

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

February 9, 2000

Dear Father Curran,

In light of my past visits to you and in consultation with Fr. Larry McBrady who keeps me apprised of your condition, I believe now is the appropriate time for you to officially retire from active ministry. Your retirement is effective immediately.

I take this occasion to express my gratitude for all you have done through your forty-three years of service to the Archdiocese and for all you have done as dean and pastor of St. Christina Parish. The Church of Chicago is deeply appreciative of your faithful and devoted care of God's people.

John, I know this is a difficult time for you. You are in my prayers; please keep me in yours.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Francis Cardinal George O.M.I.".

Francis Cardinal George O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely of the Ecclesiastical Notary.

Ecclesiastical Notary

Reverend John W. Curran  
Resurrection Life Center  
7370 W Talcott  
Chicago, IL 60631

cc: Most Reverend Raymond E. Goedert, Vicar General  
Reverend R. Peter Bowman, Moderator of the Curia  
Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki, Chancellor  
✓ Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, Vicar for Priests  
Most Reverend Timothy J. Lyne, Vicar for Senior Priests  
Reverend Martin O'Donovan, Pastor  
Diocesan Priests' Placement Board  
Mr. Alex Becker, PRMAA

AOC 001936

# ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

June 4, 1996

COPY

Dear Norb:

Despite the fact that I have not recently seen you, I have been thinking and praying about your situation. The Vicars for Priests have kept me informed about your situation along the way. I know that Father O'Malley recently visited you and shared with you what my intentions are with regard to your priesthood. Let me reiterate how I am approaching this matter.

Because of the requirements of canon law, I had to consider whether a "canonical penalty" should be imposed in your situation. Considering the circumstances of your case as they are known to me, I have decided that I will not seek your dismissal from the clerical state. Father O'Malley, I am informed, told you that verbally. I do not judge that justice and equity would be served by so severe a sanction. You have suffered enough by your present deprivation of ministry and your incarceration.

On the other hand, because of your conviction and imprisonment, I cannot guarantee any public ministry for you in the future. Although I cannot speak for any future Archbishop who will someday succeed me, you should expect that any decision regarding future ministry will have to be made in accord with canon law and Archdiocesan policies and procedures, in consultation with the Professional Fitness Review Board. Apart from the question of any ministerial assignment, it is my hope that as a priest you would focus on being dedicated to a fervent life of prayer, nourished by attention to deepening your own priestly spirituality.

Norb, I hope this information helps you focus on your future in as constructive a way as possible. If you have any questions about it, please discuss it with one of the Vicars.

Please be assured of my continued prayers on your behalf.

With cordial good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Joseph Card. Bernardin*  
Archbishop of Chicago

Reverend Norbert Maday  
278632 Columbia Correctional Facility  
P.O. Box 900  
Portage, WI 53901

cc: Reverend Patrick J. O'Malley  
Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin  
Office of the Vicar for Priests  
bc: Joseph Cardinal Bernardin  
Rev. Patrick R. Lagges, Ad hoc  
Promoter of Justice  
Mr. John C. O'Malley, Director  
Office for Legal Services

*P.S. Many thanks for your  
Memorial Weekend letter.  
You continue to be in my  
prayers. When you next speak  
to your mother, please give her  
my regards.  
Joseph*

AOC 001343

Office of Professional Responsibility

676 N. St. Clair, Suite 1910

Chicago, IL 60610 an original document from the files of

(312) 751-5205

INDIVIDUAL SPECIFIC PROTOCOLS

For

Rev. William O'Brien

COPY

VICAR FOR PRIESTS OFFICE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

This is a red ink stamp!

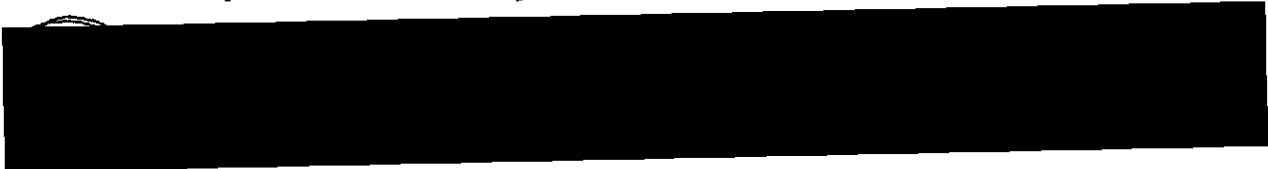
DO NOT COPY

The Individual Specific Protocols (ISP) implement the primary goal of promoting the safety of minors. Additionally, the ISP protects the integrity of the Church and serves as a safeguard for individual priest or deacon. As long as the cleric is a client of the Office of Professional Responsibility, he will be subject to appropriate protocols, restrictions and monitoring under the authority of the Vicar for Priests and supervised by the Professional Responsibility Administrator (PRA). The agreement of a priest or deacon to abide by these protocols is not understood to prove the truth of any allegation and is not intended to be an admission of guilt for any delict or crime, whether in Canon Law, or State and Federal Law. This agreement represents the cooperation of the cleric with his bishop as he exercises his pastoral office (e.g., Canons 369 and 392).

This ISP for Rev. William O'Brien is as follows (PRA to initial all that apply):

1. The client is restricted from being alone with a minor or minors, that is anyone under the age of 18, without the presence of another responsible adult.

2.



3.  Continued regular Spiritual Direction with the suggested frequency of \_\_\_ times per week/month (please circle one) as recommended by \_\_\_\_\_ (name of spiritual director). Attendance to Spiritual Direction is to be reflected on "Clergy Daily Log" forms.

4.  The "Clergy Daily Log" to be completed on a daily basis and co-signed by the monitor. The log is a tool that is used for the protection of minors, the cleric, the monitor and the Archdiocese. Although it identifies time periods, it is intended to provide a general record of the day rather than a detailed clock. If you are describing an off-site activity, please include your destination and the general purpose of the visit or activity. For example, it is enough to indicate that you did personal shopping at a given Shopping Center rather than the details of each individual store. However, if your self-description is challenged or a complaint is lodged with the Archdiocese, some documentation and verification may be necessary to sufficiently address the situation.

5.  Abide by the assignment of residence to Cardinal Stritch Retreat House



Date: July 14, 1994

To: Steve Sidlowski

From: Bernadette Connolly *bc*

Re: Kenneth Ruge- Revisions/Recommendations of Current Protocol

If the Review Board finds reasonable cause of the alleged allegation of Rev. Kenneth Ruge, I would recommend the following changes to his current protocol:

1. Resident is required to call in every four hours.
2. Resident currently works at Catholic Charities and spends a great deal of his day under no supervision. It is suggested that a daily schedule be provided to the Executive Director from his/her supervisor to verify his whereabouts and confirm his attendance.
3. Resident spends every weekend in Elmhurst with his brother-in-law [REDACTED] is very much aware of Residents current situation. It is recommended that Resident spend one overnight in Elmhurst per week.
4. Resident should continue participating in [REDACTED] support group meetings.
5. Resident should be allowed to take vacations but only with an approved companion.
6. Resident has complied to every restriction in his current protocol. Resident has no living family members. He spends most of his time in Elmhurst with [REDACTED] also has a twenty two year old daughter. Resident is very close to this family. It is imperative to Resident mental health to continue his relationship with this family. The amount of time spent in Elmhurst should be discussed with the Resident to determine his needs.