese shall make payments to the counselor for reasonable costs, billed at the counselor's usual and customary rate. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, the Archdiocese's therapy payments owed under this provision shall be based upon treatment plans submitted by the counselor twice yearly. This payment and reimbursement is limited to medication and therapy expenses relating to injuries suffered as a result of the sexual abuse of the sexual abus
- 4. The Archdiocese agrees to continue outreach and printed information about the availability of mediation and other support services. Proposed vehicles for such outreach and publicity could include but are not limited to the actions described in the Appendix to this Agreement.
- 4. and the Archdiocese will each bear their own costs and any attorney's fees associated with the settlement, and there will be no payment to them that specifically enumerated in these paragraphs.
- 5. In return for the payments set out above, and for the mutual promises contained herein, releases and forever discharges the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and all of the Archdiocese's employees, agents, insurers, officers, directors, affiliates, and assigns, including, without limitation, all members of the Roman Catholic

,į

clergy, and all parishes, schools, and religious orders and any person or entity affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church in the territory of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee from, and covenants not to sue them for, all claims, causes of action, charges, and demands, whether in tort, contract, or otherwise, of any nature that he may have had at any time up to and including the date of signing of this Agreement, including, without limitation, any claim of any nature arising from the assault, injury, whether physical or mental, or any other activity by Etzel.

6. The Archdiocese hereby releases and forever discharges

from all

claims, demands, and causes of action of any nature that were in existence up to and

including the date of the signing of this Agreement.

7. This Agreement supersedes all prior understandings and agreements

between the parties, and constitutes the full agreement of the parties. No change to this

Agreement shall be enforced against any party unless it is in writing signed by both parties.

8. The undersigned represent and warrant that each has read the foregoing

Agreement; had an opportunity to discuss it with a lawyer; and fully understands its terms;

voluntarily, freely, and without coercion signs the Agreement; and that Dr. Barbara Anne

Cusack is an authorized representative of the Archdiocese and is duly authorized to execute

this Agreement and Mutual Release.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

2.23.05

(rchdiocese of Milwaukee

by: Dr. Barbara Anne Cusack

Date

## CONFIDENTIAL

 $A \leq I$ 

Etzel, George , On Friday, June 28, 1991 the office received a copy of a letter which George wrote to the priest district, noting that although he has never made the "sick list" of clergy in the monthly CINCTURE, his own record includes some 34 hospitalizations (28 since 1981), ten surgeries, two pace-maker generator implants all resulting in his inability to accept invitations for socials or meals with priest colleagues.

RJS

.....V.T.G.,

On Wednesday, April 8, 1992 Archbishop Weakland gave me a letter he had received from concerning serious allegations of sexual mission duct by George while he was pastor of St. Martin's in Ashford. I called and spoke to her saying we would take these allegations seriously. We are scheduling a meeting during the week after Easter. I asked permission to use her name in discussing these issues with George. She gave permission, and I will see him on Sunday, April 12, 1992.

## 328. Etzel, George

On Wednesday, April 15, 1992 I visited George Etzel at Menomonee Falls Community Hospital where he was being treated for respiratory problems. He had been in for 6 days and hoped to be released the next day. I told George about the letter Archbishop Weakland had received on April 7, 1992 from tregarding allegations of inappropriate sexual behavior while she was a

during her early high school years. George admitted to giving her back rubs, but said he did not touch her indecently. George is no longer able to help in parishes, so I told him that he should not have any unsupervised contact with children under 18 years old. He began developing chest pains as we discussed this and I informed his nurse that I had to share some personal things with him which were upsetting. She checked his vital signs and saw they were elevated and put him back on oxygen. I asked if she could monitor his condition. George called me on April 17, 1992 to let me know he was home. I tried to assure him not to worry, but to definitely not have any unsupervised contact with minors. Pr. Liz Piasechi and I will be visiting on April 21, 1992 to respond to her request for a response from the Archdiocese within 30 days of her letter.

VTS

AOM SUPP 000087

## 351. Etzel, George

On Thesday, April 28, 1992 I talked to Mike Moran to inform him that we received some allegations regarding George and a minor child. This allegation stems from incidents more than 10 years ago. I told Mike I had informed George that I would ask Mike to be aware taht George is not to have unsupervised contact with minor children. George wanted to talk to Mike personally, and Mike will go to see him.

## CONFIDENTIAL

RTV

#### 378. Etzel, George

on Tuesday, May 12, 1992 Dr. called to inform me that George had come to see him regarding the allegations against him. George had made it sound rather minor. I read Dr. the letter from the woman making the allegations and it gave him a different picture. George will be visiting him again next week.

ምምህ

### Etzel, George

On Sunday, June 7, 1992 I met with George in Campbellsport regarding a letter I received from him on June 1, 1992 asking to meet with me to further discuss the allegations against him. George wanted to know if there was more he could do by communicating with the person who brought the allegations. There is nothing more appropriate at this time without her initiative. George has seen Dr. four times and has another appointment. He feels this will be sufficient. I told him to have a mutual agreement on this with Dr. He says he is doing better in handling this matter.

VTQ

## 451. Etzel, George

On June 30, 1992 I received a letter from George Etzel indicating he had 5 sessions with and didn't feel it was helpful to continue. He also expressed concern regarding payment for these sessions. On July 1 I received a call from who made the allegations regarding George. She would like to meet with George. I told her that I would make arrangements. I want to contact and Matt Flynn for advice. She will be on vacation July 11-18.

### 476. Etzel, George

On July 10, 1992, I spoke with about George Etzel, who asked to discontinue his therapy. Dr. feels more would be appropriate, but understands how George feels. I told Dr. that the alleged victim would like to meet with George. Dr. said that he definitely would like to be present. He felt it was good therapy, but agreed we should first check with our legal counsel.

### 535. Etzel, George A.

On August 3, 1992 I met with George Etzel in the Parish Center at St. Matthew's Campbellsport. This meeting was requested by who alleges inappropriate behavior by George Etzel during her teen years. 🖿 brought a friend as a support person, Dr. had hoped to be present, but did not come. wanted to talk uninterruptly and the freedom to leave whenever she felt it was necessary. She had written out her remarks and was very serious in relating the anger and the hurt that she had experienced from the "ritual" George followed. This was detailed in her April 7, 1992 letter to the Archbishop. She spoke for about 45 minutes about her feelings and did say that she wasn't finished telling her story yet. George said he was sorry for any hurt he caused, but she left after his brief words. She has not threatened to sue nor asked for any monetary help with counseling.

AOM SUPP 000089

# CONFIDENTIAL

On October 23, 1992 I received a letter from alleged victim of George Etzel. She asked for our help in paying the portion of her counseling costs not covered by insurance. She said it was appropriate for the Church to do so. I sent the check for \$928.02 with a short letter approved by Matt Flynn.

RTV

501. George Etzel

On hugust 18, 1993 I met with Dr. Liz Plasecki who wanted to speak about the implications of a second allegation against George, noting similarity and the possibility of a pattern as well as repeated phone calls from George to the person during the month of December, 1992. Liz indicated that she had spoken with Attorney Matt Flynn and



RJS

561. George Etzel

On September 17, 1993 I spoke with Liz Piasecki, in the absence of Tom Venne, and received the proposed settlement of approximately \$12 to \$15,000.00.

RJS

I cord decree that she

849. Etzel, George

On September 17, 1993 I met with George Etzel. I shared with him the allegations made to Liz Piasecki by regarding inappropriate behavior by George.

especially asked for him to stop calling her or writing. I told George that Liz Plasecki would call him to discuss the allegations further and I would help him in any way I can.

VTS

884. Etzel, George
On September 27, 1993 I called George Etzel to inform him that
Dr. Piasecki was not able to reach him and would be on vacation
this week. I told him she would call him next week.

RTV

On October 27, 1993 the Review Board members reviewed the materials submitted by for It was noted that the number of sessions remain to be clarified, as well as the existence of other coverage and additional more precise information must be requested by Dr. Piasecki in order to determine the actual number of sessions which Dr. Piasecki would authorize at this time. It was noted that \$12,000.00 seemed an excessive projected treatment fee for post-trauma distress syndrome, and therefore more precise information was required.

AOM SUPP 000090

RJS

On November 4, 1993 I learned that had withdrawn her request for any financial compensation as a result of allegations raised shortly after the first of the year.

CONFIDENTIAL 249.

Etzel, George
On June 1, 1995, Mike Moran called relative to the letter George
Etzel received from the Archbishop. Mike said George has Masses
publicly scheduled at his home in the St. Matthew Parish bulletin
for the next 8 days. It seemed reasonable to allow Fr. Etzel to
offer the Masses that have been printed.

CCS

261. Etzel, George

On June 13, 1995, I received a very difficult letter from George Etzel about the restrictions he received. He has an appointment with the Archbishop on June 28th. He is asking for an earlier appointment and pleaded with me for an earlier opportunity to see the Archbishop.

CCS

116. Etzel, George

On April 19, 1996 I went to Campbellsport to talk to George Etzel to review his restrictions relative to having elementary children in his home for reconciliation. I also talked to Ed Kornath and shared with him our expectations.

CCS

394. George Etzel

On April 19, 1996 I met with Carrol Straub to review George's violations of his Canonical restrictions and to highlight issues which Carrol promised to raise in a meeting with George later that same afternoon. I also asked Carrol to make sure that Fr. Ed Kornath knew of their restrictions and their reasons so that adequate supervision would be in place.

RJS

168. Etzel, George

On June 17, 1996 Nicholas Goebel called to ask permission for George Etzel to help out Sundays at the Convent in Campbellsport. After discussion with Bishop Sklba, it was decided that it wasn't a good idea since it gives mixed messages to the folks in Campbellsport and the people in this building.

CCS

664. George Etzel

On June 18, 1996 in response to a request from Fr. Nick Goebel through Carrol Straub that permission be given to Fr. George Etzel to celebrate a weekend Mass for the Sisters of the Campbellsport Retirement Community, I declined on the basis of too many confusing changes in his status and ministerial restrictions over the past year. My concern was to avoid the impression of waffling on our part, or lack of concern for George's apparent inability to understand the seriousness of earlier issues.

RJS

AOM SUPP 000091