

Internal Revenue Service  
District Director

Department of the Treasury

P. O. Box 2508  
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Date: July 1, 2007

Person to Contact:  
James Blair  
ID # 31-97578  
Telephone Number:  
877-829-5500  
FAX Number:  
513-263-4330

Ms. Doidro Dessingue  
Associate General Counsel  
United States Conference  
of Catholic Bishops  
3211 4<sup>th</sup> Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20017-1194

Dear Ms. Dessingue:

In a ruling dated March 25, 1946, we held that the agencies and instrumentalities and all educational, charitable and religious institutions operated, supervised, or controlled by or in connection with the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, its territories or possessions appearing in *The Official Catholic Directory* 1946, are entitled to exemption from federal income tax under the provisions of section 101(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1939, which corresponds to section 501(c)(3) of the 1986 Code. This ruling has been updated annually to cover the activities added to or deleted from the Directory.

*The Official Catholic Directory* for 2007 shows the names and addresses of all agencies and instrumentalities and all educational, charitable, and religious institutions operated by the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, its territories and possessions in existence at the time the Directory was published. It is understood that each of these is a non-profit organization, that no part of the net earnings thereof inures to the benefit of any individual, that no substantial part of their activities is for promotion of legislation, and that none are private foundations under section 509(a) of the Code.

Based on all information submitted, we conclude that the agencies and instrumentalities and educational, charitable, and religious institutions operated, supervised, or controlled by or in connection with the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, its territories or possessions appearing in *The Official Catholic Directory* for 2007 are exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

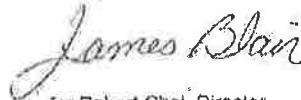
Donors may deduct contributions to the agencies, instrumentalities and institutions referred to above, as provided by section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers or gifts to them or for their use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes under sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.

Beginning January 1, 1984, unless specifically excepted, you and your subordinates must pay tax under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (Social Security taxes) for each employee who is paid \$100 or more in a calendar year, as indexed for inflation. You and your subordinates are not liable for the tax under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

By May 31, 2008, please send three (3) copies of *The Official Catholic Directory* for 2008 to IRS TE/GE in Cincinnati; one copy to the Processing Campus in Ogden; two copies each to the EO Area Managers in Newark, Brooklyn, Chicago, St. Paul, Atlanta, Los Angeles, the IRS National Headquarters and the Director, EO Examinations, Dallas.

The conditions concerning the retention of your group exemption as set forth in our previous determination letter of August 17, 1983, remain in full force and effect.

Sincerely,



for Robert Choi, Director,  
Exempt Organizations Rulings & Agreements

LK000109

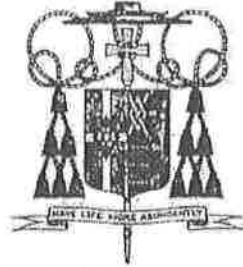
# Diocese of Winona

(Diocesis Vinonaensis)

Most Reverend

BERNARD J. HARRINGTON, D.D.

Bishop of Winona; ordained June 5, 1959; appointed Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Detroit and Titular Bishop of Uzal November 23, 1993; transferred to Winona November 5, 1998; installed January 6, 1999.



Most Reverend

LORAS J. WATTERS, D.D.

Retired Bishop of Winona; ordained June 7, 1941; appointed Titular Bishop of Fidolema and Auxiliary Bishop of Dubuque June 23, 1965; consecrated August 26, 1965; transferred to Winona January 3, 1969; retired October 14, 1988; appointed Apostolic Administrator October 14, 1988. *Res.: Callista Court #163, 1455 W. Broadway, Winona, MN 55987. Tel: 507-457-3869.*

ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER 26, 1889.

Square Miles 12,282.

Comprises the Counties of Winona, Wabasha, Olmsted, Dodge, Steele, Waseon, Blue Earth, Watonwan, Cottonwood, Murray, Pipestone, Rock, Nobles, Jackson, Faribault, Martin, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore and Houston in the State of Minnesota.

For legal titles of parishes and diocesan institutions, consult the Pastoral Center.

Pastoral Center: 55 W. Sanborn St., P.O. Box 588, Winona, MN 55987. Tel: 507-454-4643; Fax: 507-454-8106.

Web: [www.dow.org](http://www.dow.org)

Email: [diocese@dow.org](mailto:diocese@dow.org)

## STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

<b>Personnel</b>					
Bishop	1				
Retired Bishops	1				
Retired Abbots	1				
Priests: Diocesan Active in Diocese	62				
Priests: Diocesan Active Outside Diocese	3				
Priests: Retired, Sick or Absent	49				
Number of Diocesan Priests	113				
Religious Priests in Diocese	8				
Total Priests in Diocese	121				
Extra Priests in Diocese	6				
<b>Ordinations:</b>					
Diocesan Priests	2				
Permanent Deacons in Diocese	20				
Total Brothers	19				
Total Sisters	387				
<b>Parishes</b>					
Parishes	115				
<b>With Resident Pastor:</b>					
Resident Diocesan Priests	61				
Resident Religious Priests	1				
<b>Without Resident Pastor:</b>					
Administered by Priests	56				
Administered by Lay People	7				
Pastoral Centers	2				
Professional Ministry Personnel:					
Lay Ministers	71				
<b>Welfare</b>					
Catholic Hospitals	2				
Total Assisted	87,900				
Health Care Centers	1				
Total Assisted	6,200				
Homes for the Aged	11				
Total Assisted	793				
Day Care Centers	3				
Total Assisted	10,678				
Special Centers for Social Services	7				
Total Assisted	5,833				
Other Institutions	1				
Total Assisted	122				
<b>Educational</b>					
Seminaries, Diocesan	1				
Students from This Diocese	9				
Students from Other Diocese	40				
Diocesan Students in Other Seminaries	8				
Total Seminarians	17				
Colleges and Universities	1				
Total Students	1,292				
High Schools, Diocesan and Parish	4				
Total Students	1,148				
Elementary Schools, Diocesan and Parish	21				
Total Students	4,382				
<b>Catechesis/Religious Education:</b>					
High School Students	4,580				
Elementary Students	8,435				
Total Students under Catholic Instruction	19,854				
<b>Teachers in the Diocese:</b>					
Priests	3				
Sisters	5				
Lay Teachers	399				
<b>Vital Statistics</b>					
<b>Receptions into the Church:</b>					
Infant Baptism Totals	1,682				
Adult Baptisms Totals	51				
Received into Full Communion	217				
First Communions	1,500				
Confirmations	1,530				
<b>Marriages:</b>					
Catholic	278				
Interfaith	236				
Total Marriages	514				
Deaths	982				
Total Catholic Population	131,280				
Total Population	570,488				

**Former Bishops**—Rt. Revs. JOSEPH B. COTTER, D.D., cons. Dec. 27, 1889; died June 28, 1909; PATRICK R. HEFFRON, D.D., cons. May 19, 1910; died Nov. 23, 1927; Most Revs. FRANCIS M. KELLY, D.D., cons. June 9, 1928; transferred to Diocese of Winona, Feb. 10, 1928; transferred to Titular See of Nasal, Oct. 17, 1949; died June 24, 1950; EDWARD A. FITZGERALD, D.D., cons. Sept. 12, 1946; Auxiliary Bishop of Dubuque; transferred to Winona, Oct. 20, 1949; retired and transferred to the Titular See of Zerta, Jan. 8, 1969; died March 30, 1972; LORAS J. WATTERS, D.D. (Retired), ord. June 7, 1941; appt. Titular Bishop of Fidolema and Auxiliary Bishop of Dubuque, June 23, 1965; cons. Aug. 29, 1965; transferred to Winona, Jan. 8, 1969; retired Oct. 14, 1988; appt. Apostolic Administrator, Oct. 14, 1988; JOHN G. VLADY, D.D., ord. Dec. 20, 1961; appt. Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago and Titular Bishop of Stagnos, Oct. 31, 1983; cons. Dec. 13, 1983; appt. Bishop of Winona, May 19, 1987; installed July 29, 1987; appt. Archbishop of Portland, Oct. 28, 1997.

**Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia**—Very Rev. MICHAEL J. HOEPPNER, J.C.L., V.G., 55 W. Sanborn St., P.O. Box 588, Winona, 55987. Tel: 507-454-4643; Fax: 507-454-8106.

**Chancellor**—Mrs. P. J. THOMPSON, 55 W. Sanborn St.,

P.O. Box 588, Winona, 55987. Tel: 507-454-4643; Fax: 507-454-8106.

**Deans**—Very Revs. JOHN M. SAUER, Winona; TIMOTHY T. REIKER, S.T.L., Rochester; DALE E. TUPPER, Austin-Albert Lea; JOHN M. KUNZ, Mankato; GERALD C. KOSS, Worthington.

**Diocesan Consultants**—Rev. Msgr. DONALD P. SCHMITZ, M.Ch.A.; Revs. JOSEPH L. KEEFE; ROBERT G. MEYER; RICHARD M. COLLETTI; THOMAS J. HARGESHEIMER; WILLIAM M. BECKER, S.T.D.

**Finance Council**—Very Rev. MICHAEL J. HOEPPNER, J.C.L., V.G.; Rev. JOHN OZBUN; Mr. LAWRENCE J. DOSE, Dir. & Exec. Sec.; Sr. JEAN KENNY, C.S.F.; Mr. JAMES ANDERSON; Mr. JAMES WISKAMP; Ms. MARGARET V. MICHALETZ; Mr. ROBERT WOODEN.

**Diocesan Board of Administration**—(Civil Corporation): Most Rev. BERNARD J. HARRINGTON, D.D., Pres.; Very Rev. MICHAEL J. HOEPPNER, J.C.L., V.G., Vice Pres.; Mrs. P. J. THOMPSON; Mr. ROBERT HODDECHEK; Mrs. SHARON WAGNER.

**Deposit and Loan Board**—Very Rev. MICHAEL J. HOEPPNER, J.C.L., V.G., Vice Pres.; Mr. LAWRENCE DOSE, Treas.; Rev. Msgr. DONALD W. GRUBISCH; Ms. CAROL OROLEWSKI; Mr. MICHAEL KIEFFER; Mr. MICHAEL SPELTZ.

**Tribunal**—55 W. Sanborn St., P.O. Box 588, Winona,

55987. Tel: 507-454-4643.

**Judicial Officers**—Very Rev. R. PAUL HEITING, J.C.L., Vicar Judicial Judge; Mr. LAWRENCE G. PRICE, J.D., J.C.L., Dir.

**Censors of Books and Periodicals**—Rev. WILLIAM M. BECKER, S.T.D.; Very Revs. JOHN M. SAUER; TIMOTHY T. REIKER, S.T.L.; Revs. ANDREW J. BEERMAN, S.T.L.; ROBERT S. HORIHAN, S.T.L.

**Associate Judges**—Revs. WILLIAM KUHAS, J.C.L.; DAVID WECHTER, O.Cist., J.C.L.; Very Rev. MICHAEL J. HOEPPNER, J.C.L., V.G.; Mr. LAWRENCE G. PRICE, J.D., J.C.L.

**Defenders of the Bond**—Rev. Msgr. DONALD P. SCHMITZ, M.Ch.A.; Sr. VICTORIA VONDSBERGER, R.S.M., J.C.L.; Mr. TIMOTHY FERGUSON, J.C.L.

**Advocates**—Very Rev. GERALD C. KOESE; Rev. MARTIN T. SCHAEFFER; Mr. THOMAS HEALY, J.D.; Mr. TIMOTHY FERGUSON, J.C.L.; Sr. RITA MAIHE SCHNEIDER, S.S.N.D.

**Second Instance Court**—Archdiocesan Tribunal of St. Paul/Minneapolis

**Promoter of Justice**—Rev. Msgr. DONALD P. SCHMITZ, M.Ch.A.

**Assessors**—Mr. WILLIAM L. DANIEL, J.C.L. (Cand.); Mr. THOMAS SZYSKIEWICZ.

**Ecclesiastical Notaries**—Ms. PAULA WATEMBACH; Mrs. JULIE WRIGHT.

LK000110

- Res.: 412 Main St., P.O. Box 352, 56909-9998. Tel: 507-582-3321; Fax: 507-582-1033.  
*School*—Tel: 507-582-3120. Mr. Shawn Kennedy, Prin. Lay Teachers 7; Students 136.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-582-3321. Students 66.  
*Convent*—Tel: 507-582-3304.
- ADRIAN, NOBLES CO., ST. ADRIAN (1877)** [CEM] Very Rev. Gerald C. Kossa.  
 Res.: 512 Maine Ave., P.O. Box 475, 56110-0475. Tel: 507-483-2317; Fax: 507-483-2460. Email: stadrian@frontiernet.net. Web: www.frontiernet.net-stadrian.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—108 E. Sixth St., 56110. Tel: 507-483-2480; Fax: 507-483-2480. Students 151.
- ALBERT LEA, FREEBORN CO., ST. THEODORE (1882)** [CEM] Rev. James C. Buringo; Deacon Michael Ellis.  
 Mailing Address: 308 E. Fountain St., 56007-2456. Tel: 507-373-0603; Fax: 507-373-0604. Web: www.sttheo.org.  
 Res.: 315 E. Clark St., 56007-2456.  
*Parish Center & School*—823 E. Clark St., 56007. Tel: 507-373-9667; Fax: 507-373-9667. See listings under Centralized Catholic Schools.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-373-2987; Fax: 507-373-9667. Students 516.
- ALTURA, WINONA CO., ST. ANTHONY'S (1919)** [JC] Attended by St. Rose of Lima. Rev. Marreddy Pochireddy.  
 180 S. Fremont, Lewiston, 56952-0727. Tel: 507-796-6271; Fax: 507-523-2428 (Rectory).  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 189.
- AUSTIN, MOWER CO.**  
 1—**ST. AUGUSTINE'S (1857)** [JC] Attended by St. Edward, Austin. Rev. Joseph B. Fogal; Deacon John Kluczyk.  
 Mailing Address: 2000 Oakland Ave. W., 55912-1599. Tel: 507-433-1841; Fax: 507-433-9680.  
 Church: 406 Fourth St. N.W., 55912-3091. Tel: 507-437-4537; Fax: 507-437-4537.  
 See Austin Catholic Elementary School, under Centralized Catholic Schools located in the Institution section.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-437-3250. Austin Tri-Parish Students 300.
- 2—**ST. EDWARD'S (1960)** [JC] Rev. Joseph B. Fogal; Deacon John Kluczyk; Sr. Lorraine Loecher, Pastoral Assoc. In Res., Rev. Richard P. Loomis (Retired). Res.: 2000 Oakland Ave. W., 55912-1599. Tel: 507-433-1841; Fax: 507-433-9680.  
 See Austin Catholic Elementary School, under Centralized Catholic Schools located in the Institution section.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-437-3250. Austin Tri-Parish Students 300.
- 3—**QUEEN OF ANGELS (1938)** [JC] Very Rev. Dale E. Tipper.  
 Res.: 1001 Oakland Ave. E., 55912-3896. Tel: 507-433-1888; Fax: 507-433-1889. Email: qofaparish@chartermi.net. Web: www.austincatholic.org.  
 See Austin Catholic Elementary School, under Centralized Catholic Schools located in the Institution section.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—311 4th St. N.W., 55912. Tel: 507-437-3250. Austin Tri-Parish Students 300.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program—Spanish Catechesis*, Tel: 507-433-8474. Total Enrollment 40.  
*Queens of Angels Hermitage*—1009 E. Oakland Ave., 55912. Tel: 507-437-4015. Rev. Jon H. Moore.
- BLOOMING PRAIRIE, STEELE CO., ST. COLUMBANUS (1878)** [CEM] Rev. Richard J. Dernek.  
 Res.: 114 E. Main, 55917-1427. Tel: 507-583-2529; Fax: 507-583-2784; Fax: 507-583-7738.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-583-2784; Fax: 507-583-7738. Students 101.
- BLUE EARTH, FARIBAULT CO., SS. PETER AND PAUL'S (1866)** [CEM] Rev. Mark C. McNea.  
 Res.: 214 S. Holland, 56013-1331. Tel: 507-526-5626.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-526-2816. Students 209.
- BREWSTER, NOBLES CO., SACRED HEART (1901)** [CEM] Attended by St. Francis Xavier, Windom. Rev. Andrew D. Olesem.  
 649 17th St., Windom, 56101-1217. Tel: 507-831-3300. Fax: 507-831-3300. Email: sacrdh@centurytel.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—P.O. Box 187, 56119. Tel: 507-842-5584; Fax: 507-842-5523. Loretta Smith, D.R.E. Students 48.
- BROWSDALE, MOWER CO., OUR LADY OF LORETTO (1946)** Attended by Queen of Angels, Austin. Very Rev. Dale E. Tipper.  
 1001 Oakland Ave. E., Austin, 55912-1599. Tel: 507-433-1888; Fax: 507-433-1889. Email: qofaparish@chartermi.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-587-2456. Students 29.
- BROWNSVILLE, HOUSTON CO., ST. PATRICK'S (1871)** [CEM] [JC] Attended by St. Mary, Caledonia. Rev. Gregory P. Leif.  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 406, Caledonia, 56921-0406. Tel: 507-726-3804. Email: stpatrick@acegroup.co.  
 Church: 604 Adams, 56919. Tel: 507-482-0818; Fax: 507-482-0818.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—P.O. Box 166, 56919. Tel: 507-482-6769. Students 40.
- BYRON, OLMSTED CO., CHRIST THE KING (1866)** Rev. Paul Suprenant; Deacon Brian Krebs.  
 Res.: 202 Fourth St., N.W., P.O. Box 1000, 56920-1000. Tel: 507-775-6456; Fax: 507-775-6473. Email: ckhfc@cmntel.com.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-775-0501. Students 268.
- CALEDONIA, HOUSTON CO., ST. MARY (1975)** [CEM] Rev. Gregory P. Leif.  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 406, 56921-0406. Email: stmary1@acegroup.co. Web: www.churchofstmary.net.  
 Office: 463 S. Pine St., 56921.  
 Res.: 513 S. Pine St., 56921-0406. Tel: 507-726-3804.  
*School*—(Grades K-8) Tel: 507-726-3366. Mrs. Gail Trocinski, Prin. Priests 1; Lay Teachers 18; Students 181.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 196.  
*Convent*—308 E. South, 55921.
- CANTON, FILLMORE CO., THE ASSUMPTION (1891)** [CEM] [JC] Attended by Nativity of B.V.M. Rev. Msgr. Donald P. Schmitz.  
 646 First Ave., S.W., Harmony, 55939-0596. Tel: 507-886-2393; Fax: 507-886-2394.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—(Students attend Rel. Educ. programs at Nativity, Harmony or St. Olaf, Mabel). Total Enrollment 20.
- CHATFIELD, FILLMORE CO., ST. MARY'S (1860)** [CEM] 2) Rev. Russell G. Scopanzik.  
 405 Twiford St., S.W., 55923. Tel: 507-867-3148; Fax: 507-867-0073.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-867-3188. Students 150.
- CLAREMONT, DODGE CO., ST. FRANCIS DE SALES (1869)** [CEM] [JC] Attended by St. John Baptist de La Salle, Dodge Center. Very Rev. Kurt Farrell.  
 20 Second St., N.E., P.O. Box 810, Dodge Center, 55927-0810. Tel: 507-374-6830; Fax: 612-605-4315. Email: tritonparishes@frontiernet.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—P.O. Box 117, West Concord, 55985. Tel: 507-527-2384. Students 27.
- CURRIE, MURRAY CO., IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY (1888)** Attended by St. Gabriel, Fulda. Rev. Robert S. Horihan.  
 Mailing Address: 307 W. Lake Ave., Fulda, 56131. Tel: 507-425-2368. Email: stgab2369@centurytel.net. Church: 510 Mill St., 56123.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 107.
- DAKOTA, WINONA CO., HOLY CROSS (1890)** Attended by Crucifixion Church, La Crescent. Rev. Msgr. Donald W. Grubisch; Deacon Gerald Trocinski.  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 387, 56925. Email: cruxch@acegroup.co.  
 Res.: 407 S. 2nd St., La Crescent, 55947-1326. Church: 820 River St., P.O. Box 387, 56925. Tel: 507-895-4720; Fax: 507-895-6880.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-452-7261. Students 24.
- DEERFIELD, STEELE CO., CORPUS CHRISTI (1868)** Attended by Christ the King, Medford. Ms. Amy Hellevik, Parish Dir.  
 205 N.W. Second Ave., P.O. Box 120, Medford, 56049-0120. Tel: 507-451-6353; Fax: 507-451-6353. Email: chrintheking@myclearwavo.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-451-8898. Students 23.
- DELAVAN, FARIBAULT CO., MATER DOLOROSA (1889)** Closed. For inquiries for parish records contact the chancery.
- DODGE CENTER, DODGE CO., ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE (1945)** Very Rev. Kurt Farrell.  
 Res.: 20 Second St., N.E., P.O. Box 810, 55927-0810. Tel: 507-374-6830; Fax: 612-605-4315. Email: tritonparishes@frontiernet.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-374-6765; Fax: 507-527-2384; Fax: 612-605-4315. Students 55.
- DUNDUE, NOBLES CO., ST. MARY**, Closed. For inquiries for parish records contact the chancery.
- EAST CHAIN, MARSH CO., HOLY FAMILY (1897)** [CEM] [JC] Attended by St. John Vianney, Fairmont. Rev. Kevin Connolly; Deacon Edwin C. Bonnarena.  
 Res.: 901 S. Prairie Ave., Fairmont, 56031-3098. Tel: 507-235-5555; Fax: 507-235-5539. Email: sjv@charterinternet.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-773-4491. Students 40.
- EASTON, FARIBAULT CO., OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL (1886)** [CEM] Attended by S. Casimir, Wells. Rev. Eugene F. Stenzel; Deacon Eugene Paul.  
 Res.: 320 2nd Ave., S.W., Wells, 56097-1399. Tel: 507-553-5991. Email: olmc@bevcmm.net.
- Church: 27 Main St., 56025.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 80.
- ELBA, WINONA CO., ST. ALOYSIUS (1877)** [CEM] Attended by St. Charles Borromeo, St. Charles. Rev. James F. Callahan.  
 736 Church Ave., St. Charles, 56972-1426. Tel: 507-932-3294; Fax: 507-932-3393. Email: borromeo@hbhsc.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Attending St. Charles Borromeo program, Tel: 507-932-3303. Students 80.
- ELLENDALE, FREEBORN CO., ST. AIDAN (1857)** [CEM] Attended by All Saints, New Richland. Rev. Thien Van Nguyen.  
 Mailing Address: 307 SW First St., P.O. Box 185, New Richland, 56072-0185. Tel: 507-465-8217. Email: ashulletin@earthlink.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-684-2245. Students 82.
- ELLSWORTH, NOBLES CO., ST. MARY'S (1865)** [CEM] Attended by St. Catherine, Luverne. Rev. Thomas J. Jennings.  
 203 E. Brown St., Luverne, 56156-1599. Tel: 507-283-8502; Fax: 507-283-3638. Email: statherine@wnet.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-283-8071; Fax: 507-449-3638. Students 14.
- EVOTA, OLMSTED CO., HOLY REDHEIMER (1891)** Attended by St. Charles Borromeo, St. Charles. Rev. James F. Callahan.  
 Mailing Address: 736 Church Ave., St. Charles, 56972-1426, 761 Whitewater Ave., St. Charles, 55972-1426. Tel: 507-952-3394; Fax: 507-932-3393. Email: borromeo@frontiernet.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-545-3161; Fax: 507-545-2161. Students 167.
- FAIRMONT, MARTIN CO., ST. JOHN VIANNEY (1952)** [CEM] Rev. Kevin Connolly; Deacon Edwin C. Bonnarena.  
 Parish Office—901 S. Prairie Ave., 56031-3023. Tel: 507-235-5535; Fax: 507-235-5536. Email: sjv@charterinternet.net.  
*School*—(Grades PreK-8), 911 S. Prairie Ave., 56031. Tel: 507-235-5304; Fax: 507-235-9088. Email: joan@charterinternet.net. Joan Schaffer, Prin. Priests 1; Lay Teachers 11; Students 145.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-235-5539; Fax: 507-235-5536. Students 243.
- FOUNTAIN, FILLMORE CO., ST. LAWRENCE O'TOOLE (1872)** Closed. For inquiries for parish records contact the chancery.
- FULDA, MURRAY CO., ST. GABRIEL'S (1882)** [CEM] Rev. Robert S. Horihan.  
 Church: 307 W. Lake Ave., 56131-9402. Tel: 507-425-2595; Fax: 507-425-2369 (Office). Email: stgab2369@centurytel.net (Office).  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-425-2369. Students 177.
- GENEVA, FREEBORN CO., ST. MARY (1867)** [CEM] Attended by All Saints, New Richland. Rev. Thien Van Nguyen.  
 307 1st St., S.W., P.O. Box 185, New Richland, 56072-0185. Tel: 507-465-8217; Fax: 507-465-8381.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-583-7630. Students 43.
- GOOD THUNDER, BLUE EARTH CO., ST. JOSEPH (1879)** [CEM] Attended by St. Teresa, Mapleton. Mr. Thomas Johnson, Parish Dir.  
 104 Silver St. W., P.O. Box 305, Mapleton, 56065. Tel: 507-524-8127; Fax: 507-524-4423. Email: sjms@hickorytech.net.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-278-8444. Students 56.
- GRAND MEADOW, MOWER CO., ST. FINBARR'S (1878)** [CEM] Attended by St. Ignatius, Spring Valley. Rev. Steven J. Peterson; Sr. Lucille Hass, O.S.F., Pastoral Assoc.  
 213 W. Franklin St., Spring Valley, 55975-1312. Tel: 507-348-7655.  
 Church: 504 1st St., S.W., P.O. Box 325, 56961. Tel: 507-754-5190.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 89.
- GUCKEEN, FARIBAULT CO., OUR LADY OF MERCY (1902)** Closed. For inquiries for parish records contact the chancery.
- HAMMOND, WADASHA CO., ST. CLEMENT'S**, Closed. For inquiries for parish records contact SS. Peter and Paul, Mezepu.
- HARMONY, FILLMORE CO., THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN (1906)** Rev. Msgr. Donald P. Schmitz.  
 Res.: 640 First Ave., S.W., 55939-0596. Tel: 507-886-2393; Fax: 507-886-2394.  
*Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 48.
- HAYFIELD, DODGE CO., SACRED HEART (1955)** Attended by St. Columbanus, Blooming Prairie. Rev. Richard J. Dernek.  
 114 E. Main St., Blooming Prairie, 55917-1427. Tel: 507-583-2529; Fax: 507-583-7738. Email: stcolumbanus@frontiernet.net.  
 Church: 160 2nd St., N.E., 55940.

- Catechesis/Religious Program*—25 Higbie Ave., P.O. Box 158, 56068. Email: stjbr@bovcomm.net. Students 57.
- NEW RICHLAND, WASEGA CO., ALL SAINTS (1879) [CEM] Rev. Thien Van Nguyen. Res.: 307 1st St. S.W., P.O. Box 185, 56072-0185. Tel: 507-466-8217; Fax: 507-466-8381. Email: asbulletin@earthlink.net.
- Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 104.
- OAK RIDGE, WINONA CO., IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (1875) Closed. For inquiries about sacramental records contact Holy Trinity, Rollingstone.
- OWATONNA, STEELE CO.
- 1—ST. JOSEPH'S (1891) Rev. Edward F. McGrath, Parochial Admin.; Deacon Patrick Pagan. Res.: 512 S. Elm St., 56060-3999. Tel: 507-451-4845; Fax: 507-451-4651. Email: stjosephparishowatonna@charter.net. School—See listings under Centralized Catholic Schools.
- Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 411.
- 2—SACRED HEART (1866) [JC] Rev. Peter J. Klein; Deacon George Anderberg, Pastoral Assoc. Res.: 810 S. Cedar Ave., 56060-3297. Tel: 507-451-1688; Fax: 507-446-9979. School—Tel: 507-446-2300; Fax: 507-446-2304. See listings under Centralized Catholic Schools.
- Catechesis/Religious Program*—Marion Dr., 55060. Tel: 507-446-2302. Students 400.
- PIPESTONE, PIPESTONE CO., ST. LEO'S (1887) [CEM] Rev. Martin T. Schaefer. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 36, 56164-0036. Res.: 415 Hiawatha S., 56164-0036. Tel: 507-825-3152; Fax: 507-825-4492. Email: tripeshim@yahoo.com. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 235.
- PLAINVIEW, WABASHA CO., ST. JOACHIM'S (1858) [CEM] Rev. John W. Ozburn. Res.: 900 W. Broadway, 55964-1099. Tel: 507-584-3321; Fax: 507-584-8887. Email: stjochimchurch@earthlink.net. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-584-2887. Students 428.
- PRESTON, FILLMORE CO., ST. COLUMBAN (1869) [CEM 2] [JC] Attended by St. Mary's, Chatfield. Rev. Russell G. Scepaniak. Mailing Address: Tri-Parish, 405 Twiford St. N.W., Chatfield, 55823. Church: 405 N.W. Preston St., 55965. Tel: 507-765-3886; Fax: 507-765-8888. Email: singwoy@acgroup.com. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 60.
- ROCHESTER, OLMSTED CO.
- 1—ST. BERNARD'S (1857) [CEM] Attended by St. Bernard, Stewartville. Rev. Gregory G. Havel. 116 4th Ave. S.E., Stewartville, 55976. Tel: 507-533-8257; Fax: 507-533-1063. Email: stbernard116@aol.com. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 70.
- 2—ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI (1937) [JC] Very Rev. Timothy J. Reker; Deacons Richard Maugeo; Placidio Zavala, (Hispanic Community); David Plevak. Res.: 1114 3rd St. S.E., 55904-7293. Tel: 507-289-7813; Fax: 507-281-6997. Email: francis@stfrancis-church.org. See St. Francis of Assisi School, Rochester under Centralized Catholic Schools located in the Institution section. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-289-2427. Students 163.
- 3—HOLY SPIRIT (1990) [JC] Rev. Donald J. Schmitz; Deacon Richard Quinn. Office: 5455 60th Ave. N.W., 55901. Tel: 507-280-0638; Fax: 507-292-9547. Email: hspirit@holyspiritrochester.org. Res.: Tel: 507-281-8223. See Holy Spirit School, Rochester under Centralized Catholic Schools located in the Institution section. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 66.
- 4—ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST (1893) [JC] Rev. Msgr. Gerald A. Mahon; Deacons John DeStavio; Gerald Freely. In Res., Rev. John Lugan Lauba. Res.: 11 4th Ave. S.W., 55902-3098. Tel: 507-289-7372; Fax: 507-286-7873. Email: stjohnej.org. Web: www.sj.org. See St. John School, Rochester under Centralized Catholic Schools located in the Institution section. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 479.
- 5—PAX CHRISTI (1973) [JC] Revs. Joseph L. Keefe; Cesar Dralega. Res.: 4135 18th Ave. N.W., 55901-0460. Tel: 507-262-8642; Fax: 507-289-8741. Email: paxchristchurch@charter.net. Web: www.paxchristchurch.org. School—Tel: 507-260-0349; Fax: 507-289-4008. See listings under Centralized Catholic Schools. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 610.
- 6—ST. PIUS X (1964) [JC] Revs. Charlie I. Collins; Paul E. Nelson. Res.: 1915 12th Ave. N.W., 55901-1744. Tel: 507-288-8238; Fax: 507-286-8769. Email: church@piusx.org. Web: www.piusx.org. See St. Pius X School, Rochester under Centralized Catholic Schools located in the Institution section. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-289-6317; Fax: 507-288-8769. Students 229.
- 7—RESURRECTION (1967) [JC] Rev. Thomas A. Loomis; Deacon Thomas DeRienzo. Res.: 1600-11th Ave. S.E., 55904-5499. Tel: 507-288-5528; Fax: 507-282-6763. Email: offices@resurrection-catholic.org. Web: www.resurrection-catholic.org. School—See listings under Centralized Catholic Schools. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 363.
- ROLLINGSTONE, WINONA CO., HOLY TRINITY (1862) [CEM] Rev. Donald J. Lovaa. Res.: 83 Main St., 55968-9759. Tel: 507-689-2361; Fax: 507-689-2261. Email: holymary@charter.net. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 60.
- Oratory—Immaculate Conception Chapel Oak Ridge.
- ROSE CREEK, MOWER CO., ST. PETER'S (1893) [CEM] Rev. Ruben C. Spinler. Res.: 302 Maple St., S.W., 55970-8701. Tel: 507-433-1532. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-433-8472. Students 87.
- RUSHFORD, FILLMORE CO., ST. JOSEPH'S (1868) [CEM] Rev. Joseph Peto. Res.: 101 Rushford Ave. W., P.O. Box 577, 55971-0677. Tel: 507-864-2257. Email: paradm@acgroup.com. Web: www.sjmap.org. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 90.
- ST. CHARLES, WINONA CO., ST. CHARLES-BORROMEO (1867) [CEM] Rev. James F. Callahan. Mailing Address: 786 Church Ave., 55972-1425. Tel: 507-932-3294; Fax: 507-932-3393. Email: borromeo@ibcs.net. Web: www.borromeochurch.org. Church: 761 Whitewater Ave., 55972-1426. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-932-3303. Students 275.
- ST. CLAIR, BLUE EARTH CO., IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (1874) [CEM] Attended by All Saints Church, 600 3rd St., P.O. Box 217, Madison Lake 56063-0217. Rev. Robert J. Schneider. Tel: 507-243-3319. Email: iceffice@hickorytech.net. Web: www.as-ic.org. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 148.
- ST. JAMES, WATONWAN CO., ST. JAMES (1876) [CEM] Attended by St. Mary Church, 213 First St. N.E., Madelia, MN, 56062. Rev. Thomas E. Cook. Tel: 507-642-8306. Church: 707 4th St. S., 56081-1808. Tel: 507-376-8542; Fax: 507-376-4170. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Nomie Hanson, D.R.E.; Mary Christensen, D.R.E. Students 217.
- ST. KILIAN, NOBLES CO., ST. KILIAN (1903) [CEM] Attended by St. Anthony, Lismore. Roxanne Kemper, Parish Dir. Mailing Address: 310 Third Ave. S., P.O. Box 156, Lismore, 56165-0168. Tel: 507-472-8263; Fax: 507-472-8454. Email: santhony@myclearwave.net. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 23.
- SHERBURN, MARTIN CO., ST. LUKE'S (1898) [CEM] Attended by Good Shepherd, Jackson. Rev. Peter L. Schuster. Res.: 811 N. Svardrup Ave., P.O. Box 65, Jackson, 56143-1829. Tel: 507-847-2504; Fax: 507-847-3734. Email: goodshop@man.com. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-764-7831; Fax: 507-764-7831. Students 76.
- SLATTON, MURRAY CO., ST. ANN'S (1897) [CEM] Rev. Patrick O. Arens. Res.: 2747 29th St., 56172-1486. Tel: 507-836-8030; Fax: 507-836-8261. Email: stabusiness@comtinet.net. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 124.
- SPRING VALLEY, FILLMORE CO., ST. IGNATIUS (1878) [CEM] Rev. Steven J. Peterson; Sr. Lucille Hans, O.S.F., Pastoral Assoc. Res.: 213 W. Franklin St., 55975-1312. Tel: 507-246-7565; Fax: 507-346-7725. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-346-7194. Students 110.
- STEWARTVILLE, OLMSTED CO., ST. BERNARD'S (1894) [CEM] Rev. Gregory G. Havel. Res.: 116 Fourth Ave. S.E., 55976. Tel: 507-533-8267; Fax: 507-533-1063. Email: stbernard116@aol.com. Web: www.stbernardparish.org. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-533-8122. Students 254.
- THELMAN, WABASHA CO., ST. JOSEPH'S (1903) [CEM] Attended by St. Mary of the Lake, Lake City. Rev. James D. Russell. 419 Lyon Ave., Lake City, 55041-1649. Tel: 651-345-4134; Fax: 507-945-6134. Email: jrussell@connect.com.
- TRIMONT, MARTIN CO., ST. JOSEPH. Closed. For inquiries for parish records contact the chancery.
- TRUMAN, MARTIN CO., ST. KATHERINE (1854) Attended by St. Mary, Madelia. Rev. Thomas E. Cook.
- 212 First St. N.E., Madelia, 56062-1702. Tel: 507-642-8305; Fax: 507-642-8310. Church: 518 E. 2nd St. S., 56068. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 29.
- TWIN LAKES, FRESHBORN CO., ST. JAMES (1876) Attended by St. Theodore, Albert Lea. Rev. James C. Rerding; Deacon Michael Ellis. Mailing Address: 308 E. Fountain St., Albert Lea, 56007. Tel: 507-373-0603; Fax: 507-373-0604. Church: 106 W. Main St., 56089. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 12.
- VERNON CENTER, BLUE EARTH CO., ST. MATTHEW (1911) [CEM] Attended by St. Teresa, Mapleton. Mr. Thomas Johnson, Parish Dir. 104 Silver St. W., P.O. Box 305, Mapleton, 56065. Tel: 507-524-3127; Fax: 507-524-4428. Email: sjmst@hickorytech.net. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 59.
- WABASHA, WABASHA CO., ST. FELIX (1858) [CEM] Rev. William Kulas. Res.: 117 W. Third St., 55981-1201. Tel: 651-665-3931; Fax: 651-665-4363. Email: stfelixchurch@yahoo.com. School—(Grades PreK-6), 130 Third St. E., 55981. Tel: 651-664-4464; Fax: 651-665-0244. Marsha Stenzel, Prin. Sisters 2; Lay Teachers 7; Students 183. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 651-665-3718; Fax: 651-665-4363. Students 121. *Convent*—36 Bailey Ave., 55981. Tel: 651-665-4378.
- WALDORP, WABASHA CO., ST. JOSEPH'S (1878) [CEM] Attended by St. Ann, Janesville. 307 W. 2nd St., P.O. Box 218, Janesville, MN 56048-0218. Rev. Glenn K. Frerichs. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 64.
- WASEGA, WASEGA CO., SACRED HEART (1869) [JC 2] Very Rev. John M. Kunz. Res.: 111 Fourth St. N.W., 56093-2413. Tel: 507-835-1222; Fax: 507-833-1498. Email: sheart@hickorytech.net. Web: www.sacredheartwasega.4LPI.com. School—(Grades PreK-4), 308 W. Elm Ave., 56093. Tel: 507-835-3780. Email: shuchool@hickorynet.net. L. Ann Dahle, Prin. Priests 1; Lay Teachers 11; Students 188. *Sacred Heart Children's House*—(Grades Pre-School), 400 Second Ave. N.W., 56093. Tel: 507-835-1044. Pauline Holeman, Dir. Students 94. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-835-1500. Students 475.
- WELLS, FARIBAULT CO., ST. CASIMIR'S (1880) [CEM] Rev. Eugene F. Stenzel; Deacon Eugene Paul. Res.: 320 Second Ave. S.W., 56097-1399. Tel: 507-553-6391; Fax: 507-553-6391. Email: scasimir@bovcomm.net. School—(Grades K-8), 330 Second Ave. S.W., 56097. Tel: 507-553-5822. Joanne Thibodeau, Prin. Lay Teachers 12; Students 103. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 161.
- WEST ALBANY, WABASHA CO., ST. PATRICK OF WEST ALBANY (1868) [CEM] Attended by SS. Peter and Paul, Mazepa. Rev. Robert G. Meyer. 1st St. S., P.O. Box 224, Mazepa, 55956-0224. Tel: 507-843-3885. Email: revrmeyer@earthlink.net. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-763-2424; Fax: 507-843-3900. Students 62.
- WEST CONCORD, DOBOR CO., ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (1945) [CEM] Attended by St. John Baptist de La Salle, Dodge Center. Very Rev. Kurt Farrell. 20 Second St. N.E., P.O. Box 310, Dodge Center, 55927-0310. Tel: 507-374-8830. Email: tritonparishes@frontiernet.net. Church: 810 Clyde St., 55985. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—P.O. Box 117, 55985. Tel: 507-627-2864; Fax: 612-606-4316. Students 69.
- WESTBROOK, COTTONWOOD CO., ST. ANTHONY'S (1909) [CEM] Attended by St. Gabriel, Fulda. Rev. Robert S. Horihan. 307 Lake Ave., Fulda, 56131. Tel: 507-426-2595; Fax: 507-274-5946. Email: anthony@rcnel.org. Church: 1153 1st. Ave., 56183.
- WILMONT, NOBLES CO., OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL (1903) [CEM] Attended by St. Adrian, Adrian. Very Rev. Gerald C. Kosse. 612 Main Ave., P.O. Box 475, Adrian, 56110-0475. Tel: 507-483-2517; Fax: 507-483-2460. Email: stadrian@frontiernet.net. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Tel: 507-926-5205. Students 37.
- WILSON, WINONA CO., IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (1874) Attended by St. Rose of Lima, Lewiston. Rev. Marredy Pothireddy. 180 S. Fremont St., P.O. Box 727, Lewiston, 55952-0727. Tel: 507-523-2428; Fax: 507-523-2645. Email: dowrose@earthlink.net. *Catechesis/Religious Program*—Students 41.
- WINDOW, COTTONWOOD CO., ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S (1899) Rev. Andrew D. Olsam. Res.: 648 17th St., 56101-1217. Tel: 507-831-3300; Fax: 507-831-3300.





April 28, 2008

Dear Eduardo,

It is with great reluctance that I write to inform you that I will be leaving the Catholic Legal Immigration Network and its Division of Religious Immigration Services on May 23, 2008.

I have been appointed by my religious institute to serve in a full-time position on our leadership team for the next six years, thereby bringing to a close twenty-two years of practice in the field of immigration law. It has been a special privilege to work with you over the years and to attend to the religious immigration needs of your religious workers. I believe it was Terence Cardinal Cooke of New York who once said: "It has been my joy to serve." His words come closest to capturing my sentiments at this time.

I know that transitions, whether temporary or permanent, are not easy. However, my colleagues and I are committed to making this transition as seamless as possible. While I will be at CLINIC until May 23, I do have some business travel that will take me out of the office from May 5-9 and May 13-20. Since I also have administrative duties to transition, beginning April 28, please contact Minyoung Ohm at 202-756-5479 or [mohm@cliniclegal.org](mailto:mohm@cliniclegal.org). She will be handling your cases until we hire another attorney. Know, however, that due to other commitments, Minyoung will only be working 15 hours a week, from 8:30AM to 11:30AM EST. Please be sure that your religious workers know about the transition and this important contact information. Thank you!

CLINIC has already begun the search for a new Division director/attorney and will keep you updated on the process. After May 23, should you have any questions or concerns, please call Donald Kerwin, our executive director, at 202-635-5811.

Again, thank you for your support and confidence in me and in the work of CLINIC's Division of Religious Immigration Services!

Sincerely,

Margaret Perron, RJM

**MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM**  
BISHOP OF NELLORE



**BISHOP'S HOUSE, NELLORE - 524 001.**

Andhra Pradesh, South India

Tel. : Per : 0091 861 2320191

Off : 0091 861 2331038

Fax : Off : 0091 861 2323950

E-mail: Per : [bspprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com);

Off : [nrbhs@yahoo.com](mailto:nrbhs@yahoo.com);

[dn\\_bhs@rediffmail.com](mailto:dn_bhs@rediffmail.com)

6<sup>th</sup> May 2008

To  
Most Rev. Bernard J. Harrington  
Bishop of Winona  
55 W. Sanborn  
P.O. Box 588  
Winona MN 5587  
USA.

**Dear Rev. Bernard J. Harrington,**

Greetings of Joy and Love to you from Moses D. Prakasam, Bishop of Nellore Diocese, Andhra Pradesh, India. I wish you fruitful Solemnities of Pentecost and Holy Trinity.

I thank you for your cordial relationship and your prayerful support for our diocese. I am planning to send Rev. Koppala Leo Charles to serve in your Diocese for the period of three years. I am sure that he will be an excellent priest to work for the faithful of your diocese in an effective manner. I am confident that this will be an opportunity for him to have an exposure to come in contact with the people of different culture, tradition and living style. He will have to support the diocese without fail.

I thank his Lordship for your kind invitation extended to him. I am sending his BIODATA and having received these details you can send the necessary documents for him to get his Visa. With prayerful wishes and love I remain.

Faternally Yours in Chris

*M. D. Prakasam*

**+Moses D. Prakasam**  
**Bishop for the Catholic Diocese**



LK000135

Boundaries for Fr. Leo Charles to follow:

- to let Fr. David or Sr. Rosemary know where he going and where he is at all times.
- Not to walk outside the hermitage grounds.
- He can celebrate a private Mass in the Chapel of his house at the Hermitage. Not to concelebrate with the Carmelite community, as there are visitors at times frothier Masses. On administrative leave you are not to dress as a cleric.
- He is a guest, and can participate as the community invites him, but no public ministry.
- He can do manual labor, as would be helpful to the Sisters and Fr. David in caring for the Hermitage.

\* no visitors w/o permission



**MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM**  
BISHOP OF NELLORE



**BISHOP'S HOUSE, NELLORE - 524 001.**  
Andhra Pradesh, South India  
Tel. : Per : 0091 861 2320191  
Off : 0091 861 2331038  
Fax : Off : 0091 861 2323950  
E-mail: Per : [bspprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com);  
Off : [nlrbhs@yahoo.com](mailto:nlrbhs@yahoo.com);  
[dn\\_bhs@rediffmail.com](mailto:dn_bhs@rediffmail.com)

To  
Most Rev. Bernard J. Harrington  
Bishop of Winona  
55 W. Sanborn  
P.O. Box 588  
Winona MN 5587  
USA.

6<sup>th</sup> May 2008

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Fraternally Yours in Chris

*+ M. D. Prakasam*  
**+Moses D. Prakasam**  
**Bishop for the Catholic Diocese**



LK000005



**MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM**  
BISHOP OF NELLORE



**BISHOP'S HOUSE, NELLORE - 524 001.**  
Andhra Pradesh, South India  
Tel. : Per : 0091 861 2320191  
Off : 0091 861 2331038  
Fax : Off : 0091 861 2323950  
E-mail: Per : [bspprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com);  
Off : [nlrbhs@yahoo.com](mailto:nlrbs@yahoo.com);  
[dn\\_bhs@rediffmail.com](mailto:dn_bhs@rediffmail.com)

To  
Most Rev. Bernard J. Harrington  
Bishop of Winona  
55 W. Sanborn  
P.O. Box 588  
Winona MN 5587  
USA.

6<sup>th</sup> May 2008

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Fraternally Yours in Chris

*M. D. Prakasam*  
+Moses D. Prakasam  
Bishop for the Catholic Diocese





BIO-DATA

REV. FR. KOPPALA LEO CHARLES

FIRST NAME: KOPPALA  
 LAST NAME: LEO CHARLES  
 FATHER'S NAME: KOPPALA ZACHRISAS  
 MOTHERS NAME: KOPPALA AROGYA MARY  
 DATE OF BIRTH: 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 1966  
 DATE OF ORDINATION: 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 1994  
 PASSPORT NO: F 8080055

STUDIES

MINOR SEMINARY: ST. JOHN'S MINOR SEMINARY, NELLORE  
1979-1985  
 SPIRITUAL ORIENTATION: ST. PAUL'S SEMINARY, NUZVID, 1985-1986.  
 PHILOSOPHY: ST. JOHNS MAJOR SEMINARY, KONDADABA,  
1986-1989.  
 REGENCY: ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, ALLUR 1989-1990.  
 THEOLOGY: ST. JOHNS MAJOR SEMINARY, HYDERABAD,  
1990-1994.

PRIESTLY MINISTRY

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1 CO-DIRECTOR               | REGIONAL CATECHIST TRAINING CENTRE, NELLORE 1994-1995 |
| 2 ASS. PARISH PRIEST        | BESTHAVARIPET 1995-1996                               |
| 3 PARISH PRIEST             | AMENCHERLA 1996-1997                                  |
| 4 MASTER OF FINE ARTS       | TRICHY, T.N. 1997-2002                                |
| 5 DIPLOMA IN ROMAN LITURGY  | BANGALORE 2002-2003                                   |
| 6 SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR        | SAGARA SANGAM 2003-2004                               |
| 7 DIRECTOR OF CWPV CHILDREN | MARIARANI 2004-2005                                   |
| 8 PARISH PRIEST             | DUVVUR PARISH 2005-2008                               |

*F. M. D. Rakasani*  
 06. May. 2008



U.S. Department of State  
**SUPPLEMENTAL NONIMMIGRANT VISA APPLICATION**

Approved OMB 1417-0114  
 Form 10/02/2004  
 Estimated Burden 1 Hour\*

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT YOUR ANSWERS IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW EACH ITEM  
 PLEASE ATTACH AN ADDITIONAL SHEET IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE TO CONTINUE YOUR ANSWERS

1. Last Name(s) (List all Spellings) <b>KOPPALA</b>	2. First Name(s) (List all Spellings) <b>LEO CHARLES</b>	3. Full Name (In Native Alphabet) <b>KOPPALA LEO CHARLES</b>												
4. Clan or Tribe Name (If Applicable) ---		5. Spouse's Full Name (If Married) ---												
6. Father's Full Name <b>KOPPALA ZACHRISAS</b>		7. Mother's Full Name <b>KOPPALA AROGYA MARY</b>												
8. Full Name and Address of Contact Person or Organization in the United States (Include Telephone Number) <b>MOST. REV. BERNARD J. HARRINGTON        BISHOP OF WINONA        55 WEST SANBORN ST, P.O. BOX 588, WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987, U.S.A. PH: 001 507 454 4643</b>														
9. List All Countries You Have Entered in the Last Ten Years (Give the Year of Each Visit) <b>EGYPT -- MAY 2007        JORDAN -- MAY 2007        ISRAEL -- MAY 2007</b>		10. List All Countries That Have Ever Issued You a Passport ---												
11. Have You Ever Lost a Passport or Had One Stolen? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No														
12. Not Including Current Employer, List Your Last Two Employers <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:25%;">Name</th> <th style="width:25%;">Address</th> <th style="width:15%;">Telephone No</th> <th style="width:15%;">Job Title</th> <th style="width:15%;">Supervisor's Name</th> <th style="width:15%;">Dates of Employment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="6"><b>BIBLE TOURS, CHENNAI, 0445038005</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Name	Address	Telephone No	Job Title	Supervisor's Name	Dates of Employment	<b>BIBLE TOURS, CHENNAI, 0445038005</b>					
Name	Address	Telephone No	Job Title	Supervisor's Name	Dates of Employment									
<b>BIBLE TOURS, CHENNAI, 0445038005</b>														
13. List All Professional, Social and Charitable Organizations to Which You Belong (Belonged) or Contributed (Contributed) or with Which You Work (Have Worked) <b>DIOCESE OF NELLORE</b>		14. Do You Have Any Specialized Skills or Training, Including Firearms, Explosives, Nuclear, Biological, or Chemical Experience? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>IF YES, please explain</b>												
15. Have You Ever Performed Military Service? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>If YES, Give Name of Country, Branch of Service, Rank/Position, Military Specialty, and Dates of Service.</b>														
16. Have You Ever Been in an Armed Conflict, Either as a Participant or Victim? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>If YES, please explain.</b>														
17. List All Educational Institutions You Attend or Have Attended. Include Vocational Institutions But Not Elementary Schools. <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:30%;">Name of Institution</th> <th style="width:30%;">Address/Telephone No.</th> <th style="width:20%;">Course of Study</th> <th style="width:20%;">Dates of Attendance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="4"><b>ADDITIONAL SHEET ENCLOSED</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Name of Institution	Address/Telephone No.	Course of Study	Dates of Attendance	<b>ADDITIONAL SHEET ENCLOSED</b>							
Name of Institution	Address/Telephone No.	Course of Study	Dates of Attendance											
<b>ADDITIONAL SHEET ENCLOSED</b>														
18. Have You Made Specific Travel Arrangements? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>If YES, please provide a complete itinerary for your travel, including arrival/departure dates, flight information, specific location you will visit, and a point of contact at each location.</b>														
<p align="center"><b>Paperwork Reduction Act Statement</b></p> <p>*Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including time required for searching existing data sources, gathering the necessary data, providing the information required, and reviewing the final collection. You do not have to provide the information unless this collection displays a currently valid OMB number. Send comments on the accuracy of this estimate of the burden and recommendations for reducing it to: U.S. Department of State, A/RPS/DIR, Washington, DC 20520.</p>														



U.S. Department of State  
SUPPLEMENT TO  
NONIMMIGRANT VISA APPLICATION

PLEASE BE SURE TO SUBMIT THIS PAGE WITH THE REST OF YOUR APPLICATION

DO NOT MARK OR WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Leo Charles Koppala

Barcode Number: J1KU1ZWZEF

29. Additional Visits to the U.S.:

30. Additional Visa Issuances:

31. Additional Visa Refusals:

**FILTERED NAMES**

When 'None' or 'NA' are entered into any of the following the fields: 'Other Surnames Used', 'Other First and Middle Names Used', and 'National Identification Number', the text will be removed by the EVAF software from the data in the 2D barcode. If the applicant's name actually is None or NA the post must enter the name manually into NIV or RDS. The following fields have been removed:

- 'none' was removed from the 2D barcode for Item 8 (Other Surnames Used)
- 'none' was removed from the 2D barcode for Item 9 (Other First and Middle Names Used)



EVAF 02.02.06

LK000048



**DIOCESE OF WINONA  
BISHOP'S OFFICE**

55 West Sanborn Street, P.O. Box 588  
Winona, Minnesota 55987  
Telephone: 507-454-4643  
Fax: 507-454-8106  
Email: bharring@dow.org

## Fax Transmission

**TO:** Most Rev. Moses Doraboina Prakasam  
Bishop of Nellore  
Bishop's House – Nellore – 524 001  
Andhra Pradesh, South India

**FAX:** 011 91 861 232 3950

**DATE:** May 8, 2008

Dear Bishop Prakasam:

Thank you for your letter of May 6, 2008 informing me that you wish to send Rev. Koppala Leo Charles to serve in the Diocese of Winona for three years.

I am delighted that you are willing to share such a fine priest to work among the people of the Diocese of Winona in the United States.

I am preparing with my staff to assemble the necessary documents from the Diocese of Winona and from the CLINIC of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops' Office on Immigration.

We will assemble these necessary documents and fax them back to you as quickly as possible. That way, Father Leo Charles can begin his process to obtain a visa.

Once again, I was happy to have the opportunity to talk with you. I did receive the bio-data and cover letter that was sent to the Pastoral Center. I believe you sent something to my home fax number – 507-452-0286. However, only a blank sheet arrived.

Now that we have phone numbers, email and fax numbers, I am sure we will be able to communicate directly.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Bernard J. Harrington  
Bishop of Winona

BJH:jt

LK000044

**DIOCESE OF NELLORE**



**MOSES D. PRAKASAM**

*By the Grace of God and Favour of the Apostolic See*

**BISHOP OF NELLORE**

This is to Certify that on the *Twenty Ninth* day of the month of *April* in the year of our Lord 1994 (*Two thousand & Ninety Four*) during the Holy Mass celebrated at *Kallambree In Parish Church* and duly observing the prescribed rites, the order of *Sacred Priesthood* was conferred on our beloved son in Christ, *Thoppala Lea Charles* who, besides fulfilling the requirements with regard to age, birth, character and manner of life, was also found to possess the learning required to discharge his responsibilities.

In testimony whereof We issue this document under Our signature and seal. Given at Nellore on the *Twenty Third* day of the month of *May* 20 of

By the authority of the Bishop



Chancellor

*+ M. D. Prakasam*  
Bishop of The Diocese of Nellore

**DIOCESE OF NELLORE**



**MOSES D. PRAKASAM**

*By the Grace of God and Favour of the Apostolic See*

**BISHOP OF NELLORE**

This is to Certify that on the *Twenty* ~~th~~ *third* day of the month of *April* in the year of our Lord *1994* (*Twenty* ~~th~~ *third* ~~th~~ *thousand* ~~th~~ *two* ~~th~~ *hundred* ~~th~~ *and* ~~th~~ *thirty* ~~th~~ *four* ~~th~~ *years*...) during the Holy Mass celebrated at *Kallambedu Parish Church* and duly observing the prescribed rites, the order of *Sacred Priesthood* was conferred on our beloved son in Christ, *Thoppala Leo Charles* who, besides fulfilling the requirements with regard to age, birth, character and manner of life, was also found to possess the learning required to discharge his responsibilities.

In testimony whereof We issue this document under Our signature and seal. Given at Nellore on the *Twenty* ~~th~~ *third* day of the month of *May* 20*08*

By the authority of the Bishop

Chancellor



*M. D. Prakasam*  
Bishop of The Diocese of Nellore



LAST TRANSACTION REPORT FOR HP FAX-700 SERIES

VERSION: 01.03

FAX NAME: CATHEDRAL  
NUMBER: 507 454 1974

DATE: 17-DEC-97  
TIME: 21:09

DATE	TIME	REMOTE FAX NAME AND NUMBER	DURATION	PG	RESULT	DIAGNOSTIC
17-DEC	21:08	S 0119186123239503499	0:00:54	0	ERROR	445552100000000

\*\*\*\*\*

S=FAX SENT  
I=POLL IN(FAX RECEIVED)  
O=POLLED OUT(FAX SENT)

TO PRINT THIS REPORT AUTOMATICALLY, SELECT AUTOMATIC REPORTS IN THE SETTINGS MENU.  
TO PRINT MANUALLY, PRESS THE REPORT/SPACE BUTTON, THEN PRESS ENTER.

**Thompson, PJ**

---

**From:** Tibor, Judy  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2008 3:45 PM  
**To:** Thompson, PJ  
**Subject:** FW: Addresses for the Bishop of Nellore, India

I am forwarding the email from Bishop with phone information below.

I also have a fax for him: 011-91-861-232-3950

*In the Charles file*

*Judy Tibor, Secretary  
Office of the Bishop  
Diocese of Winona  
507-454-4643  
Fax: 507-454-8106  
email: [jtibor@dow.org](mailto:jtibor@dow.org)*

**From:** bernard harrington [mailto:[bharring@hbci.com](mailto:bharring@hbci.com)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 07, 2008 11:37 AM  
**To:** Tibor, Judy; Thompson, PJ  
**Cc:** Harrington, Bishop Bernard  
**Subject:** Addresses for the Bishop of Nellore, India

Bishop Moses Doraboina **Prakasam** is the bishop of Nellore. He was the bishop of Kadapa and was the bishop who sent the Frs. Pothireddy to our diocese (Marreddy and Swami). He is now sending us another priest from India from his present diocese of Nellore.

His personal mobile phone is 011-91 984 916 5697. His e mail is [bspprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com). Please keep on file.  
+bjh

*011-91-0861-233-1038*

*232-0191*

*405-343-0033*



Office of the Chancellor

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
PASTORAL CENTER

June 2, 2008

Most Rev. Bishop Prakasam  
Bishop's House  
Santhapet  
Nellore – 524001  
Andhra Pradesh, India

Dear Bishop Prakasam,

Enclosed with this correspondence is a copy of the agreement form that the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC) requires for processing the request for a religious worker visa for **Fr. Leo Charles**. We attempted to send this information via e-mail but have had difficulty reaching your office. We were uncertain if you received our inquiry or perhaps could not open the attachment. Thus, we are sending the form for completion via U.S. Mail and respectfully request that the enclosed Client Agreement be completed where indicated and returned as soon as possible to:

Chancellor P.J. Thompson  
Diocese of Winona  
PO Box 588  
Winona, MN 55987

Please complete the sections on the form that have been highlighted. Include two (2) copies of Fr. Leo Charles' passport. If Fr. Charles already has other visas or I-94 cards, copies of these items should be mailed as well.

We will continue to move this process forward once we receive the information from your office. We will forward the copies and payment to CLINIC in Washington, D.C. with our own correspondence. Thank you for this opportunity to work with you. If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 507-454-4643 (Winona, Minnesota – USA) or [pjthompson@dow.org](mailto:pjthompson@dow.org) via email.

Respectfully,

Ms. P.J. Thompson, Chancellor

Enc.

cc: Most Rev. Bernard J. Harrington – Bishop of Winona  
Rev. Msgr. Donald P. Schmitz – Vicar General

55 West Sanborn Street ■ PO Box 588 ■ Winona, MN 55987  
Telephone: 507/454-4643 ■ Fax: 507/454-8106 ■ <http://www.dow.org>

LK000129

## CLIENT AGREEMENT

This agreement is made between the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. ("CLINIC") and the below-named:

### EMPLOYER

U.S. Arch/diocese or Religious Order: Diocese of Winona  
Attn. (CONTACT PERSON): Ms. P.J. Thompson, Chancellor  
Address: PO Box 588 - 55 West Sanborn Street  
Winona, Minnesota USA 55987  
Phone Number/Fax Number: 507-454-4643 Ext. 223/507-454-8106  
Email Address: pjthompson@dow.org

and

### FOREIGN-BORN INDIVIDUAL

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel./Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and City/Province or State/Country of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### IMMIGRATION BENEFIT SOUGHT

The specific immigration benefit sought is: R-1 Visa (Religious Worker)

### CLINIC FEE

The fee for this service is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT OF FEE/BILLING INFORMATION

Check one:

- Employer will be responsible to pay CLINIC's fee for services requested.  
 The Foreign-born Individual assisted will be responsible to pay CLINIC's fee for services requested.

**Note:** If the process to obtain the benefit sought requires more than one step, each step will be specifically identified with a separate fee.

- Please return this form with the fee for services indicated. Please make your check payable to **CLINIC/DRIS** and mail the envelope to:

CLINIC/Accounting Department

McCormick Pavilion, Ste 150

415 Michigan Avenue NE

Washington, DC 20017

- Please mail all documents under separate cover to the attorney handling your case.

Revised and Effective September 5, 2007

LK000130

### CONSENT TO DUAL REPRESENTATION

We, the undersigned, understand that in this immigration case, the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. ("CLINIC") will be representing both parties ("clients") at the same time.

Thus, CLINIC will have an attorney/client relationship with both the Employer and the Foreign-born Individual. This means that CLINIC owes both parties the duties owed by an attorney to a client including, but not limited to, communication, competence, loyalty, and confidentiality. Both parties are equal co-clients. Thus, CLINIC may not favor one party's interests over the interests of the other.

If it becomes apparent to the CLINIC attorney that there is a conflict of interest between the represented parties, s/he will do his/her best to resolve the conflict. If the conflict cannot be resolved, the attorney cannot take sides. Instead, s/he may be required by the Rules of Professional Conduct to withdraw from representing the parties. If the attorney needs to withdraw from this representation, s/he would have the right to represent both parties in other, different, matters in the future so long as doing so did not compromise confidences shared by the parties. In the event the CLINIC attorney determines that s/he must withdraw from representation in this case, both parties have an absolute right to all parts of the file, except only that the Employer may arrange, in advance, to keep some internal administrative or financial information confidential.

Ordinarily, co-clients in a dual representation case are both entitled to all information that is material to the subject of the representation. Therefore, please be aware that things shared with CLINIC by one party may need to be shared with the other. However, the Employer may not wish to disclose to the Foreign-born Individual or to the public at large some details of its internal finances and administrative procedures that it may need to disclose to the United States Government. Thus, the Foreign-born Individual agrees that CLINIC may keep confidential certain details that the Diocese has requested, in writing, be kept confidential prior to the start of this representation. Any such written request will be appended to this agreement.

### AGREEMENT

By our signatures below, we verify that we understand the following:

- a) CLINIC will begin work on a case only when it has received 1) this Consent Form, signed and dated by both the Employer representative and the Foreign-born Individual; 2) correct fee; and 3) the completed Data Intake Form with supporting documentation.
- b) Clients assisted by CLINIC will provide all requested documents, voluntarily provide all information regarding previous immigration history, and respond truthfully to all questions asked by CLINIC legal staff.
- c) Clients assisted by CLINIC will keep legal staff informed of all changes in address and telephone number as well as any other information requested within five (5) days of change.
- d) Clients assisted by CLINIC must appear at all scheduled USCIS interviews regardless of whether CLINIC will be present.
- e) Clients agree to give CLINIC sufficient lead time to enable legal staff to develop the case.
- f) All payments will be made according to the most recent CLINIC fee schedule, incorporated herein by reference. CLINIC reserves the right to charge beyond the stated fee where a case becomes more complicated than originally anticipated.
- g) If Clients decide not to continue any individual case with CLINIC in which a requested service has been rendered, neither party will be entitled to a refund, full or partial, of the fee.

- h) CLINIC cannot guarantee that the benefit sought will be granted, even though all of the required documents and fees are filed. CLINIC also cannot guarantee the time within which an outcome can be expected or achieved.
- i) CLINIC agrees to take the steps necessary to obtain the benefit sought and will provide services in as timely a fashion as possible.
- j) CLINIC may reassign or transfer a case among legal staff depending on the needs of the agency. CLINIC will inform Clients in writing of any such transfer.
- k) CLINIC is not obligated to continue representation in all steps of the immigration process and may withdraw its representation and close a case after notifying the Clients.
- l) CLINIC may withdraw from a case if the Clients do not comply with the responsibilities discussed above.
- m) CLINIC will keep a closed case only five (5) years after which the Clients may request that the contents of the file be forwarded at their expense, or the file will be destroyed.

By signing below, the parties acknowledge that they have read and understand the above agreement and consent to dual representation and that they have decided to proceed with the representation in this case.

DATED: 6/2/2008 Employer Representative: P.J. Thompson - Chancellor

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_ Foreign-born Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_ CLINIC Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

## CLIENT AGREEMENT

This agreement is made between the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. ("CLINIC") and the below-named:

### EMPLOYER

U.S. Arch/diocese or Religious Order: Diocese of Winona  
Attn. (CONTACT PERSON): Ms. P.J. Thompson, Chancellor  
Address: PO Box 588 - 55 West Sanborn Street  
Winona, Minnesota USA 55987  
Phone Number/Fax Number: 507-454-4643 Ext. 223/507-454-8106  
Email Address: pjthompson@dow.org

and

### FOREIGN-BORN INDIVIDUAL

Last Name: Koppala  
First Name: Leo Charles  
Current Address: Bishop's House, Santhapet,  
Nellore 524 001, Andhra Pradesh, India  
Tel./Fax: +91 861 233 1038 FAX: + 91 861 232 3950  
Email: kleocharlesmfa@yahoo.co.in  
Date and City/Province or State/Country of Birth: 19 April, 1966, Kallambedu, T.N. India

### IMMIGRATION BENEFIT SOUGHT

The specific immigration benefit sought is: R-1 Visa (Religious Worker)

### CLINIC FEE

The fee for this service is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT OF FEE/BILLING INFORMATION

Check one:

- Employer will be responsible to pay CLINIC's fee for services requested.  
 The Foreign-born Individual assisted will be responsible to pay CLINIC's fee for services requested.

Note: If the process to obtain the benefit sought requires more than one step, each step will be specifically identified with a separate fee.

- Please return this form with the fee for services indicated. Please make your check payable to CLINIC/DRIS and mail the envelope to:

CLINIC/Accounting Department  
McCormick Pavilion, Ste 150  
415 Michigan Avenue NE  
Washington, DC 20017

- Please mail all documents under separate cover to the attorney handling your case.

Revised and Effective September 5, 2007

LK000040

### CONSENT TO DUAL REPRESENTATION

We, the undersigned, understand that in this immigration case, the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. ("CLINIC") will be representing both parties ("clients") at the same time.

Thus, CLINIC will have an attorney/client relationship with both the Employer and the Foreign-born Individual. This means that CLINIC owes both parties the duties owed by an attorney to a client including, but not limited to, communication, competence, loyalty, and confidentiality. Both parties are equal co-clients. Thus, CLINIC may not favor one party's interests over the interests of the other.

If it becomes apparent to the CLINIC attorney that there is a conflict of interest between the represented parties, s/he will do his/her best to resolve the conflict. If the conflict cannot be resolved, the attorney cannot take sides. Instead, s/he may be required by the Rules of Professional Conduct to withdraw from representing the parties. If the attorney needs to withdraw from this representation, s/he would have the right to represent both parties in other, different, matters in the future so long as doing so did not compromise confidences shared by the parties. In the event the CLINIC attorney determines that s/he must withdraw from representation in this case, both parties have an absolute right to all parts of the file, except only that the Employer may arrange, in advance, to keep some internal administrative or financial information confidential.

Ordinarily, co-clients in a dual representation case are both entitled to all information that is material to the subject of the representation. Therefore, please be aware that things shared with CLINIC by one party may need to be shared with the other. However, the Employer may not wish to disclose to the Foreign-born Individual or to the public at large some details of its internal finances and administrative procedures that it may need to disclose to the United States Government. Thus, the Foreign-born Individual agrees that CLINIC may keep confidential certain details that the Diocese has requested, in writing, be kept confidential prior to the start of this representation. Any such written request will be appended to this agreement.

### AGREEMENT

By our signatures below, we verify that we understand the following:

- a) CLINIC will begin work on a case only when it has received 1) this Consent Form, signed and dated by both the Employer representative and the Foreign-born Individual; 2) correct fee; and 3) the completed Data Intake Form with supporting documentation.
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- d) Clients assisted by CLINIC must appear at all scheduled USCIS interviews regardless of whether CLINIC will be present.
- e) Clients agree to give CLINIC sufficient lead time to enable legal staff to develop the case.
- f) All payments will be made according to the most recent CLINIC fee schedule, incorporated herein by reference. CLINIC reserves the right to charge beyond the stated fee where a case becomes more complicated than originally anticipated.
- g) If Clients decide not to continue any individual case with CLINIC in which a requested service has been rendered, neither party will be entitled to a refund, full or partial, of the fee.

Revised and Effective September 5, 2007

LK000041



- h) CLINIC cannot guarantee that the benefit sought will be granted, even though all of the required documents and fees are filed. CLINIC also cannot guarantee the time within which an outcome can be expected or achieved.
- i) CLINIC agrees to take the steps necessary to obtain the benefit sought and will provide services in as timely a fashion as possible.
- j) CLINIC may reassign or transfer a case among legal staff depending on the needs of the agency. CLINIC will inform Clients in writing of any such transfer.
- k) CLINIC is not obligated to continue representation in all steps of the immigration process and may withdraw its representation and close a case after notifying the Clients.
- l) CLINIC may withdraw from a case if the Clients do not comply with the responsibilities discussed above.
- m) CLINIC will keep a closed case only five (5) years after which the Clients may request that the contents of the file be forwarded at their expense, or the file will be destroyed.

By signing below, the parties acknowledge that they have read and understand the above agreement and consent to dual representation and that they have decided to proceed with the representation in this case.

DATED: 6/2/2008 Employer Representative: P.J. Thompson - Chancellor

DATED: 11 June 2008 Foreign-born Individual: Fr. K. Leo Charles  
Rev. Fr. K. Leo Charles

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_ CLINIC Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

## CLIENT AGREEMENT

This agreement is made between the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. ("CLINIC") and the below-named:

### EMPLOYER

U.S. Arch/diocese or Religious Order: Diocese of Winona  
 Attn. (CONTACT PERSON): Ms. P.J. Thompson, Chancellor  
 Address: PO Box 588 - 55 West Sanborn Street  
Winona, Minnesota USA 55987  
 Phone Number/Fax Number: 507-454-4643 Ext. 223/507-454-8106  
 Email Address: pjthompson@dow.org

and

### FOREIGN-BORN INDIVIDUAL

Last Name: Koppala  
 First Name: Leo Charles  
 Current Address: Bishop's House, Santhapet,  
Nellore 524 001, Andhra Pradesh, India  
 Tel./Fax: +91 861 233 1038 FAX: + 91 861 232 3950  
 Email: kleocharlessmf@yahoo.co.in  
 Date and City/Province or State/Country of Birth: 19 April, 1966, Kallambedu, T.N. India

### IMMIGRATION BENEFIT SOUGHT

The specific immigration benefit sought is: R-1 Visa (Religious Worker)

### CLINIC FEE

The fee for this service is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT OF FEE/BILLING INFORMATION

Check one:

- Employer will be responsible to pay CLINIC's fee for services requested.  
 The Foreign-born Individual assisted will be responsible to pay CLINIC's fee for services requested.

**Note:** If the process to obtain the benefit sought requires more than one step, each step will be specifically identified with a separate fee.

- Please return this form with the fee for services indicated. Please make your check payable to **CLINIC/DRIS** and mail the envelope to:

CLINIC/Accounting Department  
 McCormick Pavilion, Ste 150  
 415 Michigan Avenue NE  
 Washington, DC 20017

- Please mail all documents under separate cover to the attorney handling your case.

- h) CLINIC cannot guarantee that the benefit sought will be granted, even though all of the required documents and fees are filed. CLINIC also cannot guarantee the time within which an outcome can be expected or achieved.
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- m) CLINIC will keep a closed case only five (5) years after which the Clients may request that the contents of the file be forwarded at their expense, or the file will be destroyed.

By signing below, the parties acknowledge that they have read and understand the above agreement and ~~the terms and conditions of~~ consent to dual representation and that they have decided to proceed with the representation in this case.

DATED: 6/2/2008 Employer Representative: *P. Thompson*  
*P. Thompson - Chancellor*

DATED: 11 June 2008 Foreign-born Individual: *Fr. K. Leo Charles*  
 Rev. Fr. K. Leo Charles

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_ CLINIC Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thompson, PJ**

---

**From:** Thompson, PJ  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 12, 2008 8:49 AM  
**To:** 'Annemarie Gibbons'  
**Subject:** RE: Client agreement

Dear Ms. Gibbons,  
Thanks – we'll get this on the way.  
PJ

---

**From:** Annemarie Gibbons [mailto:AMGIBBONS@cliniclegal.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 12, 2008 8:37 AM  
**To:** Thompson, PJ  
**Subject:** RE: Client agreement

Dear Ms. Thompson:

Yes, you can send fac copies to us. The fees should be separate checks for each.

Sincerely,

Anne Marie Gibbons

---

**From:** Thompson, PJ [mailto:pjthompson@DOW.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 11, 2008 5:52 PM  
**To:** Annemarie Gibbons  
**Cc:** Minyoung Ohm  
**Subject:** RE: Client agreement

Dear Annemarie,  
It is my recollection that the fees you speak of regarding Fr. Leo Charles' R-1 Visa application, must be written as separate checks. I did receive facsimile copies of his form and his passport copies...and he has hard-mailed the originals. Since the mail system takes approximately one month to reach the U.S. from India – can we send the facsimile copies and the fees to get this process underway and forward the originals when they arrive?  
Please advise.  
Thank you in advance,  
PJ Thompson  
Chancellor

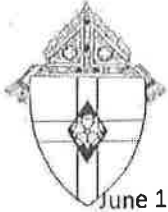
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**From:** Annemarie Gibbons [mailto:AMGIBBONS@cliniclegal.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 16, 2008 3:13 PM  
**To:** Thompson, PJ  
**Cc:** Minyoung Ohm  
**Subject:** Client agreement

Dear Ms. Thompson:

It was a pleasure to speak to you today. Attached is the client agreement. Please return it to CLINIC with the fee of \$950 + 75 (file initialization). Along with the fee and client agreement, please send copies of the passport, visas and I-94 cards, if applicable, and a description of their assignment and job duties when they arrive in the U.S. After we receive the signed client agreement, we will e-mail each individual asking for additional information. Generally, we ask that the applicant wait to make the visa appointment until they have received the visa application with bar code from us.

*Put a box  
in that the  
originals have been  
sent by post to  
our office from  
India and will  
be forwarded  
when they  
arrive.*



Office of the Chancellor

DIocese OF WINONA  
PASTORAL CENTER

June 13, 2008

Anne Marie Gibbons, Senior Attorney  
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)  
Division of Religious Immigration Services  
415 Michigan Ave., NE  
Washington, DC 20017

Re: Rev. Leo Charles Koppala – R-1 Visa

Dear Ms. Gibbons,

Please find enclosed the following information for the R-1 Visa process for Rev. Leo Charles Koppala:

1. Checks for \$950.00 and \$75.00
2. Facsimile copies Client agreement
3. Facsimile copies of Passport
4. Description of assignment and job duties


The originals of the Client agreement and the Passport have been sent by post to our office from India; they will be forwarded upon receipt.

Upon arrival to the United States Rev. Leo Charles Koppala will receive an assignment. His duties will include continued pursuit of his **RELIGIOUS VOCATION** as an ordained Roman Catholic priest within the Diocese of Winona. He will perform and will be asked to perform only those duties and religious services that relate to the traditional religious functions of an ordained priest of the Roman Catholic Church. Father will serve the Roman Catholic Church by:

1. Celebrating the Sacraments of the Church – Holy Eucharist, Anointing of the Sick, Baptism, Matrimony, Confirmation and Penance.
2. Performing the rites associated with each Sacrament.
3. Presiding at daily and Sunday Masses and preaching sermons on the scriptural readings of the day.
4. Visiting sick and dying parishioners in their homes, hospitals, or nursing homes
5. Instructing adults and children in the beliefs of their Catholic faith.

Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail if you have any questions or need any additional information regarding this information. I can be reached at (507) 454-4643 ext. 223 or [pjthompson@dow.org](mailto:pjthompson@dow.org). I look forward to hearing from you soon regarding the next step in the R-1 Visa process.

Respectfully,

  
Mrs. P.J. Thompson  
Chancellor  
Enc.

55 West Sanborn Street ■ PO Box 588 ■ Winona, MN 55987  
Telephone: 507/454-4643 ■ Fax: 507/454-8106 ■ <http://www.dow.org>

LK000123

DIOCESE OF WINONA

N 80553

Catholic Legal Immigration Network

06/12/2008

1678-80553-1

Obligation	Description	Invoice	Amount
74374	File Initiation Rev Koppala-R1 *** Total ***		75.00 75.00

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS A COLORED BACKGROUND AND MICRO PRINTED SIGNATURE LINES.

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 W. SANBORN ST., BOX 588  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

THE NORTHERN TRUST COMPANY  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610  
PAYABLE THROUGH NORTHERN TRUST BANK/DUPAGE  
OAKBROOK TERRACE, ILLINOIS

70-2382  
719

CHECK NO. No. 080553

06/12/2008  
DATE

\*\*\*\*\*75.00  
AMOUNT

\*\* Seventy Five Dollars and 00 Cents \*\*

PAY  
TO THE  
ORDER  
OF

Catholic Legal Immigration Network  
415 Michigan Ave. NE, Ste 150  
Washington DC 20017

*Dona H. Schmitz*

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S)

LK000124

DIOCESE OF WINONA

Nr 80554

Catholic Legal Immigration Network

06/12/2008

1678-80554-2

Obligation	Description	Invoice	Amount
74375	Fee R1-Visa Rev Leo Charles Ko		950.00
	*** Total ***		950.00

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS A COLORED BACKGROUND AND MICRO PRINTED SIGNATURE LINES.

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 W. SANBORN ST., BOX 588  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

THE NORTHERN TRUST COMPANY  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610  
PAYABLE THROUGH NORTHERN TRUST BANK/DUPAGE  
OAKBROOK TERRACE, ILLINOIS

70-2382  
719

CHECK NO. No. 080554

06/12/2008  
DATE

\*\*\*\*\*950.00  
AMOUNT

\*\* Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars and 00 Cents \*\*

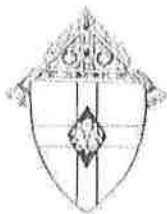
PAY  
TO THE  
ORDER  
OF

Catholic Legal Immigration Network  
415 Michagan Ave. NE, Ste 150  
Washington DC 20017

*Dona H. Schmitz*

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S)

LK000125



Office of the Chancellor

DIocese of Winona  
PASTORAL CENTER

June 24, 2008

Anne Marie Gibbons, Senior Attorney  
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)  
Division of Religious Immigration Services  
415 Michigan Ave., NE  
Washington, DC 20017

Re: Rev. Leo Charles Koppala – R-1 Visa

Dear Ms. Gibbons,

As per my letter dated June 13, 2008 please find enclosed the originals of the Client agreement and Passport copies for Rev. Leo Charles Koppala.

Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail if you have any questions or need additional information. I can be reached at (507) 454-4643 ext. 223 or [pjthompson@dow.org](mailto:pjthompson@dow.org). I look forward to hearing from you soon regarding the next step in the R-1 Visa process.

Respectfully,

Mrs. P.J. Thompson  
Chancellor  
Enc.





SPEED POST



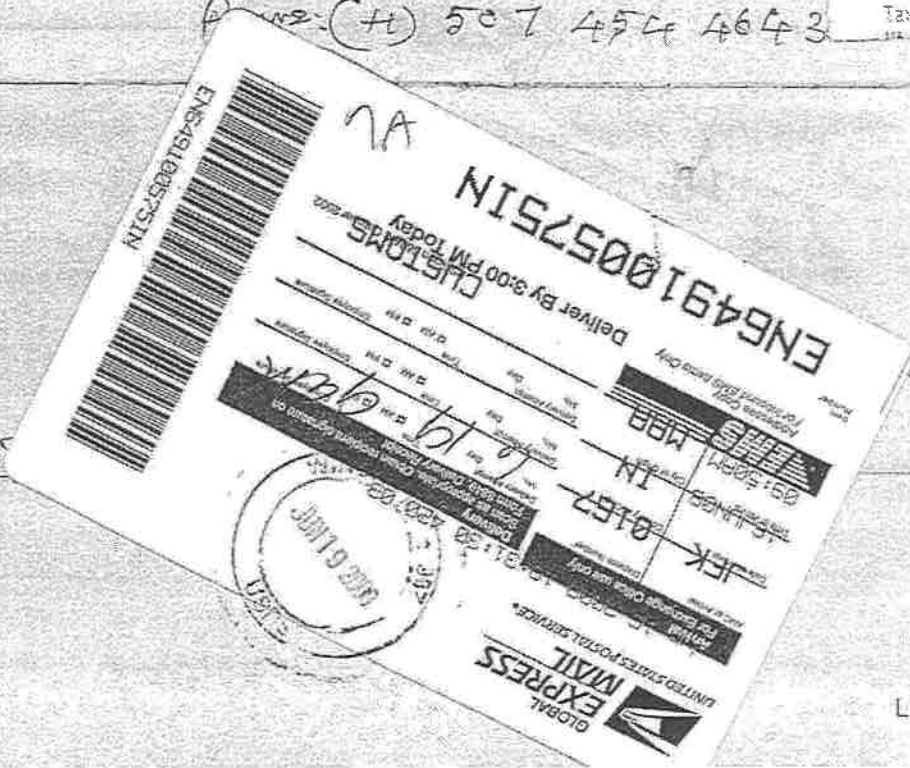
INDIA  
NELLORE  
524001

Ms. P. J. THOMPSON - CHANCELLOR  
PASTORAL CENTRE  
P.O. Box 588  
WINONA  
MN 55987  
U.S.A.

**BISHOP'S HOUSE**  
NELLORE-524 001.  
ANDHRA PRADESH  
INDIA.  
Phone : 0861-2331038  
Fax : 0861-2323950

NELLORE (524001)  
Inn SP-Document EN64910  
Counter No:2,DP-Code:RR  
#####  
INDIA POSTAGE  
Amount:Rs500.00  
#####  
Taxes:Rs55.4012/06/2000

Phone: (+) 507 454 4643



308  
507

LK000122

# EXTRACT FROM BAPTISM REGISTER

Parish..... SACRED HEART CHURCH.....

Place..... KILACHERY.....

S. No..... 16/66.....

When Baptised..... 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 1966.....

Said to be Born..... 19<sup>th</sup> APRIL 1966.....

Place of Birth..... KALLAMBEDU.....

Christian Name..... LEO CHARLES.....

Sex..... MALE.....

Father's Name..... KOPPALA ZACHARIAS.....

Mother's Name..... AROKIANMA.....

Parent's Abode..... KALLAMBEDU.....

Quality, Trade or Profession of Father } OFFICER.....

Name of Sponsors and abode } MASSARAPA MARIA ROSE.....

Name of Place who Baptised } KALLAMBEDU.....

Name of Priest who Baptised } FR. MATHEW SDB.....

Remarks..... ORDIANED ON 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL 1994.....

I certify that the above extract is a true copy



*Fr. S. Arackal Sunny*

ASST. PRIEST  
PARISH PRIEST

Date 25-06-08

## 7. List All Educational Institutions You Attend or Have Attended. Include Vocational Institutions But Not Elementary Schools.

Name of Institution	Address/Telephone No....	Course of Study	Dates of Attendance
t. John's Minor Seminary	Nellore / 0861-2313328	Secondary Education	1981 - 1982
t. John's Minor Seminary	Nellore / 0861-2313328	Intermediate Education	1983 - 1985
t. Paul's Reg. . Seminary	NUZVID / 08656-232609	Spiritual Orientation course	1986 - 1987
t. John's Reg. Seminary	Kondadaba / 08966273591	Philosophy	1987 - 1989
t. John's Reg. Seminary	Hyderabad / 040-27201427	Theology	1990 - 1994
harathidasan University	Tiruchirapalli	B.F.A., M.F.A., - Music	1997 - 2002
ristu Jyothi College	Bangalore / 080-25610012	Diploma in Roman Liturgy	2002

Thompson, PJ

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**From:** arokia samy [arokiasamimi@yahoo.co.in]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 10, 2008 12:11 PM  
**To:** Thompson, PJ  
**Subject:** Re: FW: R-1 visa application

Dear Thompson,

I got the application DS 157 received from Minyoung Ohm. Fr. Leo is filling it up and it will be sent to you tonight. thanks for your message.

with kind regards

Fr.M.I. Arokia Samy

Nellore.

--- On Wed, 9/7/08, Thompson, PJ <pjthompson@DOW.org> wrote:

From: Thompson, PJ <pjthompson@DOW.org>

Subject: FW: R-1 visa application

To: arokiasamimi@yahoo.co.in

Date: Wednesday, 9 July, 2008, 1:05 AM

Dear Rev. Samy,

Please forward this form to Fr. Leo and see that he completes it as soon as possible. Also, having the answers to the questions listed below in the e-mail from the CLINIC attorney in written form would be necessary. This will enable us to get the process moving to the next step. If Fr. Leo feels he would like to contact the CLINIC attorney, Minyoung, her information is listed below.

Blessings,

PJ Thompson

Chancellor

---

**From:** Minyoung Ohm [mailto:MOhm@cliniclegal.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 08, 2008 1:42 PM  
**To:** Thompson, PJ  
**Subject:** FW: R-1 visa application

Dear Ms. Thompson:

I have sent Father Leo Koppala an email (forwarded below) and I have not gotten any response from him. I will need to obtain the information below in order to complete the application. Please let me know if you know a better way to reach Father Koppala other than the email that I used below. Thank you!



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES  
**CHENNAI-INDIA**

U.S. DE

enter key

Consulate News U.S. Citizen Services Visas to the U.S. U.S. Policy & Issues Resources

## VISAS TO THE U.S.

You Are In: Home > Visas to the U.S. > Non-Immigrant Visas

- ▶ Visa Services
- ▼ **Non-Immigrant Visas**
  - General Information
  - What's New?
  - VFS Offices
  - What is NIV?
  - :: **How to Apply**
    - B-1 In Lieu of H
    - FAQ's
    - Courier System
    - Banks
    - Administrative Processing
    - Refusals
    - B.E.P.
    - Consular Contact
    - Types of Visas
    - Return of I-94s
    - Visa Appointments
    - H1B, L, and Dependent Visas
- ▶ Immigrant Visas
- ▶ Adoption

## NON-IMMIGRANT VISAS

### Applying for a Visa

All nonimmigrant visa applicants must follow these steps in order to apply for a US Visa and to schedule a visa Interview :

**Step 1:** All nonimmigrant visa applicants except "**Officials travelling on government business**" and "**Officials of international organisation travelling for official purpose**" must pay the Application Fee and VFS Service Charge at a designated branch of HDFC bank before applying for a visa.

**Step 2:** Log on to the website <http://www.vfs-usa.co.in> and click on the Apply for a Non-Immigrant Visa link once the fees are paid. You will need to use the barcode number from your HDFC Bank Fee Receipt in order to schedule an appointment. You will be required to fill the forms DS-156 and DS-157 and DS-158 (if applicable) at that time. You will have to wait 48 hours after paying the fee before you can book an appointment.

**Step 3:** Report to the US Embassy or Consulate where your appointment for a visa interview is scheduled. You will need to bring the printed Appointment Letter, the Visa Application Forms, one recent photograph and the original HDFC Bank Fee Receipt with its two barcode stickers to the interview. Applications without an original HDFC Bank Receipt or with an incorrect photograph will NOT be accepted.

**Step 4:** If you are Issued a visa, your passport will be returned to you via courier.

Applicants can seek Information at any US Visa

#### Page Tools:

Print this article

Application Centre located in 12 cities across India. For more information about Visas to the United States, or to make an appointment for a Visa using the new VFS system, please visit <http://www.vfs-usa.co.in>

**Bring the following documents to your scheduled interview:**

- A passport valid as of the date of entry into the U.S. (persons whose passports will expire in less than 6 months after their entry into the United States should renew their passports before applying for a visa.)
- A completed and signed Visa Application Form - **DS-156**
- A completed and signed Supplemental Application Form - **DS-157**
- Appointment Letter
- HDFC Bank Fee Receipt with two bar code stickers
- In addition to the above forms, if you are applying for a F-1, M-1 and J-1 visa, you must submit a completed and signed application form **DS-158**
- One recent (within the past six months) passport size photograph 50mm X 50mm (2" x 2") with a white or off-white background. Please [click here](#) for photo requirements.

**Important things to remember when filling out application forms:**

- Respond to all the questions. If you have no response for a question, put "none" or "nil" - do not draw a line or write
- You must provide specific contact and address information both in India and the United States. Applications with responses such as "any hotel" as the address in the U.S. will be rejected for additional information.
- The applicant must sign the application, even if someone else fills it out.
- All applicants are personally responsible and accountable for the answers on their application forms, regardless of who fills out the forms.
- When applying for tourist or business visitor's visa you should also bring documents that you think will help establish your financial ability to travel, your business connections either in India or the US, and other social or economic ties

which will serve to compel your return to India after a limited visit to the United States. Please refer to specific documentary requirements for students, exchange visitors, temporary workers and other specific types of visas.

Due to security concerns and space limitations the Consulate does not permit interested parties such as friends, relatives or business contacts to intervene on behalf of a nonimmigrant visa applicant during an interview. If any such party wishes to present facts to the Embassy concerning a particular visa case, they are encouraged to supply this information directly to the applicant, which that person can then bring in. Letters sent to the consular section in anticipation of applications are seldom available to the interviewing officer at the time the applicant appears. Important: *Submit only valid Documents. Fraud or misrepresentation can result in permanent ineligibility for a nonimmigrant visa.*

#### **Visa fees**

Nonimmigrant visa application fee (non-refundable) **RS. 6026**

(To be paid at a designated branch of HDFC Bank before applying for a US Visa.) Please visit <http://www.vfs-usa.co.in> for payment procedure.

VFS Service Fee **RS. 322** (inclusive of taxes)

(This service charge covers on-line or phone-in information, assistance with making appointments and return by courier of passports with new visas.)

(To be paid at a designated branch of HDFC Bank before applying for a US Visa.) Please visit <http://www.vfs-usa.co.in> for payment procedure.

**Important: Please write your complete name and passport number on the back of each draft.**

This brief video explains new visa policies and procedures for visitors to the United States--a nation with secure borders and open doors. (<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/obs/vid/c12893.htm>)



[back to top ^](#)

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August 19, 2008

Chief, Nonimmigrant Visa Section  
United States Consulate, India

**SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR NONIMMIGRANT RELIGIOUS WORKER VISA**

**RE: (Rev.) Leo Charles Koppala  
Diocese of Winona**

Dear Madam or Sir:

I, Most Reverend Bernard J. Harrington, Bishop and authorized official of the Diocese of Winona execute this letter for and on behalf of Reverend Leo Charles Koppala, a member of our congregation and an ordained minister. This letter is the primary item of documentation in support of his application for an R-1 Religious Worker nonimmigrant visa.

Both 22 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R) §41.58 and 8 C.F.R. §214.2(r) set forth the requirements for R-1 classification. 22 C.F.R. § 41.58 states that "*an [individual] shall be classifiable under the provisions of INA §101(a)(15)(R) if:*

- (1) The [individual], for the 2 years immediately preceding the time of application for admission, has been a member of a religious denomination having a bona fide nonprofit, religious organization in the United States; and
- (2) The [individual] seeks to enter the United States
  - (i) solely for the purpose of carrying on the vocation of a minister...

*Father Leo Charles Koppala meets all of the eligibility requirements for an R-1 visa and R-1 status pursuant to 22 C.F.R. § 41.58 and 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(r):*

- I. Father Leo Charles Koppala has been a member of the Roman Catholic Church since his baptism into the faith as an infant.
- II. The Diocese of Winona is a nonprofit religious organization in the United States and is one of many religious orders of men within the Roman Catholic Church.
- III. Father Leo Charles Koppala seeks to enter the United States at the request of the Diocese of Winona solely to pursue his religious vocation as an ordained minister in service to this congregation and the Roman Catholic Church.

**I. TWO YEARS MEMBERSHIP IN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Father Leo Charles Koppala was born in Kallambedu, India on April 19, 1966 and was baptized into the Roman Catholic Faith as an infant, on May 19, 1966. Please see the attached copy of his Certificate of Baptism. He therefore has many more than the two years of membership in the Roman Catholic Church required by U.S. immigration law and regulations. Father Koppala has been a lifelong practicing Catholic

and he has devoted many years of service to the Catholic Church. See the attached copy of his Certificate of Ordination.

## II. RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION'S TAX-EXEMPT, NONPROFIT STATUS

The Diocese of Winona, for whom and under whose jurisdiction Father Koppala seeks to serve by virtue of his priestly **RELIGIOUS VOCATION**, is a tax-exempt, non-profit, 501(c)(3) religious organization in the United States. The tax-exempt status of the Diocese of Winona is established in a July 1, 2007 certification letter by the Internal Revenue Service to Ms. Deirdre Dessingue, Associate General Counsel, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The letter states that an early IRS ruling held that "the agencies and instrumentalities and all educational, charitable and religious institutions operated, supervised, or controlled by or in connection with the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, its territories or possessions appearing in *The Official Catholic Directory* ... are entitled to exemption from federal income tax ... under the provisions of ... section 501(c)(3) of the 1986 Code." The letter maintains that this ruling is updated annually to cover the activities added to or deleted from *The Official Catholic Directory*.

The Diocese of Winona, which is part of the Roman Catholic Church, appears in *The Official Catholic Directory* of 2007 at pages 1478-1485, confirming that the Diocese qualifies as a nonprofit religious organization in the United States. As noted in *The Directory*, the Diocese was established in 1889. The Diocese encompasses some 12,282 square miles and comprises the counties of Winona, Wabasha, Olmsted, Dodge, Steele, Waseca, Blue Earth, Watonwan, Cottonwood, Murray, Pipestone, Rock, Nobles, Jackson, Faribault, Martin, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore and Houston in the state of Minnesota. As the Bishop of the Diocese of Winona, I have jurisdiction over approximately 115 parishes. There are approximately 121 priests within the Diocese of Winona ministering to 131,280 parishioners.

## III. RELIGIOUS VOCATION

As stated above, Father Koppala was born into a Catholic family and baptized into the faith as an infant. He has long felt a calling to religious life. He attended St. John's Minor Seminary in Nellore from 1979 to 1986 and received spiritual orientation at St. Paul's Seminary in Nuzvid from 1986 to 1987. He studied philosophy and theology at St. John's Major Seminary in Kondadaba and Hyderabad from 1987 to 1994. He also obtained a diploma in Roman Liturgy at Kristu Joyothi College in Bangalore in 2002. He is currently a Roman Catholic Priest with the Diocese of Nellore in India. As a Roman Catholic Priest, he has taught catechism, taught liturgy at St. John's Minor Seminary, oversaw several parishes as an associate parish priest, and currently works as a parish priest at Duvvur Parish.

The Diocese of Winona has invited Father Koppala to serve this religious organization in the United States for a temporary period of time. If so permitted, as an ordained minister, Father Koppala will carry out his religious vocation as a priest, on a full-time basis. He will be assigned to a parish within the Diocese of Winona where he will conduct liturgical services, provide religious and spiritual guidance, and prepare and deliver homilies. He will celebrate the Sacraments of the Church, including the Holy Eucharist, Matrimony, Anointing of the Sick, Baptism, Reconciliation and funeral services. He will teach catechism, train altar servers and lay ministers, and counsel and care for the Catholic Faithful.

## IV. REMUNERATION

Father Koppala will perform, and will be asked to perform, only the religious work so detailed above, in continuing pursuit of his **RELIGIOUS VOCATION**. His maintenance and support will be in accordance with all canonical norms of the Catholic Church, and he will not have to depend upon any supplemental

Application for R-1 Religious Worker visa  
Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

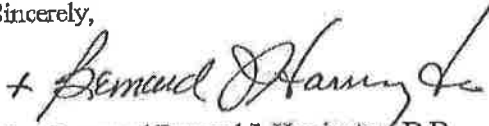
3

employment or solicitation of funds. The Diocese of Winona employs well over 100 individuals, and we have sufficient resources and the intent to maintain Father Koppala, in accordance with 8 C.F.R. § 204.5(g)(2).

#### V. CONCLUSION

The Diocese of Winona and Father Leo Charles Koppala understand the rules and limitations of R-1 nonimmigrant status. This attestation complies fully with all regulations governing the classification as an R-1 Religious Worker in compliance with 22 C.F.R. § 41.58 and 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(i). There should be no doubt as to the qualifying religious nature of Father Koppala's proposed service as a priest, in continued fulfillment of his **RELIGIOUS VOCATION**. Therefore, at this time, I respectfully request that you grant him an R-1 religious worker visa, so that he come to the U.S. to carry out his **RELIGIOUS VOCATION** as a priest within the Diocese of Winona for a temporary period of time.

Sincerely,




Most Reverend Bernard J. Harrington, D.D.  
Bishop of the Diocese of Winona

LK000037



U.S. Department of State  
**NONIMMIGRANT VISA APPLICATION**

Approved OMB 1406-0018  
Expires 11/30/2010  
Estimated Burden 1 hour  
See Page 2

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT YOUR ANSWERS IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW EACH ITEM					
1. Passport Number <b>E8080055</b>		2. Place of Issuance: City: <b>Hyderabad</b> Country: <b>INDIA</b> State/Province:		DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE B-1/B-2 MAX B-1 MAX B-2 MAX Other _____ MAX Visa Classification _____	
3. Issuing Country <b>INDIA</b>		4. Issuance Date (dd-mmm-yyyy) <b>12 MARCH 2004</b>		5. Expiration Date (dd-mmm-yyyy) <b>11 MARCH 2014</b>	
6. Surnames (As in Passport) <b>Koppala</b>				7. First and Middle Names (As in Passport) <b>Leo Charles</b>	
8. Other Surnames Used (Maiden, Religious, Professional, Aliases) <b>none</b>				9. Other First and Middle Names Used <b>none</b>	
10. Date of Birth (dd-mmm-yyyy) <b>19 APRIL 1966</b>				11. Place of Birth: City: <b>Kallambedu</b> Country: <b>INDIA</b> State/Province: <b>T.N.</b>	
12. Nationality <b>INDIA</b>				13. Sex <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
14. National Identification Number (if applicable)		15. Home Address (include apartment number, street, city, state or province, postal zone and country) <b>Bishop's House, Santhapet, , Nellore, Andhra Pradesh 324 001 INDIA</b>			
16. Home Telephone Number <b>+91-861-232-3950</b>		17. Business Phone Number <b>+91-861-233-1038</b>		18. Mobile/Cell Number	
19. Fax Number		20. Business Fax Number		21. Pager Number	
17. Marital Status <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single (Never Married) <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Separated		18. Spouse's Full Name (Even if divorced or separated. include maiden name.)		19. Spouse's DOB (dd-mmm-yyyy)	
20. Name and Address of Present Employer or School Name: <b>Diocese of Nellore</b> Address: <b>India</b>					
21. Present Occupation (If retired, write "retired". If student, write "student".) <b>Roman Catholic Priest</b>		22. When Do You Intend To Arrive in The U.S.? (Provide specific date if known)		23. E-Mail Address <b>kleocharlesmfa@ yahoo.co.in</b>	
24. At What Address Will You Stay in The U.S.? <b>Diocese of Winona, 55 W. Sanborn Street Winona, MN 55987</b>				 <b>J1KU1ZWZEF</b> DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE 50 mm x 50 mm PHOTO staple or glue photo here	
25. Name and Telephone Numbers of Person in U.S. Who You Will Be Staying With or Visiting for Tourism or Business Name: <b>P.J. Thompson</b> Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: <b>507 454 4643 x212</b> Cell Phone: _____					
26. How Long Do You Intend To Stay in The U.S.? <b>3-5 years</b>		27. What is The Purpose of Your Trip? <b>to pursue my religious vocation as a Roman Catholic Priest in service to the Diocese of Winona</b>			
28. Who Will Pay For Your Trip? <b>Diocese of Winona</b>		29. Have You Ever Been in The U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No WHEN? _____ FOR HOW LONG? _____			

<p>30. Have You Ever Been Issued a U.S. Visa?    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>WHEN? _____</p> <p>WHERE? _____</p> <p>WHAT TYPE OF VISA? _____</p>	<p>31. Have You Ever Been Refused a U.S. Visa?    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>WHEN? _____</p> <p>WHERE? _____</p> <p>WHAT TYPE OF VISA? _____</p>
<p>32. Do You Intend To Work In The U.S.?    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No  <i>(If YES, give the name and complete address of U.S. employer.)</i></p> <p>Diocese of Winona  55 W. Sanborn Street  Winona MN 55987</p>	<p>33. Do You Intend To Study In The U.S.?    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No  <i>(If YES, give the name and complete address of the school.)</i></p>
<p>34. Names and Relationships of Persons Traveling With You</p> <p>none</p>	
<p>35. Has Your U.S. Visa Ever Been Cancelled or Revoked?    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>36. Has Anyone Ever Filed an Immigrant Visa Petition on Your Behalf?  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No    If Yes, Who? _____</p>
<p>37. Are Any of The Following Persons in The U.S., or Do They Have U.S. Legal Permanent Residence or U.S. Citizenship?  Mark YES or NO and indicate that person's status in the U.S. (i.e., U.S. legal permanent resident, U.S. citizen, visiting, studying, working, etc.).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO    Husband/    <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO    Fiance/    <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO  Wife    _____    Fiancee    _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO    Father/    <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO    Son/    _____  Mother    _____    Daughter    _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Brother/ Sister    _____</p>	
<p>38. IMPORTANT: ALL APPLICANTS MUST READ AND CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX FOR EACH ITEM.  A visa may not be issued to persons who are within specific categories defined by law as inadmissible to the United States (except when a waiver is obtained in advance). Is any of the following applicable to you?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Have you ever been arrested or convicted for any offense or crime, even though subject of a pardon, amnesty or other similar legal action? Have you ever unlawfully distributed or sold a controlled substance (drug), or been a prostitute or procurer for prostitutes?    <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO</li> <li>● Have you ever been refused admission to the U.S., or been the subject of a deportation hearing, or sought to obtain or assist others to obtain a visa, entry into the U.S., or any other U.S. immigration benefit by fraud or willful misrepresentation or other unlawful means? Have you attended a U.S. public elementary school on student (F) status or a public secondary school after November 30, 1998 without reimbursing the school?    <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO</li> <li>● Do you seek to enter the United States to engage in export control violations, subversive or terrorist activities, or any other unlawful purpose? Are you a member or representative of a terrorist organization as currently designated by the U.S. Secretary of State? Have you ever participated in persecutions directed by the Nazi government of Germany; or have you ever participated in genocide?    <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO</li> <li>● Have you ever violated the terms of a U.S. visa, or been unlawfully present in, or deported from, the United States?    <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO</li> <li>● Have you ever withheld custody of a U.S. citizen child outside the United States from a person granted legal custody by a U.S. court, voted in the United States in violation of any law or regulation, or renounced U.S. citizenship for the purpose of avoiding taxation?    <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO</li> <li>● Have you ever been afflicted with a communicable disease of public health significance or a dangerous physical or mental disorder, or ever been a drug abuser or addict?    <input type="checkbox"/> YES    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO</li> </ul> <p>While a YES answer does not automatically signify ineligibility for a visa, if you answered YES you may be required to personally appear before a consular officer.</p>	
<p>39. Was this Application Prepared by Another Person on Your Behalf?  <i>(If answer is YES, then have that person complete item 40.)</i>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes    <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>40. Application Prepared By:</p> <p>NAME: <u>Minyoung Ohm, Esq.</u>    Relationship to Applicant: <u>attorney</u></p> <p>ADDRESS: <u>Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. 415 Michigan Ave. NE Washington, DC 20017</u></p> <p>Signature of Person Preparing Form: _____    DATE (dd-mmm-yyyy) <u>8/19/08</u></p>	
<p>41. I certify that I have read and understood all the questions set forth in this application and the answers I have furnished on this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false or misleading statement may result in the permanent refusal of a visa or denial of entry into the United States. I understand that possession of a visa does not automatically entitle the bearer to enter the United States of America upon arrival at a port of entry if he or she is found inadmissible.</p> <p>APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____    DATE (dd-mmm-yyyy) _____</p>	
<p>Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Statements</p> <p>INA Section 222(f) provides that visa issuance and refusal records shall be considered confidential and shall be used only for the formulation, amendment, administration, or enforcement of the immigration, nationality, and other laws of the United States. Certified copies of visa records may be made available to a court which certifies that the information contained in such records is needed in a case pending before the court.</p> <p>Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including time required for searching existing data sources, gathering the necessary data, providing the information required, and reviewing the final collection. You do not have to provide the information unless this collection displays a currently valid OMB number. Send comments on the accuracy of this estimate of the burden and recommendations for reducing it to: U.S. Department of State, A/RPS/DIR, Washington, DC 20520.</p>	

August 19, 2008

Chief, Nonimmigrant Visa Section  
United States Consulate, India

**SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR NONIMMIGRANT RELIGIOUS WORKER VISA**

**RE: (Rev.) Leo Charles Koppala  
Diocese of Winona**

Dear Madam or Sir:

I, Most Reverend Bernard J. Harrington, Bishop and authorized official of the Diocese of Winona execute this letter for and on behalf of Reverend Leo Charles Koppala, a member of our congregation and an ordained minister. This letter is the primary item of documentation in support of his application for an R-1 Religious Worker nonimmigrant visa.

Both 22 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) §41.58 and 8 C.F.R. §214.2(r) set forth the requirements for R-1 classification. 22 C.F.R. § 41.58 states that "*an [individual] shall be classifiable under the provisions of INA §101(a)(15)(R) if:*

- (1) The [individual], for the 2 years immediately preceding the time of application for admission, has been a member of a religious denomination having a bona fide nonprofit, religious organization in the United States; and
- (2) The [individual] seeks to enter the United States
  - (i) solely for the purpose of carrying on the vocation of a minister...

*Father Leo Charles Koppala meets all of the eligibility requirements for an R-1 visa and R-1 status pursuant to 22 C.F.R. § 41.58 and 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(r):*

- I. Father Leo Charles Koppala has been a member of the Roman Catholic Church since his baptism into the faith as an infant.
- II. The Diocese of Winona is a nonprofit religious organization in the United States and is one of many religious orders of men within the Roman Catholic Church.
- III. Father Leo Charles Koppala seeks to enter the United States at the request of the Diocese of Winona solely to pursue his religious vocation as an ordained minister in service to this congregation and the Roman Catholic Church.

**I. TWO YEARS MEMBERSHIP IN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Father Leo Charles Koppala was born in Kallambedu, India on April 19, 1966 and was baptized into the Roman Catholic Faith as an infant, on May 19, 1966. Please see the attached copy of his Certificate of Baptism. He therefore has many more than the two years of membership in the Roman Catholic Church required by U.S. immigration law and regulations. Father Koppala has been a lifelong practicing Catholic

and he has devoted many years of service to the Catholic Church. See the attached copy of his Certificate of Ordination.

## II. RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION'S TAX-EXEMPT, NONPROFIT STATUS

The Diocese of Winona, for whom and under whose jurisdiction Father Koppala seeks to serve by virtue of his priestly **RELIGIOUS VOCATION**, is a tax-exempt, non-profit, 501(c)(3) religious organization in the United States. The tax-exempt status of the Diocese of Winona is established in a July 1, 2007 certification letter by the Internal Revenue Service to Ms. Deirdre Dessingue, Associate General Counsel, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The letter states that an early IRS ruling held that "the agencies and instrumentalities and all educational, charitable and religious institutions operated, supervised, or controlled by or in connection with the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, its territories or possessions appearing in *The Official Catholic Directory* ... are entitled to exemption from federal income tax ... under the provisions of ... section 501(c)(3) of the 1986 Code." The letter maintains that this ruling is updated annually to cover the activities added to or deleted from *The Official Catholic Directory*.

The Diocese of Winona, which is part of the Roman Catholic Church, appears in *The Official Catholic Directory* of 2007 at pages 1478-1485, confirming that the Diocese qualifies as a nonprofit religious organization in the United States. As noted in *The Directory*, the Diocese was established in 1889. The Diocese encompasses some 12,282 square miles and comprises the counties of Winona, Wabasha, Olmsted, Dodge, Steele, Waseca, Blue Earth, Watonwan, Cottonwood, Murray, Pipestone, Rock, Nobles, Jackson, Faribault, Martin, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore and Houston in the state of Minnesota. As the Bishop of the Diocese of Winona, I have jurisdiction over approximately 115 parishes. There are approximately 121 priests within the Diocese of Winona ministering to 131,280 parishioners.

## III. RELIGIOUS VOCATION

As stated above, Father Koppala was born into a Catholic family and baptized into the faith as an infant. He has long felt a calling to religious life. He attended St. John's Minor Seminary in Nellore from 1979 to 1986 and received spiritual orientation at St. Paul's Seminary in Nuzvid from 1986 to 1987. He studied philosophy and theology at St. John's Major Seminary in Kondadaba and Hyderabad from 1987 to 1994. He also obtained a diploma in Roman Liturgy at Kristu Joyothi College in Bangalore in 2002. He is currently a Roman Catholic Priest with the Diocese of Nellore in India. As a Roman Catholic Priest, he has taught catechism, taught liturgy at St. John's Minor Seminary, oversaw several parishes as an associate parish priest, and currently works as a parish priest at Duvvur Parish.

The Diocese of Winona has invited Father Koppala to serve this religious organization in the United States for a temporary period of time. If so permitted, as an ordained minister, Father Koppala will carry out his religious vocation as a priest, on a full-time basis. He will be assigned to a parish within the Diocese of Winona where he will conduct liturgical services, provide religious and spiritual guidance, and prepare and deliver homilies. He will celebrate the Sacraments of the Church, including the Holy Eucharist, Matrimony, Anointing of the Sick, Baptism, Reconciliation and funeral services. He will teach catechism, train altar servers and lay ministers, and counsel and care for the Catholic Faithful.

## IV. REMUNERATION

Father Koppala will perform, and will be asked to perform, only the religious work so detailed above, in continuing pursuit of his **RELIGIOUS VOCATION**. His maintenance and support will be in accordance with all canonical norms of the Catholic Church, and he will not have to depend upon any supplemental



Application for R-1 Religious Worker visa

Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

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employment or solicitation of funds. The Diocese of Winona employs well over 100 individuals, and we have sufficient resources and the intent to maintain Father Koppala, in accordance with 8 C.F.R. § 204.5(g)(2).

#### V. CONCLUSION

The Diocese of Winona and Father Leo Charles Koppala understand the rules and limitations of R-1 nonimmigrant status. This attestation complies fully with all regulations governing the classification as an R-1 Religious Worker in compliance with 22 C.F.R. § 41.58 and 8 C.F.R. § 214.2(r). There should be no doubt as to the qualifying religious nature of Father Koppala's proposed service as a priest, in continued fulfillment of his **RELIGIOUS VOCATION**. Therefore, at this time, I respectfully request that you grant him an R-1 religious worker visa, so that he come to the U.S. to carry out his **RELIGIOUS VOCATION** as a priest within the Diocese of Winona for a temporary period of time.

Sincerely,



Most Reverend Bernard J. Harrington, D.D.  
Bishop of the Diocese of Winona

LK000101

August 19, 2008

**INSTRUCTIONS TO R-1 VISA APPLICANT:  
Reverend Leo Charles Koppala**

**These instructions are important and must be read through very carefully.**

Here you have two packets of paper: an **ORIGINAL** tabbed R-1 visa application packet to present to the U.S. Consulate and a duplicate packet to show immigration at the airport.

You will present the original application packet, along with your passport, in person, to the U.S. Consulate in India. The second packet is a duplicate copy. Do not present the duplicate to the U.S. Consulate. This is your duplicate copy. Keep this copy to present to U.S. Immigration Inspectors at the airport, in case it is requested and the U.S. Consulate keeps your original.

**Never give the impression to a U.S. Consular officer or an Immigration officer that you are coming to the United States on a permanent basis.** The R-1 visa is a nonimmigrant visa, which authorizes you to enter the U.S. for a temporary period of time, up to five years. You have already been in R-1 status for three years and you will be authorized to stay two more years in R-1 status.

**1. Review Form DS-156 Nonimmigrant Visa Application**

Review the form very carefully for accuracy and completeness. If you feel that there are major changes or corrections to make on this form, please check with me.

I have prepared your Form DS-156 online, which means that a bar code was generated. The Consular Officer will scan the bar code at the interview to enter the information onto his computer. Any changes made later will need to be pointed out to the Consular Officer. Once you have completed the review, **sign and date** the form as indicated.

Please be sure to have one passport size photos taken in color and against a white background.

**2. Review Form DS-157 Supplemental Nonimmigrant Visa Application**

Please review the form DS-157, which is required of all males between the ages of 18 and 45. You must print in any missing information in black ink. If you feel that there are major changes or corrections to make on this form, please check with me.

LK000102

### 3. Understand Your Sponsor's Letter and Documentation

Bishop Harrington's "Sponsor" letter is a very important part of your application. It explains that you have been a Catholic for the required period and that you are coming to the U.S. to serve the Church as a Roman Catholic Priest, which is the basis of your religious classification.

I have also included a letter from the Internal Revenue Service and an excerpt from the Official Catholic Directory for 2007, which proves that your sponsoring religious organization, the Diocese of Winona, is a bona fide, qualified, sponsoring religious organization in the United States.

You will also find an attorney letter to the Consulate emphasizing the provisions of the regulations pertaining to your eligibility for the R-1 visa. Please make sure that you read through and understand all of this documentation. Essentially, the letter explains that: 1) unlike most nonimmigrant visas, R-1 visa applicants are not required to provide proof of "compelling ties" to his/her home country; and 2) unlike other employment-based visas, R-1 visa applicants are not required to have pre-approved INS petition.

I included a copy of your baptismal certificate to prove that you have been a member of the Roman Catholic Church for your entire life. I also included a copy of your ordination certificate to show that you are indeed an ordained Roman Catholic Priest. You may want to carry the originals with you in case the Consular Officer requests them.

### 4. The Formal Application and Interview

As you know, you must personally present your complete original visa application to the U.S. Consulate in India at your interview. If you have not already done so, you must visit a designated branch of HDFC bank to pay your application fee of \$131.00 or equivalent. Then you will need to log onto the website <http://www.vfs-usa.co.in> and make a visa appointment using the bar code number from your HDFC bank fee receipt. You may be required to fill out DS-156 and DS-157 forms at that time, then please use the forms contained in the application packet as guidance. You will need to print out the appointment letter and bring this to the visa interview as well as the original HDFC bank fee receipt, your complete visa application packet, and your passport.

During the interview, **never give the impression to a U.S. Consular officer or an Immigration officer that you are coming to the United States on a permanent basis.** The R-1 visa is a nonimmigrant visa, which authorizes you to enter the U.S. for a temporary period of time only, up to five years.

Listen carefully to the questions you are asked and the information you are given. If you are told that more documentation is needed, or if the application is denied, **please ask for the information in writing**, write down the name of the person interviewing you and get in touch with me.

### 4. At the Airport.

Once you have been issued an R-1 visa, you can travel to the United States. When you arrive at the airport or border, you will go through immigration inspection. Please note that as part of the U.S. VISIT program implemented by the Department of Homeland Security, you may be fingerprinted and photographed as a security measure to verify your identity.

**Be sure to ask to be admitted to the U.S. for a period of two (3) years regardless of your visa validity.** The Immigration officer will stamp the I-94 card with the date of your arrival, and then he or she will

handwrite your admission symbol (R-1) and the date until which you are authorized to stay in the U.S. Immigration inspectors do not always write the correct admission symbol; therefore, **make sure that the officer writes "R-1."**

After you arrive in the United States, please mail me a clear, legible photocopy of the front and back of your I-94 Arrival/Departure Record and R-1 visa. Please leave me a message at (202) 756-5479, or via e-mail at [mohm@cliniclegal.org](mailto:mohm@cliniclegal.org), if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Minyoung Ohm



August 19, 2008

Chief, Nonimmigrant Visa Section, U.S Embassy, India

**SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR R-1 NONIMMIGRANT VISA  
Rev. Leo Charles Koppala**

Dear Madam or Sir:

I am writing to supplement the R-1 visa application of the above-referenced individual. Reverend Leo Charles Koppala meets all of the eligibility requirements for an R-1 visa and status as a Religious Worker pursuant to 22 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §41.58 and 8 CFR §214.2(r). His qualifications are outlined in the attached letter from the Roman Catholic organization, the Diocese of Winona.

In adjudicating Father Koppala's R-1 visa application, please review: (1) the attached cable issued by the Department of State on February 26, 2001 to provide guidance on R-1 visa adjudication; and (2) Volume 9 of the Foreign Affairs Manual (FAM), Section 41.58, Notes 2, 8, and 14. I emphasize the following provisions because often times R-1 visa applications are erroneously denied for "lack of compelling ties," "no approved USCIS petition," or "not enough experience."

9 FAM Section 41.58, Note 2 states specifically:

"There is no requirement in the INA that applicants for R status establish that they have a residence in a foreign country which they have no intention of abandoning... The alien's stated intention to depart the United States when his or her status ends is normally sufficient to satisfy INA 101(a)(15)(R)(ii), absent specific indications or evidence that the alien's intent is to the contrary."

The above cited 9 FAM Section 41.58, Note 2 is especially pertinent to Father Koppala's application. **R-1 Religious Worker visa applicants are exempt from the residence abroad requirement and Father Koppala intends to come to the US for a temporary period of time and to comply with all the rules and limitations of R-1 status.**

There should be no doubt as to the qualifying religious nature of Father Koppala's proposed service in the U.S. as a Roman Catholic Priest. He has been a member of the Catholic Faith all of his life. He has led a life of prayer, study, and service to the Roman Catholic Church in dedicated commitment and fulfillment of his religious vocation as a priest.

I respectfully request that you issue Father Leo Koppala an R-1 visa valid for FIVE YEARS, the maximum time possible, so that he come to the United States in R-1 RELIGIOUS WORKER status, to serve the Roman Catholic Church and the Diocese of Winona, for a temporary period of time.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please contact me at 202-756-5479 or [mohm@cliniclegal.org](mailto:mohm@cliniclegal.org) if you have any questions or if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



Minyoung Ohm

POST FINDS THAT THE ALIEN DOES NOT QUALIFY FOR R-1 STATUS, THE CASE IS NOT TO BE RETURNED TO INS (UNLIKE AN H-1B OR L-1 CASE).

RELIGIOUS "VOCATION" VS. RELIGIOUS "OCCUPATION"

7. IF AN ALIEN IS SEEKING R-1 CLASSIFICATION BASED ON HIS OR HER RELIGIOUS "VOCATION", THIS MUST BE EVIDENCED BY THE DEMONSTRATION OF A LIFELONG COMMITMENT AS PRACTICED IN THE RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION, SUCH AS THE TAKING OF VOWS. EXAMPLES OF PERSONS WITH A RELIGIOUS VOCATION INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, NUNS, MONKS, AND RELIGIOUS BROTHERS AND SISTERS (9 FAM 41.58 N9.2-3). AS 9 FAM 41-58 N9.4 STATES: "AN ALIEN WHO HAS TAKEN VOWS OR THE EQUIVALENT AND HAS MADE A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO A RELIGION IS PRESUMED TO BE ENGAGING IN ACTIVITIES RELATING TO A TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS FUNCTION REGARDLESS OF THE NATURE OF ACTIVITY TO BE PERFORMED. PERSONS WITH RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS MAY ENGAGE IN ANY TYPE OF ACTIVITY WITHIN THEIR DENOMINATION OR ITS AFFILIATE, AND THE ABSOLUTE EXCLUSION OF JANITORS, MAINTENANCE WORKERS, CLERKS, ETC. FROM THE DEFINITION OF 'RELIGIOUS OCCUPATION' DOES NOT APPLY TO RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS." FOR VOCATION-BASED R-1 APPLICANTS, THE EMPHASIS IS THEREFORE ON WHAT THE APPLICANT'S STATUS IS WITHIN THE RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION, RATHER THAN ON WHAT THE APPLICANT WILL DO IN THE U.S.

8. IF THE ALIEN DOES NOT QUALIFY AS A MINISTER OF RELIGION AND CONOFF DETERMINES THAT THE ALIEN DOES NOT HAVE ANY OTHER RELIGIOUS VOCATION, THE APPLICANT WOULD NOT QUALIFY FOR AN R-1 UNLESS HE/SHE IS COMING TO THE U.S. TO WORK IN A RELIGIOUS "OCCUPATION". ALIENS SEEKING R-1 CLASSIFICATION BASED ON THEIR INTENT TO TAKE UP A RELIGIOUS OCCUPATION MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT THE PROPOSED POSITION IS A HABITUAL ENGAGEMENT IN AN ACTIVITY WHICH RELATES TO A TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS FUNCTION. EXAMPLES OF INDIVIDUALS IN RELIGIOUS OCCUPATIONS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, LITURGICAL WORKERS, RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTORS OR COUNSELORS, CANTORS, CATECHISTS, WORKERS IN RELIGIOUS HOSPITALS OR RELIGIOUS HEALTH CARE FACILITIES, MISSIONARIES, RELIGIOUS TRANSLATORS, OR RELIGIOUS BROADCASTERS (9 FAM 41.58 N9.2.2). THE DUTIES MUST BE PREDOMINANTLY RELIGIOUS IN NATURE FOR THE ALIEN TO QUALIFY AS HAVING A RELIGIOUS OCCUPATION. FOR OCCUPATION-BASED R-1 APPLICANTS, THE EMPHASIS IS THUS ON WHAT THE APPLICANT WILL DO IN THE U.S. RATHER THAN ON WHAT THE APPLICANT'S STATUS IS.

9. IN CASES INVOLVING A CLAIMED RELIGIOUS OCCUPATION, THE POST SHOULD FOCUS ON THE EXACT DUTIES OF THE POSITION THE ALIEN INTENDS TO TAKE UP IN THE U.S. WHETHER THE DUTIES RELATE TO TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS FUNCTIONS SHOULD BE DETERMINED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PARTICULAR RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION. FOR EXAMPLE, WHILE MEAT PROCESSING IS NORMALLY A SECULAR FUNCTION, INSURING THAT MEAT IS PROCESSED CONSISTENT WITH KOSHER OR HALAL RULES COULD BE CONSIDERED A RELIGIOUS FUNCTION. THE FACT THAT THE ALIEN MAY NOT BE ENGAGED IN A RELIGIOUS OCCUPATION AT THE TIME OF VISA APPLICATION IS NOT A BAR TO ISSUANCE, AS THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT THAT AN R-1 APPLICANT HAVE ANY PRIOR EXPERIENCE AS A RELIGIOUS WORKER. WHILE PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE IS NOT REQUIRED, IT IS RELEVANT TO DETERMINING WHETHER THE ALIEN TRULY INTENDS TO TAKE UP THE DESCRIBED RELIGIOUS OCCUPATION.

214 (B)? - OR NOT 214 (B)?

10. REFUSAL OF AN R-1 APPLICATION UNDER 214 (B) IS APPROPRIATE WHEN AN APPLICANT FAILS TO ESTABLISH ELIGIBILITY FOR R-1 CLASSIFICATION. THUS, IF POST FINDS THAT THE APPLICANT DOES NOT HAVE A RELIGIOUS VOCATION AND IS NOT DESTINED FOR A POSITION THAT MEETS THE DEFINITION OF RELIGIOUS OCCUPATION, THEN THE PROPER REFUSAL GROUND IS 214 (B). THEREFORE, POST'S FOCUS IN REGARD 214 (B) SHOULD BE ON WHETHER THE APPLICANT QUALIFIES FOR STATUS, RATHER THAN ON WHETHER THE APPLICANT INTENDS TO RETURN TO A RESIDENCE OUTSIDE THE U.S. UPON COMPLETION OF STAY IN THE U.S.

11. UNDER INA 101 (A) (15) (R), APPLICANTS FOR R VISAS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN A RESIDENCE ABROAD WHICH THEY DO NOT INTEND TO ABANDON (9 FAM 41.58 N2), NOR ARE THEY REQUIRED TO DEMONSTRATE "NONIMMIGRANT INTENT." THEREFORE, AN ALIEN APPLYING FOR AN R VISA CANNOT BE REFUSED UNDER 214 (B) ON THE GROUND THAT HE/SHE LACKS "COMPELLING TIES", NOR WOULD AN INTENT TO ADJUST STATUS TO IMMIGRANT SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE BE A PROPER BASIS FOR A 214 (B) FINDING IF POST IS SATISFIED THAT THE APPLICANT INTENDS TO COMPLY WITH ALL THE REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING R STATUS. AS NOTED IN 9 FAM 41.58 N2, BECAUSE R APPLICANTS ARE EXEMPT FROM THE RESIDENCE ABROAD REQUIREMENT, THE ALIEN'S STATED INTENTION TO DEPART THE U.S. WHEN HIS/HER STATUS ENDS IS NORMALLY SUFFICIENT TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF 214 (B). ABSENT SPECIFIC EVIDENCE THAT THE ALIEN'S INTENT IS TO THE CONTRARY, THUS, R-1 APPLICANTS ARE HELD TO THE SAME LENIENT STANDARD OF 214 (B) ALSO APPLIED TO E-1 AND E-2 NIV APPLICANTS.

B VISAS FOR RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY

12. POSTS SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT CERTAIN RELIGIOUS WORK CAN BE UNDERTAKEN IN B STATUS, UNDER 9 FAM 41.31 N6.1. IN ADDITION, OTHER RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES (E.G., PRIVATE WORSHIP, PRAYER, MEDITATION, INFORMAL (AVOCATIONAL) RELIGIOUS STUDY, AND ATTENDANCE AT RELIGIOUS SERVICES OR CONFERENCES) WHICH DO NOT CONSTITUTE RELIGIOUS "WORK" (AND THEREFORE WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR R CLASSIFICATION UNLESS THE ALIEN HAS A RELIGIOUS VOCATION) NONETHELESS MAY QUALIFY FOR B-1 OR B-2 VISA CLASSIFICATION. OTHER THAN IN THE NARROW CONTEXTS LISTED IN 9 FAM 41.31 N6.1, RELIGIOUS WORKERS CANNOT WORK ON A B VISA, AND IF THE ALIEN WILL BE PAID A SALARY FROM A U.S. SOURCE, B-1 CLASSIFICATION SHOULD NOT BE USED, AND THE ALIEN MUST QUALIFY FOR R-1 OR SOME OTHER WORK VISA. THE "RESIDENCE ABROAD" REQUIREMENT OF 214 (B) MUST BE MET AS TO ANY ALIEN SEEKING TO UNDERTAKE RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES ON A B VISA.

WHEN TO SEEK AN ADVISORY OPINION

13. IT IS THE DUTY OF THE CONSULAR OFFICER TO DETERMINE WHETHER INDIVIDUAL APPLICANTS QUALIFY FOR R VISAS, AS THE PRINCIPAL ISSUES NECESSARY TO RESOLVE R VISA ELIGIBILITY (E.G., TWO-YEAR MEMBERSHIP IN THE DENOMINATION; WHETHER THE ALIEN HAS A RELIGIOUS VOCATION OR OCCUPATION) ARE FACTUAL IN NATURE, THE ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION IS NECESSARILY ONE FOR THE CONSULAR OFFICER TO MAKE, AND AN

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ADVISORY OPINION WOULD NOT NORMALLY BE NECESSARY UNLESS THE OFFICER HAD A PARTICULAR LEGAL QUESTION IN A PARTICULAR CASE. THAT SAID, IF A POST NEEDS GUIDANCE IN A PARTICULAR CASE, VO WELCOMES QUERIES. A CONSULAR OFFICER WHO HAS UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICABILITY OF R CLASSIFICATION TO AN APPLICANT'S PROPOSED POSITION, OR THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE ALIEN OR THE RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION, SHOULD SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR AN ADVISORY OPINION TO THE DEPARTMENT, ATTENTION CAVO/LIA.

14. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED  
LARSON

LK000116



### SUPPLEMENTAL NONIMMIGRANT VISA APPLICATION

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT YOUR ANSWERS IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW EACH ITEM  
PLEASE ATTACH AN ADDITIONAL SHEET IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE TO CONTINUE YOUR ANSWERS

1. Last Name(s) (List all Spellings) <b>KOPPALA</b>	2. First Name(s) (List all Spellings) <b>LEO CHARLES</b>	3. Full Name (In Native Alphabet) <b>KOPPALA LEO CHARLES</b>
4. Clan or Tribe Name (If Applicable) ---		5. Spouse's Full Name (If Married) ---
6. Father's Full Name <b>KOPPALA ZACHRISAS</b>		7. Mother's Full Name <b>KOPPALA AROGYA MARY</b>
8. Full Name and Address of Contact Person or Organization in the United States (Include Telephone Number) <b>MOST. REV. BERNARD J. HARRINGTON BISHOP OF WINONA 55 WEST SANBORN ST, P.O. BOX 588, WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987, U.S.A. PH: 001 507 454 4643</b>		
9. List All Countries You have Entered in the Last Ten Years (Give the Year of Each Visit) <b>EGYPT - MAY 2007 JORDAN - MAY 2007 ISRAEL - MAY 2007</b>		10. List All Countries That Have Ever Issued You a Passport ---
11. Have You Ever Lost a Passport or Had One Stolen? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
12. Not Including Current Employer, List Your Last Two Employers		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone No.</u>
<b>BIBLE TOURS, CHENNAI, 0445038005</b>		
13. List all Professional, Social and Charitable Organizations to Which You Belong (Belonged) or Contribute (Contributed) or with Which You Work (Have Worked) <b>DIOCESE OF NELLORE</b>		14. Do You Have Any Specialized Skills or Training, Including Firearms, Explosives, Nuclear, Biological, or Chemical Experience? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, please explain
15. Have You Ever Performed Military Service? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, Give Name of Country, Branch of Service, Rank/Position, Military Specialty, and Dates of Service.		
16. Have You Ever Been in an Armed Conflict, Either as a Participant or Victim? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If YES, please explain.		
17. List All Educational Institutions You Attend or Have Attended Include Vocational Institutions But Not Elementary Schools.		
<u>Name of Institution</u>	<u>Address/Telephone No.</u>	<u>Course of Study</u>
<b>ADDITIONAL SHEET ENCLOSED</b>		
18. Have You Made Specific Travel Arrangements? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If YES, please provide a complete itinerary for your travel, including arrival/departure dates, flight information, specific location you will visit, and a point of contact at each location.		
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement		
*Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including time required for searching existing data sources, gathering the necessary data, providing the information required, and reviewing the final collection. You do not have to provide the information unless this collection displays a currently valid OMB number. Send comments on the accuracy of this estimate of the burden and recommendations for reducing it to: U.S. Department of State, A/RPS/DIR, Washington, DC 20520.		



August 19, 2008

Ms. P.J. Thompson, Chancellor  
Diocese of Winona  
55 W. Sanborn St.  
Winona MN 55987

**RE: Application for Admission as R-1 Religious Worker for  
Leo Charles Koppala**

Dear Ms. Thompson:

Please find enclosed the R-1 visa application packet for Father Leo Charles Koppala in India.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- ✓1. Please have the "sponsor" letter copied onto the official letterhead of the Diocese of Winona;
- ✓2. Have Bishop sign the sponsor letter;
3. Make three copies of the signed sponsor letter (one copy for the duplicate packet, one copy for your files, and the third copy to send to me at CLINIC);
4. Insert the original signed sponsor letter into the original application packet. Insert a copy of the sponsor letter into the duplicate packet; and
5. Send both packets to Father Leo Charles Koppala in India. He will need to read through my instructions and make the visa appointment.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 756-5479 or [mohm@cliniclegal.org](mailto:mohm@cliniclegal.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Minyoung Ohm



**MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM**  
BISHOP OF NELLORE



**BISHOP'S HOUSE, NELLORE - 524 001.**  
Andhra Pradesh, South India  
Tel. : Per : 0091 861 2320191  
Off : 0091 861 2331038  
Fax : Off : 0091 861 2323950  
E-mail : Per : bspprakasam@yahoo.com;  
Off : nlrbs@yahoo.com;  
dn\_bhs@rediffmail.com

26<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2008.

**Most Reverend Bernard Harrington**  
Bishop of Winona,  
Winona, U.S.A.

**Dear Bishop Bernard Harrington,**

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I am very glad to send you this letter through my priest Rev. K. Leo Charles. Finally he is able to fly over to USA and come to work in your Diocese. Thank you very much for waiting so long, very patiently. Fr. Leo too was patient in waiting so long. I am sure that your Lordship, Your Priests and Faithful will take very good care of my priest and make him feel at home. He is a talented and capable person. I am confident that he will be of good service to your Diocese.

He is lent to your Diocese for three years, after which he will have to return to his mother Diocese, Nellore. Please make necessary arrangements that from the third month of his payment US\$.600/- out of his salary is sent to the Diocese of Nellore. Check can be made to "The Society of the Diocese of Nellore". For now I humbly request you to help us to pay his Flight Charges US\$.1250/-.

I had remembered and prayed for your Lordship on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September, your 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday. That day I was celebrating Holy Mass at the shrine of Our Lady of Good Health at Hyderabad. I thought of you in a special way then. How was the day. I hope that you will be continuing for some more years. Your very graceful, kind and understanding. I am sure that the people will be very happy to have you as their Shepard.

I will look forward to an opportunity of speaking to you over phone. Please keep our Diocese in your prayers. With best wishes and prayers, I remain.

United in Christ,

*+ M.D. Prakasam*

**+ Moses D. Prakasam.**  
Bishop of the Diocese of Nellore.



LK000006

**MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM**  
BISHOP OF NELLORE



Tel. : Per : 0091 861 2320191  
Off : 0091 861 2331038  
Fax : Off : 0091 861 2323950  
E-mail : Per : bspprakasam@yahoo.com;  
Off : nlrbhs@yahoo.com;  
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United in Christ,

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+ **Moses D. Prakasam.**  
Bishop of the Diocese of Nellore.



LK000043

MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM  
BISHOP OF NELLORE



**BISHOP'S HOUSE, NELLORE - 524 001.**  
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Tel. : Per : 0091 861 2320191  
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United in Christ,

*M. D. Prakasam*

+ **Moses D. Prakasam.**  
Bishop of the Diocese of Nellore.



LK000090

July 3, 2009

Rev. Leo Charles Koppala  
Church of the Resurrection  
1600 - 11th Ave SE  
Rochester MN 55904-5499

Dear Fr. Koppala:

I am pleased to appoint you Parochial Administrator of Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish, Blue Earth and St. Mary's Parish, Winnebago, effective January 6, 2010. I am most grateful that you are willing to serve the faithful of these parishes. You will have the opportunity to work, in residence, with the current pastor, Father Mark McNea, beginning in October. Please contact him to discuss these arrangements.

In appointing you, I commit to you the full care of these parishes with all the rights and obligations divined for Parochial Administrators in the Code of Canon Law, canons 539 and 540, and in accord with the Policies and Guidelines of the Diocese of Winona.

Fr. Koppala, I thank you for all the good work you did helping in ministry at Resurrection Parish in Rochester, Minnesota and I appreciate very much your willingness to take on this new assignment.

Father Leo, I am grateful for your care for all the faithful. Continue to provide a shepherds care for your people. Let me encourage you to work hard to implement our new Pastoral Letter "Proclaim Jesus!" Our diocesan curia and support staff are always ready and willing to assist you as you seek to do this and all ministries of the parish. Do all you can to help young people respond to the call of Christ in their lives, especially in working with the Faith Formation Programs. Make the youth feel welcome and at home and do all you can to meet their spiritual needs.

You will be part of the Mankato Deanery. Be sure to attend deanery meetings and avail yourself of the opportunities that are provided each year for your enrichment, including June Ministry Days, Spring and Fall Ministry Days and Clergy Days. Keep your spiritual life healthy. Take care of your physical health. Be sure to make a good spiritual retreat at least once a year.

Please make an appointment to see me in the Spring of 2010 so that we can discuss how your assignment is working out. Be assured of my prayers. If there is ever anything I can do for you, just let me know. May God be with you as you begin this new chapter in your life as a ministerial priest of Jesus Christ.

Be assured of my prayers. If there is ever anything I can do for you, just let me know. May God be with you as you begin this new chapter in your life as a ministerial priest of Jesus Christ.

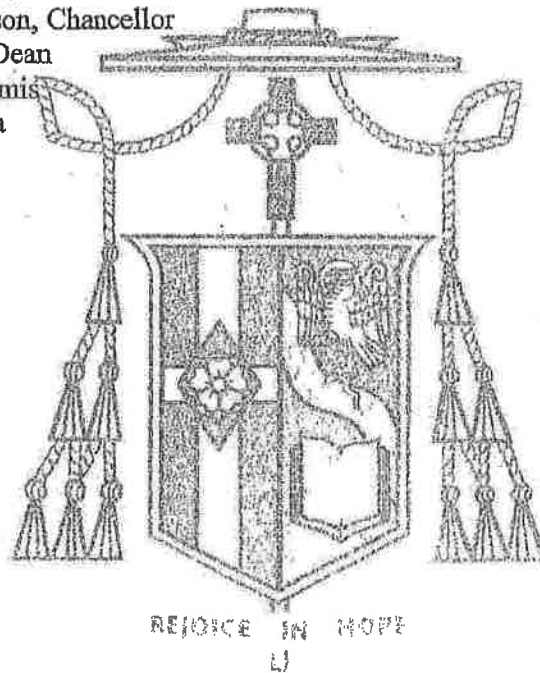
Sincerely in Christ,

*John M. Quinn*  
Most Rev. John M Quinn  
Bishop of Winona

*Fr. Leo Charles,  
thank you for your generous  
priestly ministry.*

JMQ:jt

cc. Rev. James Steffes, Vicar General  
Mrs. P. J. Thompson, Chancellor  
Rev. John Kunz, Dean  
Rev. Thomas Loomis  
Rev. Mark McNea



LK000033

July 3, 2009

Rev. Leo Charles Koppala  
Church of the Resurrection  
1600 - 11th Ave SE  
Rochester MN 55904-5499

Dear Fr. Koppala:

I am pleased to appoint you Parochial Administrator of Ss. Peter & Paul's Parish, Blue Earth and St. Mary's Parish, Winnebago, effective January 6, 2010. I am most grateful that you are willing to serve the faithful of these parishes. You will have the opportunity to work, in residence, with the current pastor, Father Mark McNea, beginning in October. Please contact him to discuss these arrangements.

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Fr. Koppala, I thank you for all the good work you did helping in ministry at Resurrection Parish in Rochester, Minnesota and I appreciate very much your willingness to take on this new assignment.

Father Leo, I am grateful for your care for all the faithful. Continue to provide a shepherds care for your people. Let me encourage you to work hard to implement our new Pastoral Letter "Proclaim Jesus!" Our diocesan curia and support staff are always ready and willing to assist you as you seek to do this and all ministries of the parish. Do all you can to help young people respond to the call of Christ in their lives, especially in working with the Faith Formation Programs. Make the youth feel welcome and at home and do all you can to meet their spiritual needs.

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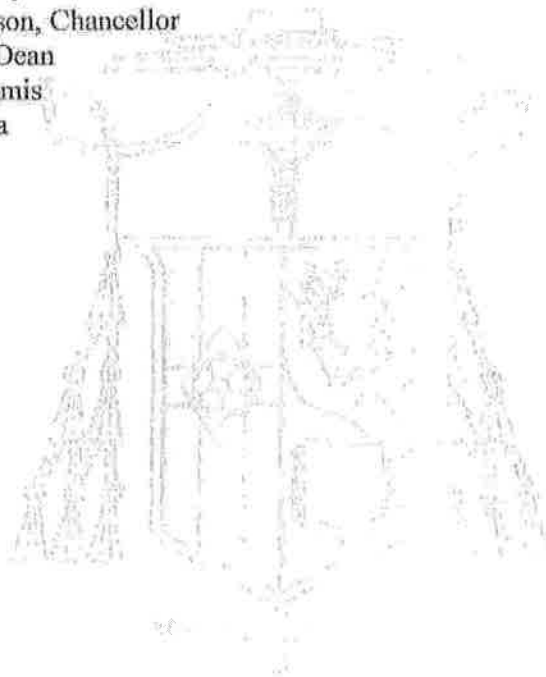
Sincerely in Christ,

*John M. Quinn*  
Most Rev. John M Quinn  
Bishop of Winona

To Leo Charles,  
Thank you for your generous  
priestly ministry.

JMQ:jt

cc. Rev. James Steffes, Vicar General  
Mrs. P. J. Thompson, Chancellor  
Rev. John Kunz, Dean  
Rev. Thomas Loomis  
Rev. Mark McNea



LK000092



Office of the Vicar General

**DIOCESE OF WINONA**  
PASTORAL CENTER

April 18, 2011

Rev. Leo Charles Koppala  
Church of Saints Peter and Paul  
214 South Holland Street  
Blue Earth, MN 56013

Dear Father Koppala,

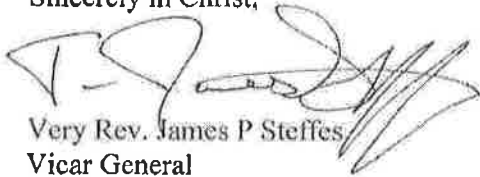
Thank you very much for your letter requesting permission to confirm Luis Antonio Briseno.

With this letter I am happy to inform you that by virtue of the law itself (c. 883.2), you hereby have permission to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to Luis Antonio Briseno, a man seeking full communion with the Catholic Church.

This permission presupposes that Luis is a validly-baptized Christian, and that as one seeking full communion with the Catholic Church, he has received adequate instruction. The presumption is also made that prior to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, Luis either has already received or will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. After the Sacrament of Confirmation has been administered, the proper notation should be made in the parish books.

Thank you for receiving Luis into full communion with the church, but for your continued dedicated efforts to shepherd the people of the Church of Saints Peter and Paul. Know of my prayerful support for you and for your ministry. Please keep me in your own prayers as well.

Sincerely in Christ,



Very Rev. James P Steffes  
Vicar General

JPS:ar





**MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM**

BISHOP OF NELLORE



**BISHOP'S HOUSE,  
SANTHAPET, NELLORE - 524 001.**

Andhra Pradesh, South India

Tel. : Per : 0091 861 2320191

Off : 0091 861 2331038

Fax : Off : 0091 861 2323950

E-mail : Per : bspprakasam@yahoo.com;

Off : nlrbs@yahoo.com;

To

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2011

Rev. Leo Charles Koppala  
SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church  
214 South Holland Street  
Blue Earth, MN 56013  
U. S. A.

**Dear Rev. Fr. Leo Charles,**

Greetings of peace and joy to you in the precious name of our Lord Jesus from Bishop Moses D. Prakasam.

Dear Leo, I am happy to hear that you are doing well your ministry in the diocese of Winnona. Before I had given you the permission to work for three years and render your valuable services in the Diocese of Winnona. I am hereby extending your services in the diocese until May 31, 2013. You can communicate this matter to the Bishop of Winnona. I wish you all the best in your ministry.

With fraternal love and prayers,

*+ M. D. Prakasam*

**+Moses D. Prakasam  
Bishop of Diocese of Nellore**



LK000088

*Green card -  
5 more years*

**MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM**  
BISHOP OF NELLORE



**BISHOP'S HOUSE,  
SANTHAPET, NELLORE - 524 001.**  
Andhra Pradesh, South India  
Tel. : Per : 0091 861 2320191  
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E-mail : Per : [bspprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com);  
Off : [nrbhs@yahoo.com](mailto:nrbhs@yahoo.com);

To

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2011

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SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church  
214 South Holland Street  
Blue Earth, MN 56013  
U. S. A.

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With fraternal love and prayers,

*+ M. D. Prakasam*

**+Moses D. Prakasam**  
Bishop of Diocese of Nellore



*visa expires 9-15-13*

LK000073

**MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM**

BISHOP OF NELLORE



**BISHOP'S HOUSE,**  
**SANTHAPET, NELLORE - 524 001.**  
Andhra Pradesh, South India  
Tel. : Per : 0091 861 2320191  
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E-mail: Per : [bspprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com);  
Off : [nrbhs@yahoo.com](mailto:nrbhs@yahoo.com);

To

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2011

Rev. Leo Charles Koppala  
SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church  
214 South Holland Street  
Blue Earth, MN 56013  
U. S. A.

**Dear Rev. Fr. Leo Charles,**

Greetings of peace and joy to you in the precious name of our Lord Jesus from Bishop Moses D. Prakasam.

Dear Leo, I am happy to hear that you are doing well your ministry in the diocese of Winnona. Here with I permit you to hold a Green Card in the United States of America. I wish you all the best in your ministry.

With fraternal love and prayers,

*+ M. D. Prakasam*

**+Moses D. Prakasam**  
**Bishop of Diocese of Nellore**



LK000074

**MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM**

BISHOP OF NELLORE



**BISHOP'S HOUSE,  
SANTHAPET, NELLORE - 524 001.**

Andhra Pradesh, South India

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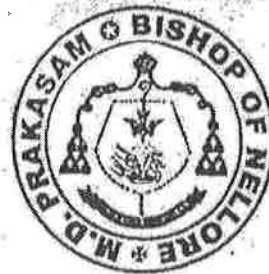
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With fraternal love and prayers,

*M. D. Prakasam*

**+Moses D. Prakasam  
Bishop of Diocese of Nellore**



LK000087

**Fortini, Deacon Eduardo**

---

**From:** Leo Koppala [leokoppala@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 9:56 AM  
**To:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Subject:** attachments  
**Attachments:** Picture48\_142.bmp; Picture48\_141.bmp

Dear Deacon Eduardo,

This is Rev. Fr. Leo Charles Koppala.

I received permission letter from my bishop for the green card and also the extension letter of my stay here till 2013. It can be extended few more months due to my visa stays till september 2013. Please I ask you to move forward for the green card holder. Please let me know what are the requirements. Thank you.

*Be Blessed & Be a Blessing to Others!  
God Bless Us! Thanks and Regards,  
frleocharleskoppala*

---

*"Helping hands are better than Praying Lips". - Mother Teresa*

---

**Fortini, Deacon Eduardo**

---

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frleocharleskoppala*

---

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---

LK000084

**Fortini, Deacon Eduardo**

---

**From:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 2:19 PM  
**To:** Quinn, Bishop John; Colletti, Fr. Rick; Cook, Fr. Thomas  
**Cc:** Watembach, Paula; Engbrecht, Shirley; Tibor, Judy; 'Rita Dhakal'  
**Subject:** GREAT NEWS ABOUT FR. LEO KOPPALA FROM HIS BISHOP IN INDIA  
**Attachments:** Picture48\_142.bmp; Picture48\_141.bmp

Dear Bishop John and Fr. Rick,

We got permission from Fr. Koppala's Bishop to move forward on his Green Card Process and keep Fr. Koppala in the Diocese of Winona.

Dear Paula and Rita,

We can start to work on the Client Agreement of Fr. Koppala too.

Deacon Eduardo

---

**From:** Leo Koppala [<mailto:leokoppala@yahoo.com>]  
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God Bless Us! Thanks and Regards,  
Error! Filename not specified. [frleocharleskoppala](mailto:frleocharleskoppala)*

---

*"Helping hands are better than Praying Lips". - Mother Teresa*

---



**Fortini, Deacon Eduardo**

---

**From:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 2:34 PM  
**To:** Koppala, Fr. Leo  
**Cc:** Watembach, Paula; 'Rita Dhaka'  
**Subject:** Rev. Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

Dear Father Leo,

Great news; congratulation. We are starting the process and we will let you know the documentation we need from you.  
D. Eduardo

---

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**Subject:** attachments

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*God Bless Us! Thanks and Regards,*  
*Error! Filename not specified. frleocharleskoppala*

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**To:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Subject:** attachments

Dear Deacon Eduardo,

This is Rev. Fr. Leo Charles Koppala.

I received permission letter from my bishop for the green card and also the extension letter of my stay here till 2013. It can be extended few more months due to my visa stays till september 2013. Please I ask you to move forward for the green card holder. Please let me know what are the requirements. Thank you.

*Be Blessed & Be a Blessing to Others!*  
*God Bless Us! Thanks and Regards,*  
*Error! Filename not specified. [frleocharleskoppala](mailto:frleocharleskoppala)*

---

*"Helping hands are better than Praying Lips". - Mother Teresa*

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## Watembach, Paula

---

**From:** Anne Marie Gibbons [AMGIBBONS@cliniclegal.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2011 3:49 PM  
**To:** Watembach, Paula  
**Cc:** Rita Dhakal  
**Subject:** Father Leo Charles Koppala

Dear Paula –

Rita asked me to respond to your email concerning Fr. Koppala. You mentioned that Fr. Koppala will be allowed by his bishop to only stay until his visa expires. In that case, if he wants to return at a later date to work for the Diocese, you will have to file a new I-129 petition on his behalf, and then after the I-129 is approved, he would have to apply for the new visa abroad. His current status will max out on 2013, that is, he will have had five years in R-1 status. When he leaves after five years here, he will have to wait one full year before returning again as an R-1. ( I know that his current I-94 card which he received when he entered on June 9, 2011 is valid to June 8, 2014, but that is a mistake. He was give too much time, since he is only eligible for five years.)

You also mentioned that he asked about the green card or legal permanent residency. He should only apply for legal permanent residency if he intends to stay in the U.S. permanently. If he obtains legal permanent residency and leaves the U.S. for a year, he will be considered by immigration to have abandoned his residency. If, on the other hand, in the next few years, he and the Diocese decides he should apply for legal permanent residency, the Diocese will file an I-360, special immigrant petition, and after that is approved, the I-485, adjustment of status. He should start this process at least a year, if not sooner, before his R-1 status expires.

Please let us know if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Anne Marie Gibbons, Esq.  
Director, Center for Religious Immigration and Protection  
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)  
415 Michigan Avenue, NE  
Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20017  
P: 202- 635-5828  
F: 202-756-5547  
[www.cliniclegal.org](http://www.cliniclegal.org)

## **Watembach, Paula**

---

**From:** Watembach, Paula  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2011 12:16 PM  
**To:** Tibor, Judy  
**Subject:** FW: Fr. Leo Koppala

Hi Judy,  
Here is the explanation on Fr. Leo.

Fr. Leo sent us two letters from his bishop. One states his bishop is extending his stay until 2013, which is when his visa expires. The other states that he gives Fr. permission to hold a green card in the U.S. I spoke with Fr. Leo regarding these two letters. Fr. Leo stated that he will be going back to India and may come back at a much later date. If this is the case, I feel we may not have to do anything regarding his next status, which would be permanent resident, if he is not staying on in the U.S. to work for the Diocese. I emailed CLINIC and this was their response:

" If Fr. Leo wants to return at a later date to work for the Diocese, you will have to file a new I-129 petition on his behalf, and then after the I-129 is approved, he would have to apply for the new visa abroad. His current status will max out on 2013, that is, he will have had five years in R-1 status. When he leaves after five years here, he will have to wait one full year before returning again as an R-1. ( I know that his current I-94 card which he received when he entered on June 9, 2011 is valid to June 8, 2014, but that is a mistake. He was given too much time, since he is only eligible for five years.) He should only apply for legal permanent residency if he intends to stay in the U.S. permanently. If he obtains legal permanent residency and leaves the U.S. for a year, he will be considered by immigration to have abandoned his residency."

The cost for a permanent residency card: The first application is an I-360 which costs \$1530. Then we need to apply for an I-485 which is \$1840, these are the costs that CLINIC charges. Then the application is sent to Homeland and they charge \$405. To redo his R-1 and I-129 would be another cost.

I think Fr. Colletti or the Bishop should let Fr. Leo know what we are going to do regarding his immigration status. Maybe Fr. Mareddy could help in this situation.

*Paula Watembach, Assistant  
Diocese of Winona  
507-858-1266*



DIOCESE OF WINONA  
PASTORAL CENTER

**Via email and hard copy via U.S. Mail**

September 8, 2011

Rev. Leo Charles Koppala  
Ss. Peter and Paul Church  
214 S Holland  
Blue Earth, MN 56013-1331

Dear Fr. Leo,

We sincerely are happy to have you in our Diocese of Winona and the wonderful work you are doing at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Blue Earth. In this letter I am referring to Bishop Moses D. Prakasam's letter of July 23, 2011, that he wants you to return to your Diocese on May 31, 2013. Even though he permits you to hold your Green Card, we do not feel it will be prudent for us to apply for that Card, because of time and costs and with your Bishop wanting you to be back working in your home Diocese. We would have no problem if you applied for the Card on your own. If you need direction on this, feel free to contact Deacon Fortini here at the Diocese.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Rev. Richard M. Colletti  
Vicar General and Chancellor

RMC:se

---

**From:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Sent:** Monday, October 3, 2011 3:02 PM  
**To:** Watembach, Paula  
**Cc:** Colletti, Msgr. Rick; Melvin, Msgr. Tom; Cook, Fr. Thomas  
**Subject:** FW: Rev. Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

Dear Paula,

Fr. Colletti has authorized the adjustment of Status of Fr. Koppala. Let's move forward with the Client Agreement with CLINIC and will have Fr. Koppala signing the check for the whole amount of the process.

D. Eduardo

---

**From:** Leo Koppala [mailto:leokoppala@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 01, 2011 8:28 AM  
**To:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Subject:** Re: Rev. Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

Deacon Eduardo,

I received a letter from Fr. Colletti saying that I go forward for the green card making arrangements with you having paid cost by myself. Diocese will not pay the cost for it due to I go back in the year 2013. Therefore I ask you to take step forward to apply for the green card for me and do the needful. I will be paying the cost of it. Thank you. Let me know the requirements or what do I need to do for it.

*Be Blessed & Be a Blessing to Others!  
God Bless Us! Thanks and Regards,*



*frleocharleskoppala*

---

*"Helping hands are better than Praying Lips". - Mother Teresa*

---

**From:** "Fortini, Deacon Eduardo" <EFORTINI@DOW.org>  
**To:** "Koppala, Fr. Leo" <leokoppala@yahoo.com>  
**Cc:** "Watembach, Paula" <pwatembach@DOW.org>; 'Rita Dhakal' <RDhakal@cliniclegal.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 1, 2011 2:34 PM  
**Subject:** Rev. Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

Dear Father Leo,

Great news; congratulation. We are starting the process and we will let you know the documentation we need from you.  
D. Eduardo

---

**From:** Leo Koppala [mailto:leokoppala@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2011 9:56 AM

To: Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
Subject: attachments

Dear Deacon Eduardo,

This is Rev. Fr. Leo Charles Koppala.

I received permission letter from my bishop for the green card and also the extension letter of my stay here till 2013. It can be extended few more months due to my visa stays till september 2013. Please I ask you to move forward for the green card holder. Please let me know what are the requirements. Thank you.

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***God Bless Us! Thanks and Regards,***  
*Error! Filename not specified. [frleocharleskoppala](#)*

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Office of The Bishop

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
PASTORAL CENTER

October 13, 2011

To Whom It May Concern,

This is to bring to your kind attention that Rev. Leo Charles Koppala, a Catholic priest from the Catholic Diocese of Nellore, A.P., India, and has been working in the Diocese of Winona, Minnesota, as the Parochial Administrator of two parishes, namely, Saints Peter and Paul in Blue Earth and St. Mary's in Winnebago, since October, 2009.

Now, I have given Father Leo Charles Koppala permission to go home for a period of two weeks to visit his mother, who is seriously ill and hospitalized in Chennai, India. When he returns to the United States, he will resume his ministry as Parochial Administrator in the above mentioned parishes.

If you have any further questions or need clarification regarding Rev. Leo Charles Koppala, you can call me at this phone: 507-454-4643 or fax: 507-454-8106.

Sincerely in Christ,

(Seal)



Most Rev. John M. Quinn  
Bishop of Winona



**Fortini, Deacon Eduardo**

---

**From:** Rita Dhakal [RDhakal@cliniclegal.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 8:23 AM  
**To:** Koppala, Fr. Leo  
**Cc:** Watembach, Paula; Fortini, Deacon Eduardo; Anne Marie Gibbons  
**Subject:** I-360 receipt Notice for fr. Leo Charles KOPPALA  
**Attachments:** DOC000 (16).PDF

Dear Father Leo Charles,

Enclosed please find copy of the receipt notice for the I-360 Petition for Special Immigrant, filed on behalf of you. Carefully look over the notice and, if any information is incorrect, please notify our office immediately. Processing times for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) vary by type of case. If you have access to the Internet, you can obtain the most accurate information on Immigration's processing times at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov). Once you have accessed the website, you can follow these simple steps:

- Click on the link for Processing Dates;
- Click on the link for Service Center;
- Scroll down to the Service Center where your case is pending; and
- Scroll down to your application type. The date you see next to your application type reflects that Immigration is currently processing cases filed on or before that date.

You can also view the status of your case online. Go to [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov), click on the link for Case Status Online, then click on the link under Finding the Status of Your Case. Finally, type in the receipt number (in the upper left hand corner of your receipt notice), omitting the dashes.

We will inform you of any decision made on your case as soon as we are notified. If you should receive anything directly from immigration, please contact Anne Marie or me. If you have any questions or concern regarding the receipt notices or your case please contact us.

Rita Dhakal  
Legal Assistant  
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.  
415 Michigan Avenue NE, 2nd floor  
Washington, DC - 20017  
Direct: 202-756-5504  
Fax: 202-756-5547  
[www.cliniclegal.org](http://www.cliniclegal.org)

Join us at the 2012 CLINIC Annual Convening!  
"Standing for Truth, Calling for Justice"  
May 23-25, 2012  
Austin Texas  
For more information, go to: <http://cliniclegal.org/annual-convening>

*Early Bird Special Ends February 6 for CLINIC Affiliates!*



NOTICE TYPE Receipt		NOTICE DATE December 01, 2011	
CASE TYPE I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er) or Special Immigrant		USCIS ALIEN NUMBER	
RECEIPT NUMBER WAC1290094363	RECEIVED DATE November 29, 2011	PAGE 1 of 1	
PRIORITY DATE November 29, 2011	PREFERENCE CLASSIFICATION	DATE OF BIRTH	

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
C/O ANNE M. GIBBONS  
415 MICHIGAN AVE NE 2ND FL  
WASHINGTON, DC 20017



**PAYMENT INFORMATION:**

Application/Petition Fee: \$405.00  
Biometrics Fee: \$0.00  
Total Amount Received: \$405.00  
Total Balance Due: \$0.00

**APPLICANT/PETITIONER NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS**

The I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er) or Special Immigrant has been received by our office for the following beneficiaries and is in process:

Name	Date of Birth	Country of Birth	Class (if Applicable)
KOPPALA, LEO	4/19/1966	INDIA	

Please verify your personal information listed above and immediately notify the USCIS National Customer Service Center at the phone number listed below if there are any changes.

Please note that if a priority date is printed on this notice, the priority does not reflect earlier retained priority dates.

If you have questions about possible immigration benefits and services, filing information, or USCIS forms, please call the USCIS National Customer Service Center (NCSC) at 1-800-375-5283. If you are hearing impaired, please call the NCSC TDD at 1-800-767-1833. Please also refer to the USCIS website: [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).

If you have any questions or comments regarding this notice or the status of your case, please contact our customer service number.

You will be notified separately about any other case you may have filed.

**USCIS Office Address:**  
USCIS  
California Service Center  
P.O. Box 30111  
Laguna Niguel, CA 92607-0111

**USCIS Customer Service Number:**  
(800)375-5283  
ATTORNEY COPY



**Fortini, Deacon Eduardo**

---

**From:** Rita Dhakal [RDhakal@cliniclegal.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 8:23 AM  
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Rita Dhakal  
Legal Assistant  
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.  
415 Michigan Avenue NE, 2nd floor  
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Direct: 202-756-5504  
Fax: 202-756-5547  
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DIOCESE OF WINONA  
C/O ANNE M. GIBBONS  
415 MICHIGAN AVE NE 2ND FL  
WASHINGTON, DC 20017

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USCIS  
California Service Center  
P.O. Box 30111  
Laguna Niguel, CA 92607-0111

USCIS Customer Service Number:

(800)375-5283  
ATTORNEY COPY



**MOST REV. DR. MOSES D. PRAKASAM**

BISHOP OF NELLORE



**BISHOP'S HOUSE,  
SANTHAPET, NELLORE - 524 001.**

Andhra Pradesh, South India

Tel. : Per 0091 861 2320191

Off 0091 861 2331038

Fax : Off 0091 861 2323950

E-mail : Per [bspprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com);

Off [nrbhs@yahoo.com](mailto:nrbhs@yahoo.com);

14<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

**Rev. Fr. Leo Charles Koppala,  
SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church  
214 South Holland Street  
Blue Earth, MN 56013  
U.S.A.**

**Dear Rev. Fr. Leo Charles,**

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Here with I am permitting you to serve in the Diocese of Winona until 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2014. You shall report back in the Diocese of Nellore by 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2014 and take up the new assignment. I take this opportunity to wish you all the best in your ministry. God bless you with good health and peace. I thank you for all the services you are doing for the Diocese of Nellore.

Yours in Christ,

*M. D. Prakasam*

**+ Moses D. Prakasam.**

Bishop of the Diocese of Nellore.



Copy:

**Most Rev. Dr. John M. Quinn,  
Bishop of Winona.**

LK000066



DIOCESE OF WINONA  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP  
55 West Sanborn Street, P.O. Box 588  
Winona, Minnesota 55987  
507-454-4643  
507-454-8106 (Fax)

July 12, 2012

Most Rev. Dr. Moses D. Prakasam  
Bishop of Nellore  
Bishop's House,  
Santhapet, Nellore – 524 001  
Andhra Pradesh, South India

Dear Bishop Prakasam,

I received your letter of assignment that you sent via Father Leo Charles when he returned from his mother's funeral. Thank you for the additional years of appointment through June 2014, as stated in your letter of May 14.

Father Leo is a blessing to our Diocese and to the parish at Blue Earth, Minnesota. We appreciate your generosity in assigning him to serve the people of God in the Diocese of Winona.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. John M. Quinn  
Bishop of Winona

JMQ:se

LK000065

**Fortini, Deacon Eduardo**

---

**From:** Rita Dhakal [RDhakal@cliniclegal.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2012 9:11 AM  
**To:** Koppala, Fr. Leo  
**Cc:** Watembach, Paula; Fortini, Deacon Eduardo; Anne Marie Gibbons  
**Subject:** I-485 approved - Fr. Leo Charles KOPPALA  
**Attachments:** DOC000 (46).pdf

Dear Fr. Koppala,

Congratulations! Your I-485 application for adjustment to permanent resident status was approved on November 15, 2012. Please see attached the Approval notice.

Anne Marie asked me to inform you that the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will mail you a Permanent Resident Card soon. You may be asked to have your fingerprints taken once more before you receive your card. If this is the case, you will receive a notice; of course, if we receive a notice, we will let you know. You should receive your permanent resident card within the next three (3) weeks. If you do not receive your card, or happen to move before receiving your card, please contact Anne Marie or me, so that we may follow up with immigration on your behalf. Also, if you move, please fill out an AR-11 Form (available at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)) right away. When you receive your card, you must carry it with you at all times if you are 18 years of age or older. It is the law.

When you receive your card, please make a photocopy of both the front and back of the card, and mail the copies to us for our records.

Please make sure to read the notice that comes with your card. It will have important information about your card, about your status and responsibilities, and about your permanent resident services available to you.

You will be eligible to file an application to become a citizen of the United States ninety (90) days before the end of your fifth year as a permanent resident of the U.S. Once again congratulations to you for successfully completing the process of attaining permanent resident status.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you

Rita Dhakal  
Legal Assistant  
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.  
415 Michigan Avenue NE, 2nd floor  
Washington, DC - 20017  
Direct: 202-756-5504  
Fax: 202-756-5547  
[www.cliniclegal.org](http://www.cliniclegal.org)

Save the Date!  
**CLINIC's Annual Convening and 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: A Celebration of Service, Justice and Faith**  
May 21-24, 2013  
Washington DC

For more information, go to: <http://cliniclegal.org/annual-convening>

# WELCOME TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RECEIPT NUMBER WAC-12-904-25544		CASE TYPE I485 APPLICATION TO ADJUST TO PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS
RECEIPT DATE July 16, 2012	PRIORITY DATE November 29, 2011	APPLICANT A204 134 965 KOPPALA, LEO G.
NOTICE DATE November 15, 2012	PAGE 1 of 1	

ANNE MARIE GIBBONS  
415 MICHIGAN AVE NE 2ND FL  
WASHINGTON DC 20017

Notice Type: Welcome Notice  
Section: Adjustment as direct beneficiary  
of immigrant petition  
COA: SD6

## WELCOME TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

This is to notify you that your application for permanent residence has been approved. It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to permanent resident status in the United States.

At the top of this notice you will see a very important number. It is your USCIS A# (A-number). This is your permanent resident account and file number. This permanent account number is very important to you. You will need it whenever you contact us.

We will soon mail you a new *Permanent Resident Card*. You should receive it within the next 3 weeks. You can use it to show your new status. When you receive your card you must carry it with you at all times if you are 18 or older. It is the law.

Please call us at 800-375-5283 if any of the information about you shown above is incorrect, if you move before you receive your card, or if you don't receive your card within the next 3 weeks. If you call us, please have your A# and also the receipt number shown above available. The receipt number is a tracking number for your application.

Please read the notice that comes with your card. It will have important information about your card, about your status and responsibilities, and about permanent resident services available to you.

Your new card will expire in ten years. While card expiration will not directly affect your status, you will need to apply to renew your card several months before it expires. When the time comes and you need filing information, or an application, or if you ever have other questions about permanent resident services available to you, just call our *National Customer Service Center* at 1-800-375-5283 or visit the USCIS website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov). (If you are hearing impaired, the NCSC's TDD number is 1-800-767-1833.) The best days to call the NCSC are Tuesday through Friday.

Once again, welcome to the United States and congratulations on your permanent resident status.

THIS FORM IS NOT A VISA NOR MAY IT BE USED IN PLACE OF A VISA.

NOTICE: Although this application/petition has been approved, USCIS and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security reserve the right to verify the information submitted in this application, petition and/or supporting documentation to ensure conformity with applicable laws, rules, regulations, and other authorities. Methods used for verifying information may include, but are not limited to, the review of public information and records, contact by correspondence, the internet, or telephone, and site inspections of businesses and residences. Information obtained during the course of verification will be used to determine whether revocation, rescission, and/or removal proceedings are appropriate. Applicants, petitioners, and representatives of record will be provided an opportunity to address derogatory information before any formal proceeding is initiated.

Please see the additional information on the back. You will be notified separately about any other cases you filed.

NEBRASKA SERVICE CENTER  
U. S. CITIZENSHIP & IMMIG SERVICE  
P.O. BOX 82521  
LINCOLN NE 68501-2521  
Customer Service Telephone: 800-375-5283





## Fortini, Deacon Eduardo

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**From:** Rita Dhakal [RDhakal@cliniclegal.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 20, 2012 9:11 AM  
**To:** Koppala, Fr. Leo  
**Cc:** Walembach, Paula; Fortini, Deacon Eduardo; Anne Marie Gibbons  
**Subject:** I-485 approved - Fr. Leo Charles KOPPALA  
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You will be eligible to file an application to become a citizen of the United States ninety (90) days before the end of your fifth year as a permanent resident of the U.S. Once again congratulations to you for successfully completing the process of attaining permanent resident status.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you

Rita Dhakal  
Legal Assistant  
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.  
415 Michigan Avenue NE, 2nd floor  
Washington, DC - 20017  
Direct: 202-756-5504  
Fax: 202-756-5547  
[www.cliniclegal.org](http://www.cliniclegal.org)

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Washington DC

For more information, go to: <http://cliniclegal.org/annual-convening>



RECEIPT NUMBER WAC-12-904-25544		CASE TYPE 1485 APPLICATION TO ADJUST TO PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS
RECEIPT DATE July 16, 2012	PRIORITY DATE November 29, 2011	APPLICANT A204 134 965 KOPPALA, LEO C.
NOTICE DATE November 15, 2012	PAGE 1 of 1	
ANNE MARIE GIBBONS 415 MICHIGAN AVE NE 2ND FL WASHINGTON DC 20017		Notice Type: Welcome Notice Section: Adjustment as direct beneficiary of immigrant petition COR: SDG

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This is to notify you that your application for permanent residence has been approved. It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to permanent resident status in the United States.

At the top of this notice you will see a very important number. It is your USCIS AA (A-number). This is your permanent resident account and file number. This permanent account number is very important to you. You will need it whenever you contact us.

We will soon mail you a new Permanent Resident Card. You should receive it within the next 3 weeks. You can use it to show your new status. When you receive your card you must carry it with you at all times if you are 16 or older. It is the law.

Please call us at 800-375-5283 if any of the information about you shown above is incorrect, if you move before you receive your card, or if you don't receive your card within the next 3 weeks. If you call us, please have your AA and also the receipt number shown above available. The receipt number is a tracking number for your application.

Please read the notice that comes with your card. It will have important information about your card, about your status and responsibilities, and about permanent resident services available to you.

Your new card will expire in ten years. While card expiration will not directly affect your status, you will need to apply to renew your card several months before it expires. When the time comes and you need filing information, or an application, or if you ever have other questions about permanent resident services available to you, just call our National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 or visit the USCIS website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov). If you are hearing impaired, the NCSC's TDD number is 1-800-767-1833. The best days to call the NCSC are Tuesday through Friday.

Once again, welcome to the United States and congratulations on your permanent resident status.

THIS FORM IS NOT A VISA NOR MAY IT BE USED IN PLACE OF A VISA.

NOTICE: Although this application/petition has been approved, USCIS and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security reserve the right to verify the information submitted in this application, petition and/or supporting documentation to ensure conformity with applicable laws, rules, regulations, and other authorities. Methods used for verifying information may include, but are not limited to, the review of public information and records, contact by correspondence, the internet, or telephone, and site inspections of businesses and residences. Information obtained during the course of verification will be used to determine whether revocation, rescission, and/or removal proceedings are appropriate. Applicants, petitioners, and representatives of record will be provided an opportunity to address derogatory information before any formal proceeding is initiated.

Please see the additional information on the back. You will be notified separately about any other cases you filed.

NEBRASKA SERVICE CENTER

U. S. CITIZENSHIP & IMMIG SERVICE

P.O. BOX 82521

LINCOLN NE 68501-2521

Customer Service Telephone: 800-375-5283



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**From:** Herdina, Judy on behalf of Melvin, Msgr. Tom  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 7, 2013 11:57 AM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard; Colletti, Msgr. Rick; Connolly, Fr. Kevin; Klein, Fr. Peter; Melvin, Msgr. Tom; Quinn, Bishop John; Schaefer, Fr. Martin; Thompson, Fr. William  
**Subject:** Clergy Personnel Committee  
**Attachments:** 2013AssignmentsRecord-Priests.pdf  
  
**Importance:** High

Dear Brothers,

Attached you will find listing of the priests who are open to moving this year and also the ones that will be retiring.

In the near future, I will be setting a date for the meeting.

Blessings,

**Msgr. Melvin**

Rev. Msgr. Thomas P. Melvin  
Vicar for Clergy  
Rector of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

Diocese of Winona  
55 West Sanborn Street  
PO Box 588  
Winona Minnesota 55987  
Cell: 507-259-1747  
Email: tmelvin@dow.org

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Office of the Diaconate

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
PASTORAL CENTER

29 April 2013  
Saint Catherine of Siena

XXXXXXX  
XXXXXXX  
XXXXXXX

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

Thank you for your application to the Permanent Diaconate for the Diocese of Winona. In consultation with Bishop Quinn and the Assistant Director of the Diaconate, we have carefully reviewed your entire portfolio. We appreciate your brutal honesty and the many hours of work that went into preparing your portfolio. We are especially grateful to Almighty God that you are using your many gifts and talents to build up the Body of Christ within your family, parish, and local community.

At this time, however, we do not see you as an aspirant for the Permanent Diaconate for the Diocese of Winona. We encourage you to continue to serve the Lord in your parish.

May the Lord bless you abundantly for your serious discernment of a vocation to the Order of Deacon. *"We have been praying for you unceasingly and asking that you may attain full knowledge of His will through perfect wisdom, and spiritual insight. Then you will lead a life worthy of the Lord and pleasing to Him in every way. You will multiply good works of every sort and grow in the knowledge of God."* (Colossians 1: 9-10)

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,

The Reverend Monsignor Thomas E. Cook  
Director of the Diaconate

---

**From:** Tibor, Judy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2012 8:25 AM  
**To:** Koppala, Fr. Leo  
**Subject:** RE: Bishop's visit

Thank you, Father, for the schedule and I am sure Bishop will be happy to do the Baptism on Sunday morning. He is gone until August 7<sup>th</sup> but I will let him know when he returns.

God Bless,

Judy Tibor, Assistant  
Office of the Bishop  
Diocese of Winona  
507-858-1242  
Fax: 507-454-8106  
email: jtibor@dow.org

*"Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus." Thesslonians 5:18*

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**From:** leokoppala@yahoo.com [mailto:leokoppala@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2012 8:28 AM  
**From:** Tibor, Judy  
**Subject:** Bishop's visit

Hai Judy

**August 18/19**

**SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Blue Earth Parish.**

**5.15 pm Mass** – Blue Earth (4-5pm confessions)

Supper will be one of the parishioner's family

**8 am Mass** – Winnebago (7.15-7.45am confessions)

Honoring \_\_\_\_\_ with Bishop's Medal and Certificate

(Breakfast Sunday at Winnebago)

**10 am Mass** – Blue Earth

Baptism by Bishop during the Mass

(Lunch – Parish picnic)

A family likes to have their child to be baptised by bishop during the 10am mass. Is it ok with bishop to perform sacrament of baptism? Let me know.

Thanks

**Be Blessed & Be a Blessing to Others!**

**God Bless Us! Thanks and Regards,**

frleocharleskoppala

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Helping hands are better than Praying Lips". - Mother Teresa

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**From:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 12, 2013 1:39 PM  
**To:** Heiting, Msgr. Paul  
**Subject:** Re: Case File

I found it Paul, it was in the wrong place

Msgr. Rick Colletti  
Vicar General/Chancellor  
Diocese of Winona  
Rector, Cathedral of the Sacred/St. Casimir & Newman Center

On Oct 12, 2013, at 11:37 AM, "Heiting, Msgr. Paul" <[pheiting@DOW.org](mailto:pheiting@DOW.org)> wrote:

10-12-13

Rick,

Glenn Frerichs left me a note asking that if I have seen the file on Father Richard Hatch to let you know. I have not seen this file. My fear is that because he "existed" in the diocese so long ago, that there might be no file on him at all. I hope that this isn't the case.

Paul

God Bless,

Rev. Msgr. R. Paul Heiting, JCL  
Judicial Vicar

"The salvation of souls is the supreme law of the Church"  
-Saint Raymond of Penafort

CONFIDENTIAL

LK000077



STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF FARIBAULT

DISTRICT COURT  
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

COURT FILE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

PROSECUTOR FILE NO.: 13CR00123

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

v.

Leo Charles Koppala DOB: 04/19/1966  
214 South Holland Street  
Blue Earth, MN 56013

Defendant.

Summons       Warrant  
 Order of Detention

Amended  
 Tab charge Previously Filed

The Complainant, being duly sworn, makes complaint to the above-named Court and states that there is probable cause to believe that the Defendant committed the following offense(s):

**Count 1**

**Criminal Sex Conduct-2nd Degree-Victim Under 13-Actor > 36m Old**

**In Violation Of: 609.343 subd. 1(a); 609.343 subd. 2(a)**

**Penalty: 25 years in prison, a \$35,000 fine, or both**

On or about June 7, 2013, within the County of Faribault, Leo Charles Koppala did wrongfully, unlawfully and feloniously engage in sexual contact with another person, to-wit: date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ a child under 13 years of age and the said defendant being more than 36 months older than the child.

Complainant requests that Defendant, subject to bail or conditions of release, be:  
 (1) arrested or that other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court; or  
 (2) detained, if already in custody, pending further proceedings; and that said Defendant otherwise  
 be dealt with according to law.

**COMPLAINANT'S NAME:**

**COMPLAINANT'S SIGNATURE:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Subscribed and sworn to before the undersigned this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013

**NAME/TITLE:**

**SIGNATURE:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S SIGNATURE:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: Troy Timmerman  
 County Attorney  
 P.O. Box 5  
 Blue Earth, MN 56013  
 507-526-4564  
 Attorney Registration Number: #0251732

## STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

The Complainant states that the following facts establish probable cause:

Your Complainant has reviewed reports relating to the above-named Defendant and the allegations contained herein. Based upon that information, your Complainant believes the following to be true and correct:

On June 8, 2013, Blue Earth Police Chief Tom Fletcher received a phone call advising him that [redacted] had been sexually assaulted the previous evening. Chief Fletcher arranged for [redacted] to be interviewed by Human Services Worker Lindsey Gref in a Cornerhouse type interview.

During the interview [redacted] said that she was at her Grandmother's residence in Blue Earth, MN on June 7, 2013. She was spending the weekend there. Her Grandmother invited Defendant Leo Koppala, the local Catholic priest, over for supper. At one point in the evening [redacted] went downstairs to watch television.

Koppala later came down stairs also and pulled [redacted] up from where she was sitting. [redacted] said that Koppala said that he was glad to have gotten away from her grandmother. Koppala then kissed [redacted] on the cheeks and lips. [redacted] said that Koppala put one hand on her lower back and the other hand on her chest. [redacted] said that Koppala moved his hand around on her chest touching her breasts. Koppala told [redacted] that when she was done with school he wanted to come to her house so they could be free together. Koppala told [redacted] that he loved her.

[redacted] grandmother was interviewed. The grandmother confirmed that she had invited Koppala over for supper and that at one point during the evening she was on a phone call. When she was on the phone Koppala went down into the basement where [redacted] was. A short while later [redacted] came upstairs followed by Koppala. [redacted] grandmother said she could tell by [redacted] demeanor that she was upset about something.

After Koppala left [redacted] told her what had happened.

Chief Tom Fletcher then interviewed Koppala. Koppala admitted that he had supper with [redacted] and her grandmother. He admitted that when the grandmother was on the phone he went downstairs to where [redacted] was. He agreed that he had kissed her on the cheeks and mouth. He admitted to placing his hand on her chest but did not believe he touched her breasts. Koppala admitted that he told [redacted] that they could be free together but explained that he meant something different.

LK000080

**FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

From the above sworn facts, and any supporting affidavits or supplemental sworn testimony, I, the Issuing Officer, have determined that probable cause exists to support, subject to bail or conditions of release where applicable, Defendant's arrest or other lawful steps to be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court, or Defendant's detention, if already in custody, pending further proceedings. Defendant is therefore charged with the above-stated offense(s).

**SUMMONS**

THEREFORE, YOU THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT, ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ before the above-named court at \_\_\_\_\_ to answer this complaint.

**WARRANT**

To the Sheriff of the aboved-named county; or other person authorized to execute this warrant: I hereby order, in the name of the State of Minnesota, that the above-named Defendant be apprehended and arrested without delay and brought promptly before the above-named court (if in session), and if not, before a Judge or Judicial Officer of such court without unnecessary delay, and in any event not later than 36 hours after the arrest or as soon as such Judge or Judicial Officer is available to be dealt with according to law.

*Execute in MN Only*

*Execute Nationwide*

*Execute in Border States*

**ORDER OF DETENTION**

Since the above-named Defendant is already in custody, I hereby order, subject to bail or conditions of release, that the above-named Defendant continue to be detained pending further proceedings.

Bail: \_\_\_\_\_

Conditions of Release:

This complaint, duly subscribed and sworn to, is issued by the undersigned Judicial Officer this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

**JUDICIAL OFFICER:**

**SIGNATURE:**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COUNTY OF FARIBAULT STATE OF MINNESOTA</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>State of Minnesota</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Plaintiff</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">vs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Leo Charles Koppala</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Defendant</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Clerk's Signature or File Stamp:</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 50px; width: 100%;"></div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>RETURN OF SERVICE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this Order of Detention upon the Defendant(s) herein-named.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Signature of Authorized Service Agent:</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 50px; width: 100%;"></div>
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**STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID**

Cnt	Statute Type	Offense Date	Statute Number & Description	Offense Level	MOC	GOC	Controlling Agencies	Control Number(s)
1	Charge	06/07/2013	609.343 subd. 1(a)  Criminal Sex Conduct-2nd Degree-Victim Under 13-Actor > 36m Old	F	L30A1	N	MN0220100 Arresting	13002241
	Penalty		609.343 subd. 2(a) Criminal Sexual Conduct-2nd Degree-Penalty-Stat. Max.					

**DEFENDANT FACT SHEET**

1. **Address:** 214 South Holland Street  
Blue Earth, MN 56013
2. **DOB:** 04/19/1966
3. **Other DOBs:**
4. **Race/Ethnicity:** Race: Ethnicity:
5. **SID:**
6. **WID:**
7. **Alias Information:**
8. **Fingerprinted:** No
9. **Handgun Permit:** No
10. **Location of Violation:** Blue Earth
11. **Drivers License #:**
12. **Accident Type:**
13. **License Plate #**
14. **Alcohol Concentration:**

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**From:** Dose, Larry  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2013 10:05 AM  
**To:** Christianson, Ryan  
**Subject:** Fwd: Minutes

Fyi..I don't know anyone than this email....

Larry

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE Smartphone

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** "Hennessy, Joel" <JHennessy@dow.org>  
**To:** "Dose, Larry" <ldose@DOW.org>  
**Subject:** Minutes  
**Date:** Mon, Jun 10, 2013 9:06 am

Larry,

You may already be aware but I thought you should know that Fr. Leo Charles Koppalla was arrested this weekend and is being charged this morning with criminal sexual misconduct involving a minor this morning. I am in contact with Msgr.

Colletti and will be available at all times. I am traveling with my family to Elizabeth's state golf championship. I believe I can handle the situation remotely as effectively as if I were in my office. A statement is already prepared by Tom Braun and we are awaiting more info from this morning's hearing which just started at 9am. I will keep you posted fully of the developments. FYI – my email and phones all point to my cell phone so that I can accept media calls and respond timely.

Joel

---

**From:** Dose, Larry  
**Sent:** Friday, June 07, 2013 1:45 PM  
**To:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Cc:** Ringlien, Ann  
**Subject:** Re: Minutes

Thanks, I think Karen got us what we needed.

Larry

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE Smartphone

----- Reply message -----

**From:** "Hennessy, Joel" <JHennessy@dow.org>  
**To:** "Dose, Larry" <ldose@DOW.org>  
**Cc:** "Ringlien, Ann" <aringlien@dow.org>

Subject: Minutes

Date: Fri, Jun 7, 2013 1:25 pm

Larry, I instructed Karen to stay strictly on the Agilis work today. We've been working hard all week to get this completed and she has been getting disturbed constantly and I really need this work done and out to the parishes. Can the minutes wait until Monday? She has all the prior minutes but has not yet completed the May minutes.

I am in Rochester at a meeting with the Seeds of Faith Tuition Committee.

Joel

---

**From:** Dose, Larry

**Sent:** Friday, June 07, 2013 10:25 AM

**To:** Eich, Karen

**Cc:** Hennessy, Joel; Ringlien, Ann

**Subject:** Minutes

Karen, can you please email Ann the Foundation Board Minutes for fy 2011, 2012 and fy 2013 thru the last meeting. Ann will need them this morning please.

Thank you!

Larry Dose

sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE Smartphone



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**From:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2013 3:32 PM  
**To:** bspprakasam@yahoo.com  
**Cc:** nlrbhs@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Fr. Leo Charles Koppala  
**Attachments:** PRESS RELEASE 06-10-13 KOPPALLA MISCONDUCT CHARGES (2).docx

From the Office of the  
Vicar General and Chancellor

**DIOCESE OF WINONA**  
Pastoral Center

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Your Excellency,

I am sorry that I have to give you the bad news concerning Fr. Leo Charles is in this press release. We just received these charges from our Court System. I will keep you informed.

Msgr. Colletti

**A STATEMENT REGARDING REV. LEO CHARLES KOPPALA**  
**A Statement from Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona**

**WINONA, MN – June 10, 2013** - Bishop John Quinn placed Rev. Leo Charles Koppala, a priest of the Nellore Diocese in South India, on administrative leave in accordance with the diocesan policy for the protection of minors. Rev. Koppala has been charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Second Degree involving a minor.

While on administrative leave, he is not permitted to exercise his public ministry or live on any parish property in the Diocese of Winona pending the outcome of the investigation.

A representative of the Diocese of Winona indicated that no other allegation of this nature involving Rev. Koppala has been received by the Diocese.

The Diocese of Winona is committed to the protection of children and the safe environment of our parishes and schools. The Diocese of Winona has fully adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (“the Charter”), as promulgated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Diocese of Winona works vigorously and has taken extraordinary measures to ensure that all of the schools, parishes and programs administered in the Diocese adhere to the Charter to ensure that those entrusted to our care are safe.

Msgr. Rick Colletti  
rcolletti@dow.org 507-317-0301  
Vicar General/Chancellor  
Diocese of Winona  
55 W. Sanborn  
Winona, MN 55987

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**From:** Hamann, Mary  
**nt:** Tuesday, June 11, 2013 9:48 AM  
**fo:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Fr. Koppala

Hi Msgr. Colletti,

I received a phone call this morning from [redacted] from Blue Earth where Fr. Koppala was assigned. She talked, I listened!

She is very distraught, she was on the phone yesterday for over 10 hours with people calling her. As you would expect it has shaken their faith.

She told me that Bishop will be there this weekend to say the masses. I told her she was doing the right thing in telling people to come to the masses this weekend. Encourage them to speak with Bishop and not allow this incident to turn them away for God.

She asked me if it would be appropriate to pack up Fr. Koppala's things for Bishop Quinn to bring back with him this weekend. As she put it "we don't want his things here".

I need to get back to her regarding Fr. Koppala's things, or if you would prefer to call her directly at Ss. Peter & Paul 507-526-5626. Please advise.

[redacted] will be talking with [redacted] a lot this week as I have a planned Facilitator (Virtus) training scheduled there this Thursday and Friday.

Thank you,

Mary A. Hamann  
Diocese of Winona  
Office Coordinator/Office of Safe Environment  
55 W. Sanborn St.  
PO BOX 588  
Winona, MN 55987  
phone: 507-858-1244  
fax: 507-454-8106  
[mhamann@dow.org](mailto:mhamann@dow.org)



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*Roman Catholic*  
**Diocese of Winona**  
*Serving the 20 southern counties of Minnesota*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Joel Hennessy, Director of Mission Advancement  
jhennessy@dow.org office 507.858.1249 cell 507.254.3948

**A STATEMENT REGARDING REV. LEO CHARLES KOPPALA**  
**A Statement from Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona**

**WINONA, MN – June 10, 2013** - Bishop John Quinn placed Rev. Leo Charles Koppala, a priest of the Nellore Diocese in South India, on administrative leave in accordance with the diocesan policy for the protection of minors. Rev. Koppala has been charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Second Degree involving a minor.

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The Diocese of Winona is committed to the protection of children and the safe environment of our parishes and schools. The Diocese of Winona has fully adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People ("the Charter"), as promulgated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Diocese of Winona works vigorously and has taken extraordinary measures to ensure that all of the schools, parishes and programs administered in the Diocese adhere to the Charter to ensure that those entrusted to our care are safe.

###

LK000061

**Engbrecht, Shirley**

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**From:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2013 3:22 PM  
**To:** All Priest's Email group  
**Cc:** deacons; Employees  
**Attachments:** PRESS RELEASE 06-10-13 KOPPALLA MISCONDUCT CHARGES (2).docx

From the Office of the  
Vicar General and Chancellor

**DIOCESE OF WINONA**

Pastoral Center

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Joel Hennessy, Director of Mission Advancement  
[jhennessy@dow.org](mailto:jhennessy@dow.org) office 507.858.1249 cell 507.254.3948

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The Diocese of Winona works vigorously and has taken extraordinary measures to ensure that all of the schools, parishes and programs administered in the Diocese adhere to the Charter to ensure that those entrusted to our care are safe.

During this difficult time, we hold in our prayers all those involved.

Dates

Registry Page

Last name

Approved

Updated

Title

First name

Middle

Last name

full name

Type

Birthdate

Birth Info

Parents

Home Parish

Studies

Attended IHM  
Seminary

1979 - 1985 - Saint John Minor Seminary in the Diocese of Nellore  
1985 - 1986 - Saint Paul Seminary in Nuzvid  
1986 - 1989 - Saint John Major Seminary in Dondadaba  
1989 - 1990 - Saint John School in Allur  
1990 - 1994 - Saint John Major Seminary in Hyderabad

Diaconate Date

Diaconate Ordination Info

Ordination date

Ordination Info

Retirement Date

Death date

Left Diocese

LK000063

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**From:** Father Rick <frrick@cathedralwinona.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2013 11:07 AM  
**To:** Quinn, Bishop John  
**Subject:** FW: Response: Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

Bishop,  
This is the response I received from Bishop Prakasam in Nellore regarding Fr. Leo.

Rick

**Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Colletti**  
360 Main Street  
Winona, MN 55987  
mobile: 507-317-0301 frrick@cathedralwinona.org  
Vicar General/Chancellor, Diocese of Winona

**From:** Prakasam Doraboina [mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2013 11:16 PM  
**To:** Msgr. RichardColletti  
**Subject:** Response: Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

**Dear Rev. Msg. Richard,**

Greetings to you.

Just now I have read your E-mail.

I ma extremely sorry about the news. I wish and pray that everything will go well.

Thank you very much for all the efforts you are making to help out the situation.

Please convey my deep concerns on this to the Bishop and to Fr. Leo Charles.

United with you all in prayers,

**Bishop Moses D. Prakasam.**

**Nellore.**

---

**From:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2013 2:26 PM  
**To:** Watembach, Paula  
**Subject:** A STATEMENT REGARDING REV. LEO CHARLES KOPPALA  
**Attachments:** PRESS RELEASE 06-10-13 KOPPALLA MISCONDUCT CHARGES (2).docx

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**From:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2013 9:37 AM  
**To:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Subject:** A STATEMENT REGARDING REV. LEO CHARLES KOPPALA

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**From:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2013 3:22 PM  
**To:** All Priest's Email group  
**Cc:** deacons; Employees  
**Subject:**

From the Office of the  
Archbishop General and Chancellor

**DIOCESE OF WINONA**  
Pastoral Center

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**  
Joel Hennessy, Director of Mission Advancement  
[jhennessy@dow.org](mailto:jhennessy@dow.org) office 507.858.1249 cell 507.254.3948

**A STATEMENT REGARDING REV. LEO CHARLES KOPPALA**  
**A Statement from Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona**

**WINONA, MN – June 10, 2013** - Bishop John Quinn placed Rev. Leo Charles Koppala, a priest of the Nellore Diocese in South India, on administrative leave in accordance with the diocesan policy for the protection of minors. Rev. Koppala has been charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Second Degree involving a minor.

While on administrative leave, he is not permitted to exercise his public ministry or live on any parish property in the Diocese of Winona pending the outcome of the investigation.



A representative of the Diocese of Winona indicated that no other allegation of this nature involving Rev. Koppala has been received by the Diocese.

The Diocese of Winona is committed to the protection of children and the safe environment of our parishes and schools. The Diocese of Winona has fully adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (“the Charter”), as promulgated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Diocese of Winona works vigorously and has taken extraordinary measures to ensure that all of the schools, parishes and programs administered in the Diocese adhere to the Charter to ensure that those entrusted to our care are safe.

During this difficult time, we hold in our prayers all those involved.

Msgr. Rick Colletti  
[rcolletti@dow.org](mailto:rcolletti@dow.org) 507-317-0301  
Vicar General/Chancellor  
Diocese of Winona  
55 W. Sanborn  
Winona, MN 55987



*Roman Catholic*  
**Diocese of Winona**  
*Serving the 20 southern counties of Minnesota*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Joel Hennessy, Director of Mission Advancement  
jhennessy@dow.org office 507.858.1249 cell 507.254.3948

**A STATEMENT REGARDING REV. LEO CHARLES KOPPALA**  
**A Statement from Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona**

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###

Office of the

# Faribault County Attorney

412 North Nicollet, P. O. Box 5  
Blue Earth, MN 56013

Telephone 507-526-4564

Fax 507-526-2850

Troy Timmerman, Faribault County Attorney  
LaMar Piper, Assistant Faribault County Attorney

June 11, 2013

Pat Boettcher, Parish Secretary  
St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church  
214 South Holland Street  
Blue Earth, MN 56013

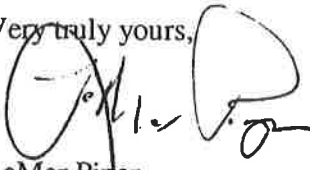
**RE: Father Leo Charles Koppala**  
**Court File No.: 22-CR-13-347**

Dear Ms. Boettcher:

Would you please send a copy of Father Koppala's "Acknowledgment of Receipt" of the Policies and Procedures Regarding Sexual Abuse of Minors." The document itself indicates that the original acknowledgement "will be filed at the parish or institution in which. . ." the individual serves. You may either deliver a copy of the "Acknowledgment of Receipt" to Chief Fletcher of the Blue Earth Police Department, or County Attorney Timmerman at the County Attorney's office.

I would appreciate it if this request could be honored within the next seven days. Please call if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



LaMar Piper  
Assistant Faribault County Attorney

LP/akd

cc: Chief of Police Tom Fletcher

Office of the

# Faribault County Attorney

412 North Nicollet, P. O. Box 5  
Blue Earth, MN 56013

Telephone 507-526-4564

Fax 507-526-2850

Troy Timmerman, Faribault County Attorney  
LaMar Piper, Assistant Faribault County Attorney

June 11, 2013

Peter G. Martin  
Director of the Office of Life  
Diocese of Winona  
P.O. Box 588  
Winona, MN 55987

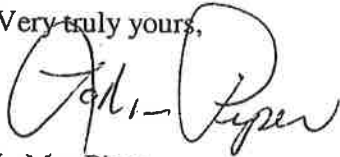
**RE: Father Leo Charles Koppala  
Court File No.: 22-CR-13-347**

Dear Mr. Martin:

Father Koppala has been recently charged in this county with criminal sexual contact with a child who was then 11 years of age. It is my understanding that he has signed an acceptance document, indicating that he has read and understood the Diocese of Winona's Code of Conduct for clergy and employees. We would appreciate it if you would send a copy of that "Signature of Acceptance" document directly to the Blue Earth Chief of Police, Tom Fletcher. That address is: 120 South Walnut Street, P.O. Box 38, Blue Earth, MN 56013.

I would appreciate it if this request could be honored within the next seven days. Please call if you have any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,



LaMar Piper  
Assistant Faribault County Attorney

LP/akd

cc: Chief of Police Tom Fletcher

**Colletti, Msgr. Richard**

---

**From:** Engbrecht, Shirley  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 10:57 AM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** FW: Regarding the healing of Saint Peter and Paul Parish

Hello Msgr. Colletti,  
I am forwarding this to you.....do you want me to print a copy and give it to Bishop Quinn?  
Thank you,  
Shirley

---

**From:** Engbrecht, Shirley  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 10:52 AM  
**To:** Engbrecht, Shirley  
**Subject:** Regarding the healing of Saint Peter and Paul Parish

Dear Bishop Quinn,

Thank you for your time and God Bless.

Sincerely,

---

**From:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 11:10 AM  
**To:** I  
**Cc:** Quinn, Bishop John  
**Subject:** RE: Regarding the healing of Saint Peter and Paul Parish

As Vicar General I assist Bishop Quinn in his correspondence, especially when he is away like this week for the USA Bishop's Conference meetings this week. Thank you for taking the time to write to us at the Diocese of Winona. I am forwarding your letter to Bishop Quinn so he receives your insights as he prepares for this weekend's Masses.

I had an extensive conversation with your husband this morning, and thanked him also for his willingness to share with me the hurts and struggles you as a family and the parish family are experiencing. I am coming to Blue Earth Thursday night to concelebrate the Eucharist with Fr. Stenzel and represent Bishop Quinn that evening with the parish community of St. Peter and Paul and St. Mary. Bishop Quinn will take all Masses at the parishes this coming weekend and be available to meet with parishioners after each of the Masses. I will hold you all in my prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,

Msgr. Rick Colletti  
r.colletti@dow.org 507-317-0301  
Vicar General/Chancellor  
Diocese of Winona  
55 W. Sanborn  
Winona, MN 55987

---

**From:** Shirley Engbrecht  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 10:52 AM  
**To:** Engbrecht, Shirley  
**Subject:** Regarding the healing of Saint Peter and Paul Parish

Dear Bishop Quinn,

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are members of the St Peter and Paul Catholic church in Blue Earth. The arrest and charges against Leo Koppala have not only broken the trust and confidence of my family, but the entire Catholic community in this tight-knit town.

I cannot speak for the rest of the parish, even though I know we are all having a tough time dealing with this terrible news. However, I felt it was important for you know to hear how one bad priest can completely destroy the trust and faith and love for Catholicism in my family.

I am a life-long Catholic. Born and raised with devout Catholic values. I married a man, \_\_\_\_\_ who was a Christian, but was raised in a strict evangelical church that taught its members that, in short, Catholics are bad. They are backwards, statue worshipping, chanting lunatics that don't know what it takes to get to Heaven. I've been married for 15 years. For the first 10, I spent countless hours defending, fighting for and explaining Catholicism to my husband.

a Catholic in order to make our family a whole and unified unit. We want our children to see Mom and Dad kneeling and praying TOGETHER. Honestly, watching \_\_\_\_\_ become Catholic and embrace it so totally, was one of the happiest moments in my life.

Imagine, now, what Fr Leo's actions and subsequent arrest has done to my family. I've never felt so betrayed. My husband is questioning everything he believed was pure and good. \_\_\_\_\_ actually helped teach Catholic classes side by side with Fr Leo. He DEFENDED him when fellow parishoners complained that Leo was hard to understand, or too quiet, or not involved in the community enough. Fr. Leo baptised our baby boy and placed weekly blessings upon our little girl's head. To say we are sickened is not enough. I can't defend this, nor do I want to.

I realize that time will heal and I've known some wonderful priests throughout my life. We are a young couple with a young family and we demand that the church that we were taught to love and respect and most importantly, trust, handle this situation with swift, decisive action. No leniency for Leo.

Our parish needs to know that the diocese cares about us as individuals, as a family. We don't want to be handled as a bad rumor...or something that needs to be swept under the rug quickly in order to avoid bad press. Please, please reach out to us. Tell us that you will find us a great priest that will facilitate the extensive healing process that will have to occur here. Tell us that changes will be made to avoid anything like this happening in the future. Tell us that you will do what it takes to keep families like us, young, active, and searching for a safe church to raise our children. Because now, even before Leo's arrest, the pews are gradually getting emptier and emptier. We need a priest that will bring people together on Sunday. We need someone who will breathe life back into St Peter and Paul.

Thank you for your time and God Bless.

Sincerely,



SPP 11 A.M. Friday

**Colletti, Msgr. Richard**

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**To:**  
**Subject:** RE: Father Leo

Thank you for taking the time to write to us, as I will also share this with Bishop Quinn. We are both coming Thursday afternoon, for the Mass in the evening and to stay through Sunday. This is important to us also. Pat at SPP is not aware of this change .

Msgr. Rick Colletti  
rcolletti@dow.org 507-317-0301  
Vicar General/Chancellor  
Diocese of Winona  
55 W. Sanborn  
Winona, MN 55987

---

**From:** 1  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 11:38 AM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Father Leo

Dear Monsignor Colletti,



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**From:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 12:58 PM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Cc:** Quinn, Bishop John; Cook, Msgr. Thomas; Melvin, Msgr. Tom; Martin, Peter  
**Subject:** "SAFE AND SACRED" and "VIRTUS"

Before Peter Martin was hired, the Training Program we had to protect the minors in our Diocese was called "Safe and Sacred". The criteria was still the same: As Clergy, we had to go through the Program, pass a test and go through the updates every year. When "Virtus" was implemented two years ago (2011) all clergy went through "Virtus" too. **I'm quite sure Fr. Koppala had both "Safe and Sacred" and "Virtus."**

Dcn Eduardo

---

**From:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 12:15 PM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Rick  
**Cc:** Quinn, Bishop John; Melvin, Msgr. Tom; Cook, Msgr. Thomas; Martin, Peter  
**Subject:** RE: ECLESIASTICAL AND LEGAL PROCEDURE TO RECEIVE A FOREIGN RELIGIOUS WORKER

**RE: ECLESIASTICAL AND LEGAL PROCEDURE TO RECEIVE A FOREIGN RELIGIOUS WORKER**

In the case of the Colombian priests - where I was directly involved as Director of Hispanic Ministry - the following are the steps we took with former Bishop Bernard Harrington (I believe the same steps were taken by Bishop Harrington in relation to Fr. Leo Koppala):

**ECLESIASTICAL PROCEDURE**

- 1) A letter was sent to personally meet the Foreign Bishop and his clergy in his own Diocese (see attachment). The pastoral need was explained in the letter.
- 2) Bishop Harrington went to Colombia with two advisors (the Director of Hispanic Ministry and Fr. Colletti). We visited with the Bishop, his clergy, we also visited some parishes and the Seminary to have a sense of their degree of competence.
- 3) At the private meeting with the Foreign Bishop, we explained him our criteria to accept his priests in our diocese: **He had to exercise an accurate discernment (which actually took place**

for over a year) and select priests who only came from his own Seminary, with several years of experience in his own diocese who had an impeccable pastoral record at a parish level. As a matter of fact we visited the Diocese in November 2006 and the first Colombian priests came only in April 2008. I personally monitored the process and I rejected one candidate who joined their Diocese after ordination because I considered he was not known well enough by his Bishop and Diocese.

#### LEGAL PROCEDURE FOR A FOREIGN TO OBTAIN RELIGIOUS WORKER VISA

Once the Ecclesiastical assessment has taken place we must start the Legal Procedure following the Immigration Criteria established by our Government: **The Process to get the Religious Worker Visa which will be finally issued by the American Embassy of the Foreign Country.**

Under the direction of specialized attorneys in the Immigration field from CLINIC (Catholic Legal Immigration Network) we go through all the steps required by law to obtain the R1 visas.

- 1) **The first LEGAL FILTER to check the civil and criminal records of any foreign person applying for a visa to come to the U.S. it is right in the country of origin and it is the AMERICAN AMBASSY and CONSULATES. That is why they are stationed at the countries of origin so they can have direct access to local criminal records of people living abroad.**
- 2) A Background check within the U.S. of somebody who never came to our country won't tell anything about the civil, criminal records and moral character of the person.
- 3) **All our Foreign Priests who obtained a Religious Worker Visa "R1" had to pass the "Screening Process" of the American Consulate of their Country of Origin. That is why we pay them and send them all over the world, to screen all people who come to our Country to make us safe and secure.**

#### FURTHER ECLESIASTICAL PROCEDURE

- 1) **Once a Foreign priest arrives to our Diocese in order to start active ministry, to be considered in "Good Standing" and receive the official ID of our Diocese as a priest, he has to go through the**

**“Virtus Training” which is an exhaustive workshop on the polices and laws of our Country and Church structures regarding Child Abuse.**

- 2) At this time our Diocese also performs a Background check before issuing the Clergy ID.

Dcn Eduardo

**Fortini, Deacon Eduardo**

---

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**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 12:58 PM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Cc:** Quinn, Bishop John; Cook, Msgr. Thomas; Melvin, Msgr. Tom; Martin, Peter  
**Subject:** "SAFE AND SACRED" and "VIRTUS"

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Red Category

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**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Rick  
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Dcn Eduardo



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**From:** Hamann, Mary  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 2:39 PM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** FW: Father Koppala  
**Attachments:** 2013\_06\_12\_14\_24\_58.pdf

Mary A. Hamann  
Diocese of Winona  
Office Coordinator/Office of Safe Environment  
55 W. Sanborn St.  
PO BOX 588  
Winona, MN 55987  
phone: 507-858-1244  
fax: 507-454-8106  
[mhamann@dow.org](mailto:mhamann@dow.org)



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**From:** Angie Doyle [<mailto:Angie.Doyle@co.faribault.mn.us>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 2:27 PM  
**To:** Hamann, Mary  
**Subject:** Father Koppala

St. Peter and Paul asked that we e-mail the attached letter to you. Please call our office if you have any questions. Thank you.

Angie Doyle  
Legal Assistant  
Faribault County's Attorney Office  
P.O. Box 5  
Blue Earth, MN 56013  
507-526-4564

---

**From:** Reps, Peggy  
**nt:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 2:56 PM  
**fo:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Bio Data For Rev. Leo Charles Koppala  
**Attachments:** Bio Data For Rev. Leo Charles Koppala.pdf

Peggy Reps  
Diocese of Winona  
55 West Sanborn Street  
Winona, MN 55987  
507-858-1242  
507-454-8106 Fax  
preps@dow.org



**BIO-DATA**

**REV. FR. KOPPALA LEO CHARLES**

FIRST NAME: KOPPALA  
LAST NAME; LEO CHARLES  
FATHER'S NAME KOPPALA ZACHRISAS  
MOTHERS NAME KOPPALA AROGYA MARY  
DATE OF BIRTH 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 1966

DATE OF ORDINATION 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 1994

PASSPORT NO E 8080055

**STUDIES**

MINOR SEMINARY ST. JOHN'S MINOR SEMINARY, NELLORE  
1979-1985

SPIRITUAL ORIENTATION ST. PAUL'S SEMINARY, NUZVID, 1985-1986.

PHILOSOPHY ST. JOHNS MAJOR SEMINARY, KONDADABA,  
1986-1989.

REGENCY ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, ALLUR 1989-1990.

THEOLOGY ST. JOHNS MAJOR SEMINARY, HYDERABAD,  
1990-1994.

**PRIESTLY MINISTRY**

1 CO-DIRECTOR	REGIONAL CATECHIST' TRAINING CENTRE, NELLORE 1994-1995
2 ASS. PARISH PRIEST	BESTHAVARIPET 1995-1996
3 PARISH PRIEST	AMENCHERLA 1996-1997
4 MASTER OF FINE ARTS	TRICHY, T.N. 1997-2002
5 DIPLOMA IN ROMAN LITURGY	BANGALORE 2002-2003
6 SPIRITUAL DIRECOTR	SAGARA SANGAM 2003-2004
7 DIRECTOR OF GYPSY CHILDREN	MARIARANI 2004-2005
8 PARISH PRIEST	DUVVUR PARISH 2005-2008

*+ M. D. Babasani*  
*06. May. 2008*

Dates

Assignments & Appointments

9-28-2008  
Entered this diocese from the Diocese of Nellore in India

10/2008 - Parochial Vicar for Resurrection in Rochester

8/1/2009 - Parochial Vicar for Saints Peter and Paul in Blue Earth, Saint Mary in Winnebago

1/6/2010 - Parochial Administrator for Saints Peter and Paul in Blue Earth, Saint Mary in Winnebago

6/10/2013 - administrative leave of absence

---

**From:** Amanda Roberson <amanda@restovichlaw.com> on behalf of Thomas Braun <Thomas@restovichlaw.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 4:32 PM  
**To:** dforti@kttc.com  
**Cc:** nsederstrom@kttc.com  
**Subject:** Father Leo Koppala

Dear Donnie,

I serve as General Counsel for the Diocese of Winona and I can confirm that Father Leo Koppala arrived from the Diocese of Nellore, India, on September 28, 2008, and had the following placements within the Diocese of Winona:

- October, 2008 through July 31, 2009: Resurrection Church, Rochester, Minnesota;
- August 1, 2009 through June 9, 2013: Saints Peter and Paul in Blue Earth, Minnesota, and St. Mary in Winnebago, Minnesota;
- June 10, 2013: Administrative Leave.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me.

**Thomas R. Braun**

**Restovich Braun & Associates**  
117 East Center Street  
Rochester, MN 55904

Phone: (507) 288-4840  
Fax: (507) 288-4908  
Email: [thomas@restovichlaw.com](mailto:thomas@restovichlaw.com)

**Restovich·Braun**  
**& ASSOCIATES**

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*Attorneys and Counselors at Law*

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**NOTICE:** This email, including attachments, is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. §2510-2521, is confidential and may contain attorney-client materials and/or attorney work product, legally privileged and protected from disclosure. This email is intended for the addressee(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any retention, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. Please reply to the sender that you have received this message in error, then delete it and any and all copies.

---

**From:** Prakasam Doraboina <bsprakasam@yahoo.com>  
**nt:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 9:27 PM  
**to:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Response: Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

**Dear Reverend Msgr. Richard Colletti,**

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord.

I am very sorry to learn further about Fr. Leo Charles. I hope that you have received my previous mail in response to the information received from you.

I humbly request you to give all legal support and help him to come out of this problem. I am confident that you will do your best in this regard. I wish and pray that Fr. Leo will be proved innocent. I am also praying for the girl and her family.

Kindly keep me informed of the developments. I had asked Leo's brother Fr. A.S. Savio, who works in the Jackson Diocese, to pay a visit to him.

United with you all in prayer and fraternal solidarity, I remain.

**+ Moses D. Prakasam.**

Bishop of Nellore. India.

--- On Tue, 6/11/13, Colletti, Msgr. Richard <[RColletti@dow.org](mailto:RColletti@dow.org)> wrote:

From: Colletti, Msgr. Richard <[RColletti@dow.org](mailto:RColletti@dow.org)>  
Subject: Fr. Leo Charles Koppala  
To: "bsprakasam@yahoo.com" <[bsprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bsprakasam@yahoo.com)>  
Cc: "nlrbhs@yahoo.com" <[nlrbhs@yahoo.com](mailto:nlrbhs@yahoo.com)>  
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2013, 2:02 AM

From the Office of the

**DIocese OF WINONA**

Vicar General and Chancellor

Pastoral Center

---

Your Excellency,

I am sorry that I have to give you the bad news concerning Fr. Leo Charles is in this press release. We just received these charges from our Court System. I will keep you informed.

Msgr. Colletti

## **A STATEMENT REGARDING REV. LEO CHARLES KOPPALA**

### **A Statement from Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona**

**WINONA, MN – June 10, 2013** - Bishop John Quinn placed Rev. Leo Charles Koppala, a priest of the Nellore Diocese in South India, on administrative leave in accordance with the diocesan policy for the protection of minors. Rev. Koppala has been charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Second Degree involving a minor.

While on administrative leave, he is not permitted to exercise his public ministry or live on any parish property in the Diocese of Winona pending the outcome of the investigation.

A representative of the Diocese of Winona indicated that no other allegation of this nature involving Rev. Koppala has been received by the Diocese.

The Diocese of Winona is committed to the protection of children and the safe environment of our parishes and schools. The Diocese of Winona has fully adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (“the Charter”), as promulgated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Diocese of Winona works vigorously and has taken extraordinary measures to ensure that all of the schools, parishes and programs administered in the Diocese adhere to the Charter to ensure that those entrusted to our care are safe.

Msgr. Rick Colletti

rcolletti@dow.org 507-317-0301

Vicar General/Chancellor

Diocese of Winona

55 W. Sanborn

Winona, MN 55987



-----Original Message-----

From: "Hennessy, Joel" <JHennessy@dow.org>  
To: "Jodelle Greiner" <jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com>  
Date: 06/13/13 02:23 PM  
Subject: RE: updates on St. Peter and Paul Church in Blue Earth

Thank you. I will add you to our media contact.

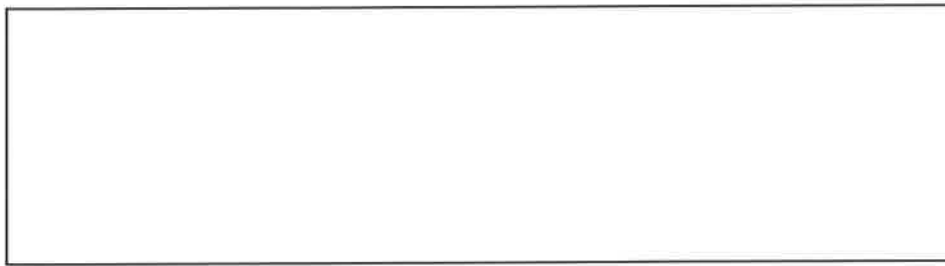
Joel Hennessy  
**Diocese of Winona Pastoral Center**  
Director, Office of Mission Advancement & Communications  
Communications | Stewardship | Development  
55 W. Sanborn, PO Box 588, Winona, MN 55987  
507.858.1249 Office 507.254.3948 Mobile



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**From:** Jodelle Greiner [mailto:jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 13, 2013 1:19 PM  
**To:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Subject:** updates on St. Peter and Paul Church in Blue Earth

Hi Joel,  
Thanks for talking to me; I know it's a difficult situation for all.  
If the diocese releases any information, please let me know so I can keep my readers updated as quickly as possible. We're the closest daily newspaper to Blue Earth, Fairmont is about 16 miles away.  
I can be reached by phone at (507)-235-3303, toll-free at (800) 598-5597, e-mail at jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com online, or fax (507) 235-3718.  
Thanks,  
Jodelle Greiner  
The Sentinel  
507-235-3303  
jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com



Diocese of Winona – Misconduct Complaint Report  
June 14, 2013

Reported by:  
Blue Earth, MN

Accused: Father Leo  
Pastor of parish in Blue Earth, MN

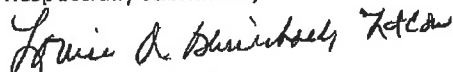
Time: Friday, June 7, 2013  
Place: home in the basement

reported that Father Leo came to her home for soup as he had recently returned from India. He went down the basement where her years old granddaughter, years old was sitting. came upstairs and could tell something was wrong. Father Leo admitted to kissing her. Is the daughter of. , is a and it was reported to law enforcement.

mentioned that Msgr. Colletti and Bishop Quinn met with interested parish people. felt it was very good and the Bishop's talk was most helpful. The hearing for Father Leo is on Monday and he is in jail at present.

The case is in litigation – no further contact.

Respectfully submitted,



Louise J. Blissenbach, LICSW, LADC

LK000015

---

**From:** A.S.SAVIO <assavio@yahoo.com>  
**nt:** Sunday, June 16, 2013 3:20 PM  
**fo:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Cc:** Prakasam Doraboina  
**Subject:** Savio

Dear Rev. Msgr., thank you very much to allowing me to spend sometime with you and with the Bishop with regard to Father Leo. I am in full confident that you will help him to prove of his innocency. I appreciate your interest in sharing Leo's trouble with me as his brother. I do hope you understand my position that I am also a Priest like him invited by the Diocese.

My Bishop told me that you are updating him as necessary. I kindly request you to explain everything in detail to my Bishop. My Bishop will share with me whatever is necessary. Whatever you share with me is an information. I am fully confident that the present Lawyer will defend Father Leo and prove him that he is not guilty of the crime.

Yours sincerely  
Fr. Savio

---

**From:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard <RColletti@dow.org>;  
**To:** assavio <assavio@yahoo.com>;  
**Subject:** Further information  
**nt:** Wed, Jun 12, 2013 7:40:51 PM

Fr. Savio,

The words "lawyer" and "attorney" are interchangeable in our language. Our diocesan attorney will represent the Diocese of Winona as it would be a conflict of interest to use the same attorney. When you meet the attorney provided by the county of Blue Earth for your brother, make sure you trust him and feel he is competent to defend Fr. Leo on the charges. Otherwise you might want to hire an attorney on your own. You should probably check with the Diocese of Nellore to see if they can help with the attorney fees.

As I said, this is a very serious charge. If is he found guilty, he will be placed in INS jail detention to be deported back to India, this process can take as long as 6 months that he would be in detention.

You should also get advice from the Diocese of Jackson so that you can get guidance from them before you come to Blue Earth. The parish itself is very upset, they are angry and feel betrayed by Fr. Leo. The visit will not be easy for you.

**For your information, this is the press release:**

WINONA, MN – June 10, 2013 - Bishop John Quinn placed Rev. Leo Charles Koppala, a priest of the Nellore Diocese in South India, on administrative leave in accordance with the diocesan policy for the protection of minors. Rev. Koppala has been charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Second Degree involving a minor.

While on administrative leave, he is not permitted to exercise his public ministry or live on any parish property in the Diocese of Winona pending the outcome of the investigation.

A representative of the Diocese of Winona indicated that no other allegation of this nature involving Rev. Koppala has been received by the Diocese.

The Diocese of Winona is committed to the protection of children and the safe environment of our parishes and schools. The Diocese of Winona has fully adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (“the Charter”), as promulgated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Diocese of Winona works vigorously and has taken extraordinary measures to ensure that all of the schools, parishes and programs administered in the Diocese adhere to the Charter to ensure that those entrusted to our care are safe.

During this difficult time, we hold in our prayers all those involved.

**Here is the formal Court Complaint:**

The Complainant, being duly sworn, makes complaint to the above-named Court and states that there is probable cause to believe that the Defendant committed the following offense(s):

Count 1

Criminal Sex Conduct-2nd Degree-Victim Under 13-Actor > 36m Old

In Violation Of: 609.343 subd. 1(a); 609.343 subd. 2(a)

Penalty: 25 years in prison, a \$35,000 fine, or both

On or about June 7, 2013, within the County of Faribault, Leo Charles Koppala did wrongfully, unlawfully and feloniously engage in sexual contact with another person, to-wit: CJS, date of birth 6/8/01, a child under 13 years of age and the said defendant being more than 36 months older than the child.

I am sorry I have to share this difficult information with you and I will keep Fr. Leo and yourself in my Prayers.

Isgr. Rick Colletti

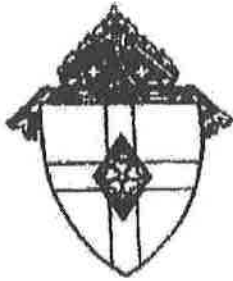
rcolletti@dow.org 507-317-0301

Vicar General/Chancellor

Diocese of Winona

55 W. Sanborn

Winona, MN 55987



**DIOCESE  
OF  
WINONA**

FAX NUMBER: (507) 454-8106

**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET**

DATE: 6/17/13

**CONFIDENTIAL**

NUMBER OF PAGES: 2  
(Including cover sheet)

SEND TO: Anna Antonich

FAX NUMBER: 507-288-4908

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE:** The documents accompanying this facsimile transmission contain information belonging to the Diocese of Winona which is confidential and/or legally privileged. The information is intended only for the use of the individual(s) or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient(s), you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or the taking of any action in reliance on the contents of this telecopied information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this facsimile in error, please immediately notify us by telephone to arrange for the return of the original documents.

FROM (name): Mary Callotti

06/17/2013 10:13 5074548106

DIOCESE OF WINONA

P.001

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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JOB NO.	MODE	NO.	DESTINATION TEL/ID	START TIME	PAGE	RESULT
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FAX NUMBER: 507-288-4908

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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FROM (name): Mrs. Carloti

OFFICE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: Memo by Fall (St. Peter + Paul Parish)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



---

**From:** Quinn, Bishop John  
**Sent:** Monday, June 17, 2013 10:38 AM  
**To:** All Priest's Email group; deacons  
**Subject:** Message to Priests and Deacons



Office of the Bishop

## DIOCESE OF WINONA

PASTORAL CENTER

---

Dear Brother Priests and Deacons,

St. Paul writes, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:8). I write to you during a time, when I became once more deeply aware of the fragileness of human nature, the hurt that can happen, when boundaries are violated in the protection of children and when parishioners struggle with a range of conflicting emotions. May God's grace perfect us in our weakness.

All of us were stunned, and shocked, when Father Leo Charles Koppala, a brother priest and friend to us, was arrested and charged on June 10, 2013 with second degree sexual conduct with a minor. His parishioners at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Blue Earth, and at St. Mary's Parish in Winnebago are also deeply hurt and are searching for answers, along with the family of the child.

Later on today, there will be an omnibus hearing in the Faribault County Courthouse. We will update you tomorrow with further information from this hearing. It was my hope, that we had turned the corner on such tragic events, because of all the policies and training programs put into place in the last twenty years. I encourage you to continue to be vigilant, because the sexual abuse of children is a cultural problem, that can occur not only in the Church but in all institutions, including families.

A few days ago, Father Mark McNea, the Assistant Vicar for Clergy, made a personal visit to Father Leo Charles in the Faribault Jail, to assure him of our prayers. Father Leo is not forgotten or neglected. In the coming weeks, there will be additional court appearances, and probably a trial, at a later date. At each step in the judicial process, there will be additional publicity, that will reopen wounds and raise questions. Please keep everyone in prayer, during this painful time of transition at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, and St. Mary Parish. I ask that you hold up before the Lord, all those touched by this tragedy, especially the parishioners of Ss. Peter and Paul, and St. Mary's. Pray also for Father Leo Charles, for an outpouring of healing grace.

In trying to assist the parishioners at Ss. Peter and Paul, and St. Mary's Parishes, Monsignor Colletti and I came to celebrate a Mass of healing on Thursday evening, followed by an open meeting for both parishes. This past weekend, Monsignor Colletti and I celebrated all the Masses, followed by open meetings that allowed people to ask questions and to offer comments. Further assistance was offered by Catholic Charities, who will send trained counselors during the week. Phone numbers were also made available for those, who may need more time, before speaking with a counselor. I will return on June 30 to celebrate Mass.

On a very personal note, if you are struggling with behaviors, that are destructive or addictive, I ask you to please seek assistance from Monsignor Tom Melvin, the Vicar for Cleary, or Father Mark McNea, the Assistant Vicar for Clergy. The truth is that we are as sick as we keep our darkest secrets hidden, and as healthy as we bring our darkest secrets into the light. In a culture, that is charged with sex, the objectification of women for pleasure, pornography, gambling and other addictions, it is truly a grace to seek to live a virtuous life as a priest. We all need a spiritual director, the regular celebration of the Sacrament of Penance, and at times, counseling by trained clinicians. We are brothers, and we help to keep each other happy, holy and healthy. We are our brother's keeper.

Dear brothers, this is the time for us to turn to Jesus Christ, who is the light shining in the darkness. Jesus is the source of all healing, reconciliation and forgiveness. He is our hope and our salvation. "Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, says the Lord." (Matthew 28:20)

Fraternally,

+John



---

**From:** Father Rick <frrick@cathedralwinona.org>  
**nt:** Tuesday, June 18, 2013 11:40 AM  
**To:** Quinn, Bishop John; Melvin, Msgr. Tom  
**Subject:** Fwd: Further information

Update on procedures

Msgr. Rick Colletti  
Vicar General/Chancellor  
Diocese of Winona  
Rector, Cathedral of the Sacred/St. Casimir & Newman Center

Begin forwarded message:

**Resent-From:** <RColletti@dow.org>  
**From:** AROKIA S SAVIO <assavio@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** June 18, 2013, 11:35:13 AM CDT  
**To:** "Colletti, Msgr. Richard" <RColletti@dow.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Further information

Dear Msgr.,

The Attorney of the other party today submitted the file to our Defending Lawyer about the case.

Our Lawyer pleaded for the release on bail. The judge accepted for it. But there was an objection from the Other Attorney that the Immigration procedure does not allow him on bail. So, the Judge instructed the Court to find out the possibilities of the immigration, within 2 days. Our Lawyer will inform us on Wednesday or Thursday about it. If the Immigration Process allows, he will come out immediately by paying two thousand dollars.

Thank you for all that you are to us.

Yours sincerely  
Savio

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 12, 2013, at 14:40, "Colletti, Msgr. Richard" <RColletti@dow.org> wrote:

Fr. Savio,  
The words "lawyer" and "attorney" are interchangeable in our language. Our diocesan attorney will represent the Diocese of

Winona as it would be a conflict of interest to use the same attorney. When you meet the attorney provided by the county of Blue Earth for your brother, make sure you trust him and feel he is competent to defend Fr. Leo on the charges. Otherwise you might want to hire an attorney on your own. You should probably check with the Diocese of Nellore to see if they can help with the attorney fees.

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During this difficult time, we hold in our prayers all those involved.

**Here is the formal Court Complaint:**

The Complainant, being duly sworn, makes complaint to the above-named Court and states that there is probable cause to believe that the Defendant committed the following offense(s):

Count 1

Criminal Sex Conduct-2nd Degree-Victim Under 13-Actor > 36m Old  
In Violation Of: 609.343 subd. 1(a); 609.343 subd. 2(a)

Penalty: 25 years in prison, a \$35,000 fine, or both

On or about June 7, 2013, within the County of Faribault, Leo Charles Koppala did wrongfully, unlawfully and feloniously engage in sexual contact with another person, to-wit: CJS, date of

birth 6/8/01, a child under 13 years of age and the said defendant being more than 36 months older than the child.

I am sorry I have to share this difficult information with you and I will keep Fr. Leo and yourself in my Prayers.

Msgr. Rick Colletti  
[rcolletti@dow.org](mailto:rcolletti@dow.org) 507-317-0301  
Vicar General/Chancellor  
Diocese of Winona  
55 W. Sanborn  
Winona, MN 55987

Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Colletti  
360 Main Street  
Winona, MN 55987  
mobile: 507-317-0301 [frrick@cathedralwinona.org](mailto:frrick@cathedralwinona.org)  
Vicar General/Chancellor, Diocese of Winona  
Rector of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart  
Pastor St. Casimir; Chaplain of Newman Center

---

**From:** AROKIA S SAVIO [<mailto:assavio@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 13, 2013 3:01 AM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Re: Further information

Dear Msgr., thank you very much for the detailed information of the case. I too am really upset about this.

I talked to my Bishop too. He mentioned to me about your information. He told me that he has requested you to take all the necessary possible steps to save him. Since we are not knowledgeable about the system in USA, we are fully confident you will try to save him from the severe punishment and the guilty.

I am aware of my difficulty in visiting him, but at the same time I need to support and comfort him. I am sure there are some people in the parish who know and understand him very well.

When I meet his lawyer, I will try to explain to him the difference of Indian culture and the nature of a catholic Priest. I presuppose that Fr. Leo is upset and may not be able to express himself in a normal way. He will be emotional and depressed.[]

Mr. Bill Hamlin from Blue Earth called me and told me that he is in touch with you. He also mentioned to me that he will try make the arrangement for my pickup and staying.

Let us pray for him. Thank you for the update.  
Yours sincerely  
Savio.

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 12, 2013, at 14:40, "Colletti, Msgr. Richard" <[RColletti@dow.org](mailto:RColletti@dow.org)> wrote:

Fr. Savio,  
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birth 6/8/01, a child under 13 years of age and the said defendant being more than 36 months

older than the child.

I am sorry I have to share this difficult information with you and I will keep Fr. Leo and yourself in my Prayers.

Msgr. Rick Colletti

[rcolletti@dow.org](mailto:rcolletti@dow.org) 507-317-0301

Vicar General/Chancellor

Diocese of Winona  
55 W. Sanborn  
Winona, MN 55987



---

**From:** Prakasam Doraboina <bspprakasam@yahoo.com>  
**Content:** Wednesday, June 26, 2013 4:19 AM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

**Dear Reverend Monsignor Colletti Richard,**

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Merciful Lord Jesus Christ.

I am in touch with Fr. A.S. Savio who is updating me on the situation of Fr. K. Leo Charles.

I am constantly praying for him and all that are involved in the episode. Once again I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for all that the Diocese of Winona, the Bishop and all of you are doing to help out in this sad episode. I fully understand the delicate as well as serious nature of the problem and the all-round concerns of the Diocese. I am deeply sorry about the whole thing. Please let me know the present situation and what is in projection.

I humbly request you to continue your efforts in rendering legal assistance to Fr. Leo Charles in as much as it is possible. I wish and pray that he will be forgiven and made free. Kindly see if there are any chances of reducing the gravity of the case. I know and that I am confident as well that you are doing all that is within your possibility to help Fr. Leo Charles. Kindly express my gratitude to the Bishop and all who are concerned.

United in prayers and faith,

Yours truly in Christ,

**Bishop Moses D. Prakasam.**

Diocese of Nellore.

INDIA.

--- On **Tue, 6/11/13, Colletti, Msgr. Richard** <[RColletti@dow.org](mailto:RColletti@dow.org)> wrote:

From: Colletti, Msgr. Richard <[RColletti@dow.org](mailto:RColletti@dow.org)>  
Subject: Fr. Leo Charles Koppala  
To: "bspprakasam@yahoo.com" <[bspprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com)>  
Cc: "nlrbhs@yahoo.com" <[nlrbhs@yahoo.com](mailto:nlrbhs@yahoo.com)>  
Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2013, 2:02 AM

From the Office of the

**DIOCESE OF WINONA**

Vicar General and Chancellor

Pastoral Center

---

Your Excellency,

I am sorry that I have to give you the bad news concerning Fr. Leo Charles in this press release. We just received these charges from our Court System. I will keep you informed.

Msgr. Colletti

## **A STATEMENT REGARDING REV. LEO CHARLES KOPPALA**

### **A Statement from Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona**

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Msgr. Rick Colletti

rcolletti@dow.org 507-317-0301

Vicar General/Chancellor

Diocese of Winona

55 W. Sanborn

Winona, MN 55987

---

**From:** Father Rick <frrick@cathedralwinona.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2013 9:40 PM  
**To:** Quinn, Bishop John  
**Subject:** FW: Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

Bishop, here is the email response that I send to Bishop Prakasam today: see below also his email of June 26, 2013

---

**From:** Father Rick  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2013 9:36 PM  
**To:** 'Prakasam Doraboina'  
**Subject:** RE: Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

Your Excellency,

Greetings to you Bishop Prakasam. Bishop John Quinn also sends you his greetings in the name of Jesus our Lord and Savior. Bishop Quinn and I were very happy to meet Fr. Savio and he was very helpful during his visit to Blue Earth a couple of weeks ago. I am sure that Fr. Leo Charles was grateful for his presence during those days.

Fr. Leo has an attorney who is doing a very competent job. Fr. Leo is still being held at the Adult Detention Center in large part due to his immigration status. He has been ordered to forfeit his passport and if he is convicted of the charges, he will likely face deportation from the United States. The charges are very serious and carry significant consequences. I do not know what the outcome of the criminal process will be, but I do know that it will likely take at least four to five months to resolve. I will pass along any major developments in the case when they arise. There is a court date set for July 8, at which time I will email you again of further developments.

Sincerely in Christ,

**Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Colletti**  
**360 Main Street**  
**Winona, MN 55987**  
**mobile: 507-317-0301 [frrick@cathedralwinona.org](mailto:frrick@cathedralwinona.org)**  
Vicar General/Chancellor, Diocese of Winona

**From:** Prakasam Doraboina [<mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2013 4:19 AM  
**To:** Msgr. RichardColletti  
**Subject:** Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

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Greetings to you in the precious name of our Merciful Lord Jesus Christ.

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I am constantly praying for him and all that are involved in the episode. Once again I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for all that the Diocese of Winona, the Bishop and all of you are doing to help out in this sad episode. I fully understand the delicate as well as serious nature of the problem and

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Yours truly in Christ,

**Bishop Moses D. Prakasam.**

Diocese of Nellore.

INDIA.

--- On Tue, 6/11/13, Colletti, Msgr. Richard <[RColletti@dow.org](mailto:RColletti@dow.org)> wrote:

From: Colletti, Msgr. Richard <[RColletti@dow.org](mailto:RColletti@dow.org)>

Subject: Fr. Leo Charles Koppala

To: "[bspprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com)" <[bspprakasam@yahoo.com](mailto:bspprakasam@yahoo.com)>

Cc: "[nlrbhs@yahoo.com](mailto:nlrhbhs@yahoo.com)" <[nlrbhs@yahoo.com](mailto:nlrhbhs@yahoo.com)>

Date: Tuesday, June 11, 2013, 2:02 AM

From the Office of the

**DIOCESE OF WINONA**

Vicar General and Chancellor

Pastoral Center

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**A Statement from Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona**

**WINONA, MN – June 10, 2013** - Bishop John Quinn placed Rev. Leo Charles Koppala, a priest of the Winona Diocese in South India, on administrative leave in accordance with the diocesan policy for the protection of minors. Rev. Koppala has been charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Second Degree involving a minor.

While on administrative leave, he is not permitted to exercise his public ministry or live on any parish property in the Diocese of Winona pending the outcome of the investigation.

A representative of the Diocese of Winona indicated that no other allegation of this nature involving Rev. Koppala has been received by the Diocese.

The Diocese of Winona is committed to the protection of children and the safe environment of our parishes and schools. The Diocese of Winona has fully adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (“the Charter”), as promulgated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Diocese of Winona works vigorously and has taken extraordinary measures to ensure that all of the schools, parishes and programs administered in the Diocese adhere to the Charter to ensure that those entrusted to their care are safe.

Msgr. Rick Colletti

[rcolletti@dow.org](mailto:rcolletti@dow.org) 507-317-0301

Vicar General/Chancellor

Diocese of Winona

55 W. Sanborn

Winona, MN 55987

---

**From:** Engbrecht, Shirley  
**nt:** Friday, June 28, 2013 3:10 PM  
**To:** Martin, Theresa S.  
**Subject:** Bishop's Article  
**Attachments:** 2013 - July Courier article.doc

Here you are.....Bishop only had one change to your article and an addition.

Blessings,

*Shirley*

E. Shirley Engbrecht  
Assistant, Office of Bishop  
**Diocese of Winona, Pastoral Center**  
55 West Sanborn Street  
Winona, MN 55987  
507-858-1267  
507-454-8106 Fax  
sengbrecht@dow.org

**YEAR OF FAITH** 2012  
2013  
Diocese of Winona 

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

Summer is here, and the Lord gives us time to get outdoors, go on vacation and travel. In fact, all of us should slow down and be recreated during these summer days. I invite you to make prayer an important part of each day, by giving God the first part of every day, by taking fifteen minutes or longer for prayer. If your day is centered in God, all else will be given by God.

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis has served over 100 days as the successor of St. Peter. He has brought a freshness and vitality to his very demanding role as the pastor of the Universal Church. I am always touched by his simple and caring gestures toward people. Pope Francis recently told the priests of the Diocese of Rome to get out among the sheep and come back smelling like the sheep! He certainly meant, that as priests and bishops, we are to serve God's people and to be affected by the many difficulties, tragedies and anxieties experienced by people, who are trying to live faithfully in Christ. Pope Francis also warned priests not to reduce their vocation which is to be servants, like Jesus Christ, to a career and the seeking of promotion to high office. In fact, the Holy Father, in an address to the Apostolic Nuncios, who represent the Pope to governments and to Catholics in every country throughout the world, asked them to identify priests, who are pastors and servants, for consideration for the Office of Bishop and not careerists or climbers. At every Mass we pray for Pope Francis, and we give thanks for the loving example he gives to all of us to live simply, trusting in Divine Providence, as servants.

### **Safe Environment**

A few weeks ago, it was necessary for me to place on administrative leave, a priest serving one of our parishes, Father Leo Charles Koppala, because he was charged with criminal conduct with a minor. I had hoped, that with all the education and training programs of the past thirty years, we had turned the corner and such events were in the past. The Diocese of Winona and all of our parishes and schools continue to be committed to providing a safe environment for all young people. It is important for all of us to remain vigilant, and if you see behavior from an adult toward a minor that is questionable or raises concerns, report it immediately to the supervisor in charge. If the behavior toward a minor is criminal, report it to the local law enforcement agency, and let them do the investigation. Our parishes and schools are to be places where everyone is safe and Jesus Christ is at the center of every relationship and activity.

### **Recent Supreme Court Rulings**

The Supreme Court of the United States struck down the DOMA (the Defense of Marriage Act) and refused to rule on the merits of California's Proposition 8. This was indeed a "tragic day for marriage" as Cardinal Timothy Dolan president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone of San Francisco, chair of the U.S. bishops' Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage have stated. The federal government ought to respect the truth that marriage is the union of one man and one woman, even where states do not. The common good of all, especially our children, depends upon a society that strives to uphold the truth of marriage.

Yet, let our hearts not be troubled. Our Savior has already won the victory; He gives us eternal hope. We must now redouble our efforts in witness to the truth about marriage. Marriage is the only institution that brings together a man and a woman for life, providing any child who comes from their union with the secure foundation of a mother and a father.



While the culture has failed in many ways to be marriage-strengthening, this is no reason to give up. Now is the time to strengthen marriage, not redefine it. When Jesus taught about the meaning of marriage – the lifelong, exclusive union of husband and wife – he pointed back to “the beginning” of God’s creation of the human person as male and female (see Matthew 19). In the face of the customs and laws of his time, Jesus taught an unpopular truth that everyone could understand. The truth of marriage endures, and we will continue to boldly proclaim it with confidence and charity.

### **Rooted in Faith, Rejoice in Hope!**

The Rooted in Faith, Rejoice in Hope! campaign continues to move forward. In 2012, the entire Diocese was invited to participate in a Feasibility Study to gauge the support for projects that will be incredibly important for our future – the strengthening of our priest retirement fund and improvements to our Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary. As Catholics, we make sure that our priests – who have given their lives of priestly service to the Church – will be cared for appropriately during their retirement years. In addition, it is incumbent on all of us to encourage, educate and provide vibrant formation for a new generation of priests at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary. Through this campaign, and with your continued generosity as faithful Catholics, we will provide for our priests and make sure that the clergy of tomorrow will be educated in modern, safe facilities. I am grateful for your prayers and generous gifts, that will ensure a successful Campaign.

### **Ministry Days**

In this Year of Faith, the priests, deacons, religious, and laity of our Diocese came together at our annual diocesan “Ministry Days” event to learn, to share and discuss, and to act upon this renewed call to evangelization which is at the very heart of our Church’s mission. This year’s gathering is entitled: TO ENCOUNTER THE LORD ~ Proclaiming and Witnessing to the New Evangelization.

It was a great success with keynote presentations by Ralph Martin, PhD And Jim Beckman. These days also included workshops, opportunities for socializing and entertainment, and time each day to pray together and to celebrate the Eucharist. I thank Todd Graff, our Director of the Office of Lay Formation, for orchestrating the event and all those who so willingly gave of their time and energy.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Most Rev. John M. Quinn  
Bishop of Winona, Minnesota

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**From:** Pat Boettcher <patssp@bevcomm.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 10, 2013 12:16 PM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Fw: Fr. Leo

**From:** Pat Boettcher  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 10, 2013 12:11 PM  
**To:** [jmquinn@dow.org](mailto:jmquinn@dow.org)  
**Subject:** Fr. Leo

Bishop Quinn,

Bill Hamlin called and wondered about rules and guidelines while Fr. Leo is in his home.

He also wondered what progress is being made on a permanent location for Fr. Leo.

He wanted to know if Fr. Leo could attend Mass at another church in the diocese. I told him that it was my understanding that Fr. Leo was not allowed on any diocesan property.

He is aware that Fr. Leo can say Mass for himself, but then added "they had Mass at their home last night".

That may have meant Fr. Savio was celebrating.

The omnibus hearing is being continued on Tues, July 16th. It was my understanding that this would just involve the judge and attorneys, but Fr. Leo thinks he needs to be there also. If he is moved before that time, who would be responsible for getting Fr. to those hearings.

I've asked if you would be available to talk to Fr. Leo and Fr. Savio. Again, I told him that it was my understanding that you were not permitted by Canon Law to communicate directly with Fr. Leo.

Under the circumstances, I think it would be best if I give you Bill Hamlin's email so you can communicate with him directly and nothing is lost in translation.

His email is: [bfhamlin@bevcomm.net](mailto:bfhamlin@bevcomm.net).

Thank you for all your help. It does indeed feel like the band aid is again being torn off the healing wound.

Pat at SS Peter & Paul Blue Earth.

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**From:** Daniel, William  
**nt:** Monday, July 22, 2013 9:03 AM  
**ro:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Fr. Leo C. Koppala ltr of resignation  
**Attachments:** Fr. Leo C. Koppala ltr of resignation.doc

Dear Msgr. Colletti,

Here is the letter you requested. If Fr. Leo decides to resign his offices, in order for it to take effect, the Bishop must issue a decree of acceptance of the resignation within three months. Without this decree, the office will not become vacant, and the next pastor's appointment would be invalid (cf. cc. 37; 51; 54; 153, §1; 189, §3; 538, §1). Let me know if/when you would like me to draft such a decree.

Prayers for a good meeting,

Bill

July 22, 2013

The Most Reverend  
John M. Quinn  
Office of the Bishop  
P.O. Box 588  
Winona, MN 55987

Dear Bishop Quinn:

I hope that this letter finds you well.

It probably comes as no surprise to you that recent events have made it difficult for me to continue serving God's people in my current assignment. For this reason, after much prayer and reflection, I am hereby submitting to you my resignation from the offices of Pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Blue Earth and of St. Mary Parish in Winnebago, in accord with the norm of canons 189, §1 and 538, §1 of the *Code of Canon Law*. Would you graciously be willing to accept my resignation?

Awaiting your response, I remain

Respectfully yours in the Lord,

(Rev.) Leo Charles Koppala



**DIOCESE OF WINONA  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**

55 West Sanborn Street, P.O. Box 588  
Winona, Minnesota 55987  
507-454-4643  
507-454-8106 (Fax)

July 22, 2013

Rev. Leo Charles Koppala  
c/o Carmelite Hermitage  
33005 Stinson Ridge Road  
Houston, MN 55943-4033

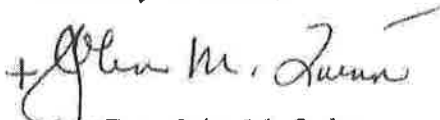
Dear Father Leo Charles Koppala,

I received your letter of resignation dated July 22, 2013. In view of the recent events and their impact on your priestly ministry in your current assignment, in accord with the norm of canons 189, §§2-3 and 538, §1 of the *Code of Canon Law*, I hereby accept your resignation as Pastor of the Parishes of Ss. Peter and Paul in Blue Earth Minnesota, and St. Mary's in Winnebago, Minnesota. This is effective immediately.

I am hopeful that your time away from the active ministry while you are on administrative leave will be valuable for you as you await the court appearances in Faribault County.

Be assured of my prayers for you at this time.

Sincerely in Christ,

  
Most Rev. John M. Quinn  
Bishop of Winona

  
Msgr. Richard M. Cellitti  
Chancellor

JMQ:se

LK000054

**Church of St. Peter and St. Paul**  
Blue Earth, Minnesota  
**Church of St. Mary**  
Winnebago, Minnesota

July 22, 2013

The Most Reverend John M. Quinn  
Office of the Bishop  
P.O. Box 588  
Winona, MN 55987

Dear Bishop Quinn:

I submit to you my resignation from the offices of Pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Blue Earth and of St. Mary Parish in Winnebago, in accord with the norm of canons 189, §1 and 538, §1 of the *Code of Canon Law*. Would you graciously be willing to accept my resignation?

Awaiting your response, I remain

Respectfully yours in the Lord,



(Rev.) Leo Charles Koppala

LK000055

File - Fr. Koppala

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## Priest's computer had porn

July 21, 2013

by Pauls Gibbins - Register Staff Writer, Faribault County Register

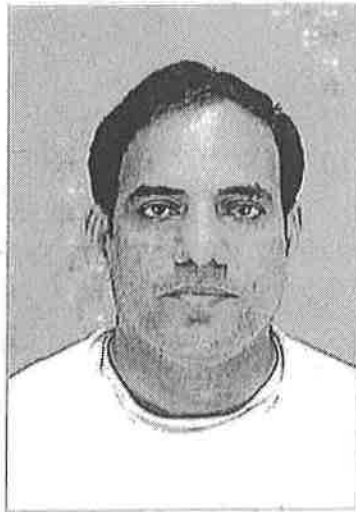
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During the investigation of sexual misconduct by Father Leo Koppala, 47, Blue Earth, locked files were discovered on his computer. The defendant had been charged with 2nd-degree criminal sexual conduct in relation to an alleged June 7 incident involving an 11-year-old girl.

The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) was able to unlock the files on his electronic devices on July 8 so that local police could view them for any other instances of misconduct.

Among the files on his electronic devices, there was a homemade pornographic video found where it was deemed questionable if the young woman involved gave consent.

### Article Photos



Also, 10-15 more pornographic videos were found within the locked or password protected files. There were some that involved lesbians and others involved heterosexuals, according to the report in Koppala's file.

Another 10-20 stored images were found that were of the outside of DVD covers of pornographic videos.

Three "clip art posters" were discovered, as well. Koppala's file detailed that one was a picture of a woman with a black eye with a caption reading, "Rebellious wife why God created the backhand."

A second poster was of a fully dressed male and female standing by a watercooler, apparently holding a conversation. The caption was suggesting a sexually explicit act.

### News, Blogs & Events

I am looking for:

In:

News, Blogs & Events  Web

**Hwy 169  
 Reconstruction**

LK000056

The third poster had the caption, "Sometimes you just want to break the law," and was a picture of three girls in tank tops.

According to Koppala's case file, there were several instances that people brought forward concerning unwanted physical contact initiated by the defendant.

A change in the way confession was conducted since Koppala's arrival at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Blue Earth was also listed in the case file. It states that confession for children used to be handled where a screen divided the children from the priest, but since his arrival, he changed it so that it was a face-to-face discussion instead.

The file also revealed that several photos and videos were found with the focus on a young, married female parishioner. In one of the photographs, the woman had her hand on the defendant's knee or thigh.

Assistant county attorney LaMer Piper listed some of these in court on Tuesday, July 23.

An omnibus hearing is not yet scheduled, but will be taking place at a future date.

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**From:** Daniel, William  
**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2013 11:49 AM  
**To:** Heiting, Msgr. Paul  
**Cc:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Fr. Leo's case

Dear Msgr. Heiting,

As you and I discussed at the La Crosse Conference, canon law requires that Fr. Leo Koppal's conduct be reported to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF). It is true that criminal action is being taken in the state and that he is no longer a pastor, but these measures do not directly address the fact that he committed a delict (i.e., a canonical crime). When a delict is committed, the competent authority is to discern whether a penalty is to be imposed. The competent authority in this matter is the CDF, since such delicts are reserved to it; it is therefore necessary to communicate the incident (with all evidence) to the CDF, following the proper procedure. While Fr. Leo is incardinated elsewhere, in my opinion it is for Bishop Quinn to do this, since he is the Ordinary of the place where the event occurred, and Fr. Leo was exercising the priestly ministry in Blue Earth-Winnebago on behalf of Bishop Quinn. Naturally, it would be reasonable for Bishop Quinn to inform Fr. Leo's bishop about this; but he does not need that bishop's consent, for canon law obliges the Bishop to communicate the matter to the CDF. (See below for some references.)

Bill

**Article 16 of the Norms governing this matter issued by the CDF on May 21, 2010:** "Whenever the Ordinary or Hierarch receives a report of a more grave delict [in this case, sin against the 6th commandment with a minor by a cleric], which has at least the semblance of truth, once the preliminary investigation has been completed, he is to communicate the matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith which, unless it calls the case to itself due to particular circumstances, will direct the Ordinary or Hierarch how to proceed further ...."

**May 3, 2011 Circular Letter of the CDF:** "If the accusation is considered credible, it is required that the case be referred to the CDF"

([http://www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc\\_con\\_cfaith\\_doc\\_20110503\\_abuso-minori\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20110503_abuso-minori_en.html)).



*Roman Catholic*  
**Diocese of Winona**  
*Serving the 20 southern counties of Minnesota*

Office of Vicar General/Chancellor  
Reverend Monsignor Richard M. Colletti

MEMO

**To:** Bishop John M. Quinn  
**Cc:** Rev. Msgr. Thomas Melvin, Vicar for Clergy  
Rev. Mark McNea, Assistant Vicar for Clergy  
**From:** Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Colletti  
**Subject:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Date:** October 16, 2013

FILE COPY

- 
1. New information on Father Leo Charles: I heard from Father Steve Peterson today, October 16<sup>th</sup>, that a family from St. Francis, who Father Steve knows, revealed that Father Leo Charles asked their mom, for help for the poor and she wrote out two checks, each for \$10,000.00, in Father Leo's name. They asked Father Steve if he could check into that. I will be asking Father Leo Charles those specific questions when I see him.

LK000053

**Father Rick**

---

**From:** Fr. Steve <sjp4646@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 17, 2013 11:11 AM  
**To:** Father Rick  
**Subject:**

Hi Rick,

I spoke with . . . and he is happy we are looking into this. He and his family just want to know that the money did get used for the poor. He has the checks at his home and thinks they were dated in April of 2009 or 2010. His mothers name is

*Fr. Steve*

*Fr. Steven J. Peterson*

*St. Columbanus Catholic Church  
114 East Main Street  
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917*

*sjp4646@gmail.com*

*507-583-2529  
507-273-4916 - cell  
507-583-7738 - fax*

**Colletti, Msgr. Richard**

---

**From:** Father Rick [frrlck@cathedralwinona.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 17, 2013 12:13 PM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** Fwd:

Msgr. Rick Colletti  
Vicar General/Chancellor  
Diocese of Winona  
Rector, Cathedral of the Sacred/St. Casimir & Newman Center

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Fr. Steve" <\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date:** October 17, 2013 at 11:11:26 AM CDT  
**To:** "Msgr. Rick Colletti" <[frrick@cathedralwinona.org](mailto:frrick@cathedralwinona.org)>  
**Subject:**

Hi Rick,

I spoke with \_\_\_\_\_ and he is happy we are looking into this. He and his family just want to know that the money did get used for the poor. He has the checks at his home and thinks they were dated in April of 2009 or 2010. His mothers name is

*Fr. Steve*

*Fr. Steven J. Peterson*

*St. Columbanus Catholic Church  
114 East Main Street  
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917*

*[sjp4646@gmail.com](mailto:sjp4646@gmail.com)*

*507-583-2529  
507-273-4916 - cell  
507-583-7738 - fax*

Oct 30, 2013

Houston MN Hermitage

I met with Fr. Koppala

this morning & visited with him  
concerning the question from

His mother,

gave Fr Koppala 2

checks for \$10,000 in April of 2008 or 2009.

The checks were made out to Fr Koppala.

I wanted to know what he did with the checks.

He responded that he had shared with  
the money went to his diocese in India for schools  
and orphanage. He did not have this documented  
in writing.

That was accepted by his son, as the

family wanted to make sure the \$20,000 -

went to the children in India, and was  
not used personally by Fr Koppala.

By telephone, I shared this with  
on Oct 30 in the afternoon & he thanked me for  
clearing all this out for him.

Insg. Richard M. Collett

LK000007

Fr. Steve Peterson

- information concerning - Fr. Leo Koppala

Resurrection Church

- going to the pool - was his suggestion

# on checks and date if possible

name:

A recent house in Tochihi is closing  
on June 2014

Oct 30  
date of  
visit

---

**From:** Engbrecht, Shirley  
**nt:** Monday, December 16, 2013 10:44 AM  
**ro:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Subject:** Talking Points  
**Attachments:** Letter attachment - Talking Points - 12-16-2013.docx

*Shirley*

E. Shirley Engbrecht  
Assistant, Office of Bishop  
**Diocese of Winona, Pastoral Center**  
55 West Sanborn Street  
Winona, MN 55987  
507-858-1267  
507-454-8106 Fax  
sengbrecht@dow.org

## **TALKING POINTS**

### **Q: What is the John Jay Study?**

The John Jay Study was commissioned by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops in 2002 to study the context and prevalence of child sexual abuse in the Catholic Church within the United States. Each diocese was asked to participate in the study by submitting the number of priests since 1950 who had accusations of child sexual abuse. A priest was to be included in the study if there was an accusation that was not "implausible." The study concluded that approximately 4% of priests in active ministry between 1950 and 2002 had accusations of abuse.

### **Q. Has the Diocese of Winona publicly released the names of the "credibly accused" priests?**

Yes. Information about clergy members who have credible claims of sexual abuse of a minor that have been substantiated has been posted on our website at **www.dow.org**. This is the same information that has been provided to the Ramsey County Court.

### **Q. What should a person do if he or she recognizes a name on the list and has concerns about further risks the man may pose?**

Any concerns should be conveyed to law enforcement and the proper civil authorities. In addition, he or she is encouraged to notify Terri Wintering, the diocese's Victim Assistance Coordinator at 507-454-2270, ext. 255.

### **Q. Have any of these men been permanently removed from the priesthood (laicized)?**

Nine of the thirteen priests on the list are deceased. One priest has been laicized in 2007, the other three priests are currently going through the laicization process in our tribunal. When the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" was promulgated in 2002, the decision was made to impose severe restrictions and monitor these offending priests rather than seek laicization — removal from the priesthood altogether — based on a desire by the diocese to oversee these men versus placing them outside of the Church and unsupervised as lay citizens who would have no restrictions. This was an earnest effort to be responsible.



**Q. What is the threshold for removing a priest from active ministry?**

If the diocese receives a credible claim of sexual abuse of a minor, a priest will be removed from active ministry. These restrictions stay in place until an investigation determines whether or not the claim is substantiated. If a claim is determined to be substantiated, he will remain restricted until any criminal or canonical proceedings are concluded.

**Q. Why was permission required from the court to release the names?**

There has been a protective order in place in Ramsey County District Court since 2009 related to a list of 13 priests provided by the diocese to the John Jay Commission. That list was used to compile a nationwide summary of "credible" claims of clergy abuse of minors. The court order to seal this list applied to all parties, including the archdiocese.

**Q. Is this the extent of the disclosure of names? Is it possible more names could be added after the review of clergy files?**

We have reported all names currently know to have allegations of sexual abuse of a minor. We are currently engaged in a comprehensive review of clergy files and the list will be updated if additional information is uncovered that addresses child sexual abuse. If the Diocese of Winona learns of additional credible claims whether from the review of the clergy files from outside experts or otherwise, the disclosures will be updated on our website.

**Q. How often will additional names be disclosed?**

Whenever the Diocese of Winona learns of additional credible claims of abuse of a minor by a member of the clergy, the diocese will share that information first with law enforcement and then with the public by issuing and posting a press release.

**Q. Have there been any reports of child sexual abuse since 2004?**

Yes. There are proceedings that are ongoing in Faribault County involving allegations of child sexual abuse by an international priest who was serving at Saints Peter and Paul parish in Blue Earth. Fr. Koppala has been suspended from active ministry pending the outcome of that trial. When the allegations were made the diocese immediately suspended Fr. Koppala and issued a press release. Bishop Quinn also went to Fr. Koppala's parish to speak with the parishioners.

**Q. Are these priests being supported financially or in other ways by the diocese? Where does this money come from?**

All priests are legally entitled to receive pension benefits that have been accrued. Financial support varies depending on the individual circumstance. The diocese has an obligation in Church law to ensure that no priest is left destitute. Pension and retirement health care payments are paid from the pension trust, and salary and housing allowances are paid from the diocese operating account. Legally, we cannot without pension benefits that have been previously earned by our priests.

**Q. Can priests with substantiated claims of sexual abuse of a minor against them ever be put back into active ministry?**

No priest who has sexually abused a minor can ever return to active ministry. When an accusation of is made against a priest, the matter is thoroughly investigated by the review board of the Diocese of Winona. If the determination by the review board that the claim is substantiated, the priest is indefinitely suspended from active ministry. Ultimately though, a final determination is made through a criminal or canonical process. If not enough evidence is presented to support an accusation, the priest may return to active ministry. All allegations of child sexual abuse reported to the Diocese of Winona are immediately reported to law enforcement.

**Q: Why did the Diocese of Winona not voluntarily release the list?**

Because the John Jay study asked for reporting of all allegations that are not "implausible," some of the allegations did not result in a criminal, civil investigation and some of the allegations that are unsubstantiated. Creating a low threshold for reporting information to the John Jay study, sought to preserve the integrity of the study by not requiring substantiation of the allegations. This of course was done refute any criticism that the allegations were underreported in the study. Some of the allegations of the priests on our list are unsubstantiated, and in an effort to protect their good name, we have been opposed to release the John Jay Study list.

**Q. How many individuals have civil suits pending against the diocese regarding sexual abuse of a minor?**

Currently, there are 2 lawsuits alleging that they were sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy who, at one time, had an assignment within our diocese.

St. Pius X Catholic Church in Rochester, MN also has 3 lawsuits pending that allege sexual abuse by a scout leader. The church sponsored the troop and allowed the facilities to be used for meetings.

---

**From:** Heiting, Msgr. Paul  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2014 3:10 PM  
**To:** Engbrecht, Shirley  
**Subject:** Koppala Letter

1-28-14

Hi Shirley –

I am in the process of formulating a letter for the bishop to send to Rome regarding Father Leo Charles Kappala. I wonder if you could find the answers to these questions for me:

- How long has Father Leo Charles served as a priest in the Diocese of Winona?
- What is the name of Father Leo Charles' bishop?
- What diocese in India is Father Leo Charles from?

Thank you for whatever help that you may be able to provide.

God Bless,

Rev. Msgr. R. Paul Heiting, JCL  
Judicial Vicar

"The salvation of souls is the supreme law of the Church"  
-Saint Raymond of Penafort

---

**From:** Heiting, Msgr. Paul  
**nt:** Tuesday, January 28, 2014 2:23 PM  
**To:** Daniel, William  
**Subject:** Koppala Letter  
**Attachments:** KOPPALA-MUELLER LETTER.docx

1-28-14

Bill,

Thanks for any revisions that you might be able to provide.

God Bless,

Rev. Msgr. R. Paul Heiting, JCL  
Judicial Vicar

"The salvation of souls is the supreme law of the Church"  
-Saint Raymond of Penafort

January 28, 2014

Archbishop Gerhard Ludwig Muller, Prefect  
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith  
Piazza del S. Uffizio, 11  
00193, ROMA, Italy

Your Excellency:

I write today to apprise you of the case of Father Leo Charles Koppala, a priest of the Diocese of XXX, India, who has, with the permission of his bishop, Most Reverend XXX XXX, worked within the Diocese of Winona for a period of \_\_\_ years, first as a parochial vicar and later as a pastor.

The State of Minnesota, Fairbault County, has charged that on or about June 7, 2013, Father Koppala had criminal sexual contact in the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree with a female victim under the age of 13. Father Koppala was arrested a short time after this alleged incident. At the present time, Father Koppala is awaiting trial, which is scheduled for this coming June. Father Koppala has been released from custody and is currently under the supervision of the Hermits of Mount Carmel in Houston, Minnesota which is within the Diocese of Winona. Father Koppala's bishop has been informed of Father Koppala's situation from the moment of his arrest. Bishop XXX fully understands and supports the fact that Father Koppala must cooperate with law enforcement and with his attorney as his case moves toward trial.

This is the most complete information that I have about this situation at this time. I await any further comment or instruction that you might have. Grateful for your attention to this matter and for your service to the universal Church, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. John M. Quinn  
Bishop of Winona

Cc: Most Rev. XXX XXX  
Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Colletti  
Rev. Msgr. Thomas P. Melvin  
Rev. Msgr. R. Paul Heiting



*Fr. Koppala*

**DIOCESE OF WINONA  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**

55 West Sanborn Street, P.O. Box 588  
Winona, Minnesota 55987  
507-454-4643  
507-454-8106 (Fax)

**FILE COPY**

January 28, 2014

His Eminence Gerhard Ludwig Cardinal Müller, Prefect  
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith  
Piazza del S. Uffizio, 11  
00193, ROMA, Italy

Dear Cardinal Müller,

I write today to apprise you of the case of Father Leo Charles Koppala, a priest of the Diocese of Nellore, India, who has, with the permission of his bishop, Most Reverend Dr. Moses D. Prakasam, worked within the Diocese of Winona for a period of five and one-half years, first as a parochial vicar and later as a pastor.

The State of Minnesota, Faribault County, has charged that on or about June 7, 2013, Father Koppala had criminal sexual contact in the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree with a female victim under the age of 13. Father Koppala was arrested a short time after this alleged incident. At the present time, Father Koppala is awaiting trial, which is scheduled for this coming June. Father Koppala has been released from custody and is currently under the supervision of the Hermits of Mount Carmel in Houston, Minnesota which is within the Diocese of Winona. Father Koppala's Bishop has been informed of Father Koppala's situation from the moment of his arrest. Bishop Prakasam fully understands and supports the fact that Father Koppala must cooperate with law enforcement and with his attorney as his case moves toward trial.

This is the most complete information that I have about this situation at this time. I await any further comment or instruction that you might have. Grateful for your attention to this matter and for your service to the universal Church, I remain,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. John M. Quinn  
Bishop of Winona

JMQ:se

- c. Most Rev. Dr. Moses D. Prakasam, Diocese of Nellore
- Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Colletti, Vicar General and Chancellor
- Rev. Msgr. Thomas P. Melvin, Vicar for Clergy
- Rev. Msgr. R. Paul Heiting, Judicial Vicar

LK000002



CONGREGATIO  
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

00120 Città del Vaticano,

Palazzo del S. Uffizio 25 February 2014

PROT. N. 100/2014 - 45801

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Your Excellency,

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith acknowledges receipt of your letter and the documentation you sent concerning the Reverend **Leo Charles Koppala**.

For your records, you are kindly advised that the case has been assigned the Protocol Number 100/2014.

With every good wish, I remain,

Yours devotedly in the Lord,

Mons. Damiano MARZOTTO  
*Under-Secretary*

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His Excellency  
The Most Reverend **John M. QUINN**  
*Bishop of Winona*  
55 West Sanborn Street  
P.O. Box 588  
Winona, Minnesota 55987  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

LK000001



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**From:** Father Rick <frrick@cathedralwinona.org>  
**nt:** Saturday, February 15, 2014 11:01 AM  
**To:** Melvin, Msgr. Tom  
**Subject:** FW: ECLESIASTICAL AND LEGAL PROCEDURE TO RECEIVE A FOREIGN RELIGIOUS WORKER  
**Attachments:** Bishop of Garzon (from Bishop Harrington) English.doc

I am still looking in my files for the vetting of Fr. Leo Charles

**Rev. Msgr. Richard M. Colletti**  
**360 Main Street**  
**Winona, MN 55987**  
**mobile: 507-317-0301 frrick@cathedralwinona.org**  
Vicar General/Chancellor, Diocese of Winona  
Rector of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart  
Pastor St. Casimir; Chaplain of Newman Center

---

**From:** Fortini, Deacon Eduardo [mailto:EFORTINI@DOW.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013 12:15 PM  
**To:** Father Rick  
**Cc:** Quinn, Bishop John; Melvin, Msgr. Tom; Cook, Msgr. Thomas; Martin, Peter  
**Subject:** RE: ECLESIASTICAL AND LEGAL PROCEDURE TO RECEIVE A FOREIGN RELIGIOUS WORKER

**RE: ECLESIASTICAL AND LEGAL PROCEDURE TO RECEIVE A FOREIGN RELIGIOUS WORKER**

In the case of the Colombian priests - where I was directly involved as Director of Hispanic Ministry - the following are the steps we took with former Bishop Bernard Harrington (I believe the same steps were taken by Bishop Harrington in relation to Fr. Leo Koppala):

**ECLESIASTICAL PROCEDURE**

- 1) A letter was sent to personally meet the Foreign Bishop and his clergy in his own Diocese (see attachment). The pastoral need was explained in the letter.
- 2) Bishop Harrington went to Colombia with two advisors (the Director of Hispanic Ministry and Fr. Colletti). We visited with the Bishop, his clergy, we also visited some parishes and the Seminary to have a sense of their degree of competence.

- 3) At the private meeting with the Foreign Bishop, we explained him our criteria to accept his priests in our diocese: **He had to exercise an accurate discernment (which actually took place for over a year) and select priests who only came from his own Seminary, with several years of experience in his own diocese who had an impeccable pastoral record at a parish level. As a matter of fact we visited the Diocese in November 2006 and the first Colombian priests came only in April 2008.** I personally monitored the process and I rejected one candidate who joined their Diocese after ordination because I considered he was not known well enough by his Bishop and Diocese.

### LEGAL PROCEDURE FOR A FOREIGN TO OBTAIN RELIGIOUS WORKER VISA

Once the Ecclesiastical assessment has taken place we must start the Legal Procedure following the Immigration Criteria established by our Government: **The Process to get the Religious Worker Visa which will be finally issued by the American Embassy of the Foreign Country.**

Under the direction of specialized attorneys in the Immigration field from CLINIC (Catholic Legal Immigration Network) we go through all the steps required by law to obtain the R1 visas.

- 1) **The first LEGAL FILTER to check the civil and criminal records of any foreign person applying for a visa to come to the U.S. it is right in the country of origin and it is the AMERICAN AMBASSY and CONSULATES. That is why they are stationed at the countries of origin so they can have direct access to local criminal records of people living abroad.**
- 2) A Background check within the U.S. of somebody who never came to our country won't tell anything about the civil, criminal records and moral character of the person.
- 3) **All our Foreign Priests who obtained a Religious Worker Visa "R1" had to pass the "Screening Process" of the American Consulate of their Country of Origin.** That is why we pay them and send them all over the world, to screen all people who come to our Country to make us safe and secure.

### FURTHER ECLESIASTICAL PROCEDURE

- 1) **Once a Foreign priest arrives to our Diocese in order to start active ministry, to be considered in “Good Standing” and receive the official ID of our Diocese as a priest, he has to go through the “Virtus Training” which is an exhaustive workshop on the polices and laws of our Country and Church structures regarding Child Abuse.**
- 2) At this time our Diocese also performs a Background check before issuing the Clergy ID.

Dcn Eduardo

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**From:** Encore Public Relations <laura@encorepublicrelations.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 10:54 AM  
**To:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Subject:** Re: Press release: Koppala pleads guilty

Hi Joel-

Thank you for this information. Always keep in mind what is of public record that journalists will seek to tell the story.

I did a quick search noting his story was told extensively through media with his arrest and bail. This also serves as additional documentation for journalist to pull information to craft stories (right or wrong).

The Anderson firm has yet to place anything on their website about the sentence. This would serve as additional notification to pull the trigger for media coverage. <http://www.fairmontsentinel.com/page/content.detail/id/527927/Koppala-agrees-to-guilty-plea.html?nav=5003>

\*\*\*

I would anticipate more news coverage coming out since state wide coverage happened when he was arrested (leveraged by Anderson firm). If Anderson's firm releases a statement this will spark additional coverage. The Fairmont paper can also place news on the AP wire for journalist to see/cover.

**Thoughts/Questions to begin formulating response:**

The statement indicates "*Fr. Koppala will remain on administrative leave until after the conclusion of his Court proceedings, at which time he will return to his Diocese in Nellore, India.*"

Isn't it up to the US Government if he is deported? Has that already been decided—the statement makes it seem like it has.

What about the process of removing him from priesthood especially with the conviction. Will DOW make any movement towards this prior to his deportation?

The statement indicates: "*The Diocese of Winona is committed to the protection of children and the safe environment of our parishes, schools and greater communities.*"--- does this involve taking measures to remove convicted offenders from the priesthood.

The larger story played out time and time again is how our Catholic Church allows offending priests to move from location to location allowing them to potentially offend again....globally not just in the U.S.

When he returns to India will he be allowed to be in active ministry as a priest?

\*\*\*\*

Anderson firm is fond of pointing out how the Catholic Church likes to categorize the sexual abuse of children by clergy as a "historic problem"-- this current example shines a bright spotlight into how it is not and abuse is still happening.

Moving forward—we need to be very careful about using language of ‘past problems, so long ago....’--as clearly it is not.

his begs the question with the full review of files....process and proactive measures to understand big picture not only with timing but with the fluid nature of current cases and beyond.

-Laurie

**Laurie Archbold | Principal, Encore Public Relations** | 📞: 507.202.2652 ✉️:[laura@encorepublicrelations.com](mailto:laura@encorepublicrelations.com)  
[www.encorepublicrelations.com](http://www.encorepublicrelations.com)

From: "Hennessy, Joel" <[JHennessy@dow.org](mailto:JHennessy@dow.org)>  
Date: Tue, 18 Mar 2014 14:39:43 +0000  
To: Encore Public Relations <[laura@encorepublicrelations.com](mailto:laura@encorepublicrelations.com)>  
Subject: Press release: Koppala pleads guilty

Laurie,

See attached statement regarding Fr. Leo Charles Koppala. This has not been widely picked up yet by media...I’ve only found one link. We have chosen to release the attached statement from Bishop Quinn this morning.

This plea yesterday was unexpected, we didn’t expect him to plead guilty. It is actually a relief in that there will not be a long drawn out trial. He will most likely be deported but it is ultimately a decision of the federal immigration. He is required to be at a final sentencing hearing on March 31. We do not know yet how the deportation will unfold.

At this point, this is an fyi. If this brews into a larger matter, I may seek your assistance.

Best regards,

Joel Hennessy  
Diocese of Winona Pastoral Center  
Director, Office of Mission Advancement & Communications  
55 W. Sanborn, PO Box 588, Winona, MN 55987  
507.858.1249 Office 507.254.3948 Mobile

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**From:** Dose, Larry  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2014 12:21 PM  
**To:** Todd, Sandy  
**Subject:** RE: PRESS RELEASE 03-17-14 KOPPALA PLEADS GUILTY

Sandy and Sara, it has been decided to pay Fr. Koppala thru March 31. Please also terminate his health and dental coverage effective March 31.

Please see me if you have any questions

Thank you for taking care of this.

Larry

Larry J. Dose  
Chief Finance & Administrative Officer  
Diocese of Winona  
Phone: 507-858-1248  
email: [ldose@dow.org](mailto:ldose@dow.org)  
Fax: 507-454-8106

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**From:** Todd, Sandy  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2014 10:39 AM  
**To:** Dose, Larry  
**Subject:** FW: PRESS RELEASE 03-17-14 KOPPALA PLEADS GUILTY

Do I continue to pay him?  
I will be running priest payroll next Wednesday.  
Sandy

---

**From:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014 8:45 AM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** PRESS RELEASE 03-17-14 KOPPALA PLEADS GUILTY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Joel Hennessy, Director of Mission Advancement & Communications  
[jhennessy@dow.org](mailto:jhennessy@dow.org) office 507.858.1249 cell 507.254.3948

**A Statement from Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona**

**WINONA, MN – March 17, 2014** – Today in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, Father Leo Charles Koppala entered a plea of guilty to the charge of Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Second Degree involving a minor child. Fr. Koppala was placed on administrative leave by the Diocese of Winona on June 10, 2013. Fr. Koppala will remain on administrative leave until after the conclusion of his Court proceedings,

at which time he will return to his Diocese in Nellore, India. Our hearts and prayers are with the victim of this case, as well as all of those who have suffered child sexual abuse.

The Diocese has fully adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (“the Charter”), as promulgated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Diocese of Winona is committed to the protection of children and the safe environment of our parishes, schools and greater communities. We encourage anyone, or any organization, with information regarding the abuse or exploitation of children or young people to immediately report that information to law enforcement.

###

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**From:** Daniel, William  
**Sent:** Friday, March 21, 2014 10:55 AM  
**To:** Frerichs, Glenn  
**Subject:** FW: Votum Episcopi  
**Attachments:** 9. Episcopi Votum.docx

I'll drop by.

---

**From:** Glenn Frerichs [mailto:gkfpurchasing@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 21, 2014 10:45 AM  
**To:** Daniel, William  
**Subject:** Votum Episcopi

Bill,

Attached the draft mentioned earlier.

FF



## *EPISCOPI VOTUM*

I am writing in full support of a voluntary petition for a dispensation from the obligations of the clerical state of the Reverend **Leland Joseph Smith**, a priest of the Diocese of Winona, who was ordained by Bishop Edward Aloysius Fitzgerald on May 30, 1953.

Reverend Smith has served several parishes and schools throughout his 41 years of priestly ministry. In June 1994, Rev. Smith was removed from all forms of ministry that placed him near minors as a result of several credible allegations of abuse toward minors (*graviora delicta*). In 2002, in accord with the Charter for the Protection of Minors and Young People of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Reverend Smith was permanently suspended from all forms of public ministry. He discontinued ministry immediately and since that time has live in his personal residence in Winona, Minnesota. Reverend Smith has, for the most part, adhered to the wishes of his Diocesan Bishop by living a quiet life away from public view. During these past 20 years Reverend Smith continues to lead a life of prayer and has kept in close contact with clergy living in the Winona area.

The favor of a dispensation for the obligations of the clerical state, including sacred celibacy, would help to minimize, rather than induce, scandal in the Diocese of Winona, and the whole State of Minnesota. |The same favor would also serve to minimize negative publicity toward Reverend Smith. On May 24, 2013, the legislature of the State of Minnesota approved the so-called *Minnesota Child Victims Act* (Minnesota Statute, 541.073, §5), becoming the *ius vigens* the very next day. In virtue of this norm,

“in the case of alleged sexual abuse of an individual under the age of 18, if the action would otherwise be time-barred under a previous version of Minnesota Statutes ... an action for damages against a person ... may be commenced no later than three years following May 25, 2013.”

Falling within this provision also are claims of “negligence.” According, anyone who was sexually abused by Reverend Smith as a minor may, until May 25, 2016, present a civil action against him and against the Diocese of Winona. The Diocese of Winona has, thus far, received no claim resulting from the actions of Reverend Smith. However, the Diocese of Winona has received several claims of negligence upon other offenders since the statute’s inception, anticipates several more, and anticipates eventually bankruptcy as a result of these lawsuits.

**Commented [WLD1]:** You could add here something about the favor reinforcing the commitment of the Church in the Diocese of Winona to the protection of children and young people.

Here you could also add a reflection along these lines: “By no means would the grant of this favor cause any scandal; for Reverend Smith has not been called upon by the lay faithful for acts of ministry, and the memories of his priestly ministry has long faded from their memory. ....”

**Commented [WLD2]:** Accordingly. My bad: that typo was from the Cashman *Votum*.

Both attorneys and elements within the public media have exhibited unwavering resolve in their efforts to further defame alleged offenders, foster discredit in church officials, and instill common anger mistrust toward the Universal Church. The charge of negligence is especially difficult to overcome in this climate if the accused priest retains his status as a cleric of the Diocese, since attorneys are accustomed to exploring this aspect in order to build their argument against the Diocese. And so my support of this voluntary petition is based, in part, on a need for the aid of the Congregation in the face of the broad provision of the Minnesota State Legislature, so that the goods and reputation of the Church may be protected.

Commented [WLD3]: and

In his petition to the Holy Father, Reverend Smith requests the favor a dispensation from the obligations of the clerical state because "allegations were brought forward in 1994, and after completing a treatment program, I was removed from public ministry. This experience has been very difficult, even painful, and I am deeply saddened over the pain and grief that it has caused the Church." Although scandal will always surround Reverend Smith, the favor of a dispensation from the obligations of the clerical state would provide him assurance that all means have been taken to prevent the provocation of further scandal as a result of his actions within the Church, both in the minds of souls formerly entrusted to his care and the general public. The stability of a quiet lifestyle of prayer and penance that Reverend Smith now enjoys will be promoted with the favor of a dispensation, particularly as media coverage of abuse of minors continues to intensify across the state of Minnesota.

Commented [WLD4]: of a

As the Bishop of Winona, I am confident that the grant of this same favor would also contribute to the welfare of the local Church without giving rise to scandal. People of the Diocese of Winona have experienced pain, anger, and mistrust as a result of several clerics abusing minors. The granting of this favor would provide the People of God additional assurance that the Catholic Church is doing everything possible to protect minors and vulnerable adults from potentially harmful situations. Past victims of abuse and the general public will receive this favor as one promoting a safe environment within the Church.

Respectfully submitted before the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith on March 25, 2014.

Most Reverend John M. Quinn, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona

-----Original Message-----

From: "Hennessy, Joel" <JHennessy@dow.org>

To: "Jodelle Greiner" <jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com>

Date: 03/28/14 04:18 PM

Subject: RE: Re[2]: updates on St. Peter and Paul Church in Blue Earth

Jodelle,

The Diocese of Winona may release a statement in conjunction with the sentencing on Tuesday. Fr. Koppala's status will change on 3/31 and all connections to the Diocese of Winona will be terminated. The statement will contain more information. Thank you for checking in.

Joel Hennessy

**Diocese of Winona Pastoral Center**

Director, Office of Mission Advancement & Communications

55 W. Sanborn, PO Box 588, Winona, MN 55987

507.858.1249 Office 507.254.3948 Mobile



*Roman Catholic*  
**Diocese of Winona**  
*Serving the 20 southern counties of Minnesota*

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**From:** Jodelle Greiner [mailto:jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, March 27, 2014 4:27 PM

**To:** Hennessy, Joel

**Subject:** Re[2]: updates on St. Peter and Paul Church in Blue Earth

Hi Joel,

With Fr. Leo Charles Koppala pleading guilty to criminal sexual conduct and being sentenced on March 31, I was wondering if the Diocese of Winona had any comment or has made a decision regarding his status?

Thanks,

Jodelle Greiner

The Sentinel

507-235-3303

jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com

---

**From:** Hennessy, Joel  
**nt:** Monday, March 31, 2014 4:36 PM  
**fo:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Subject:** Fr. Leo Charles Koppala Sentenced  
**Attachments:** PRESS RELEASE 03-31-14 KOPALLA SENTENCING.pdf

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Joel Hennessy, Director of Mission Advancement  
jhennessy@dow.org office 507.858.1249 cell 507.254.3948

### **A STATEMENT FROM THE DIOCESE OF WINONA**

**WINONA, MN – March 31, 2014** – Today in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, Father Leo Charles Koppala was sentenced in connection to a March 17, 2014 plea of guilty to the charge of Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Second Degree involving a minor child. Fr. Koppala has been on administrative leave from the Diocese of Winona since June 10, 2013. As of today, Fr. Koppala has been permanently removed from priestly ministry in the Diocese of Winona and all employment relationships terminated.

Immediately following the hearing, Fr. Koppala was taken into custody by the Department of Homeland Security and will be held in custody until the conclusion of his deportation proceedings. The Diocese of Winona has submitted a full report to the Vatican Office of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith which will work directly with the Diocese of Nellore, India, in regards to Fr. Koppala's future as a Roman Catholic priest.

Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona, has taken extensive measures to ensure the Vatican and the Bishop of Nellore, Most Rev. Moses Doraboina Prakasam, are fully aware of Fr. Koppala's criminal conduct so that appropriate measures can be taken upon his return to India.

"Our hearts and prayers will continue to be with the victim of this case," stated Bishop Quinn, "I encourage anyone, or any organization, with information regarding the abuse or exploitation of children or young people to immediately report that information to law enforcement, as well as all of those who have suffered child sexual abuse."

The Diocese has fully adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People ("the Charter"), as promulgated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Diocese of Winona is committed to the protection of children and the safe environment of our parishes, schools and greater communities.

Complete and detailed information regarding the Safe Environment program of the Diocese of Winona is at [www.dow.org/safeenvironment](http://www.dow.org/safeenvironment) . Victims assistance information is at [www.dow.org/victimassistance](http://www.dow.org/victimassistance).

###

Joel Hennessy  
Diocese of Winona Pastoral Center

Director, Office of Mission Advancement & Communications  
55 W. Sanborn, PO Box 588, Winona, MN 55987  
507.858.1249 Office 507.254.3948 Mobile



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**From:** Market, Janice  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 2, 2014 8:19 AM  
**To:** gmarket@hbc.com  
**Subject:** FW: Fr. Leo Charles Koppala Sentenced  
**Attachments:** PRESS RELEASE 03-31-14 KOPALLA SENTENCING.pdf

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**From:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2014 4:36 PM  
**To:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Subject:** Fr. Leo Charles Koppala Sentenced

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Joel Hennessy, Director of Mission Advancement  
[jhennessy@dow.org](mailto:jhennessy@dow.org) office 507.858.1249 cell 507.254.3948

**A STATEMENT FROM THE DIOCESE OF WINONA**

**WINONA, MN – March 31, 2014** – Today in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, Father Leo Charles Koppala was sentenced in connection to a March 17, 2014 plea of guilty to the charge of Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Second Degree involving a minor child. Fr. Koppala has been on administrative leave from the Diocese of Winona since June 10, 2013. As of today, Fr. Koppala has been permanently removed from priestly ministry in the Diocese of Winona and all employment relationships terminated.

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###

Joel Hennessy

**Diocese of Winona Pastoral Center**

Director, Office of Mission Advancement & Communications

55 W. Sanborn, PO Box 588, Winona, MN 55987

507.858.1249 Office 507.254.3948 Mobile





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**From:** Ryan Christianson <RChristianson@catholicmutual.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 22, 2014 2:23 PM  
**To:** Quinn, Bishop John; Dose, Larry; Colletti, Msgr. Richard  
**Subject:** New Liability Claim Loss Notice  
**Attachments:** Loss Notice Alleged misconduct, Minor Doe 32, 4-22-14.pdf

Ryan Christianson, AIC, ARM  
Claims/Risk Manager II



**CATHOLIC MUTUAL GROUP®**

1160 W. 7th Street  
Winona, MN 55987  
Phone: 800-494-6452  
Fax: 800-335-8141

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Clear Form

CATHOLIC MUTUAL GROUP  
LOSS REPORTED BY PHONE/MAIL  
(LIABILITY/MP)

CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
X-REF \_\_\_\_\_  
PAGE NO 151

DATE & TIME 4-22-14  
RECEIVED BY RYAN  
\*DIOCESE WINONA

LOCATION

PERSON REPORTING/TO CONTACT THOMAS BRAUN / LARRY DOSE  
\*PARISH OR INSTITUTION DIOCESE OF WINONA  
\*STREET ADDRESS 55 W SANBORN STREET  
\*CITY/STATE WINONA / MN ZIP 55987 PHONE 507-858-1248 EXT \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS: ldose@dow.org OR \_\_\_\_\_ EXT \_\_\_\_\_

LIABILITY CLAIM

\*TYPE OF INJURY Alleged sexual misconduct  
\*WHERE/HOW DID LOSS OCCUR Blue Earth, MN (Faribault County)/claimed priest Nellore  
Diocese of South India engaged in unpermitted contact

\*CLAIMANT'S NAME Unknown (Minor Doe 32) DOB \_\_\_\_\_ SSN \_\_\_\_\_

\*CLAIMANT'S ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\*DATE OF LOSS 6-7-13 SEX F STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Dio Loss Res MP \_\_\_\_\_ BI 50,000 PD \_\_\_\_\_ Loss Res MP \_\_\_\_\_ BI \_\_\_\_\_ PD \_\_\_\_\_

Dio Exp Res \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Res \_\_\_\_\_

Dio Legal Res 25,000 Legal Res \_\_\_\_\_

ASSIGNMENT

ADJ Rod O. / Mike. L / Ryan Christianson PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EXT \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ FAX # \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ASSIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS

SUMMONS/COMPLAINT DATED 4-22-14. Priest Fr. Leo Charles Koppala served SUBPOENA IN A CIVIL CASE for deposition on Friday 4-25-14.

Plaintiff represented by: Jeff Anderson & Associates, P.A., 366 Jackson Street, Suite 100, St. Paul, MN 55101. 651-227-9990.

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**From:** Market, Janice  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 14, 2014 2:27 PM  
**To:** gmarket@hbc.com  
**Subject:** FW: INTERNAL DOW STMT: Deportation Notice  
**Attachments:** PRESS RELEASE 05-14-14 KOPPALA DEPORTATION.pdf; SPM-5-14-14-ERO-Indian priest deport.pdf

**Importance:** High

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**From:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:48 AM  
**To:** Pastors Email Group; Parish Administrators; deacons; Employees; CURIA  
**Subject:** INTERNAL DOW STMT: Deportation Notice  
**Importance:** High

Please see press releases below and attached related to the deportation of Fr. Leo Charles Koppala – FYI ONLY - no action needed.

# News Release

## ICE deports Catholic priest to India following his conviction for sexually assaulting a 12-year-old in Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS — A Catholic priest from India — who previously worked with the Archdiocese of Winona, Minnesota — was deported Wednesday following his conviction for sexually assaulting a minor under 13 years old.

This deportation was conducted by officers with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) in Bloomington, Minnesota.

Leo Charles Koppala, 48, was escorted by ICE officers on a commercial flight and turned over to Indian authorities May 14 in New Delhi, India.

On June 8, 2013, the Blue Earth (Minnesota) Police Department arrested Koppala and charged him with second-degree criminal sexual conduct. The victim was 12 years old at the time of the offense. On June 10, 2013, Koppala posted bail and was released from local custody.

Koppala was convicted March 31 at the Faribault County District Court at Blue Earth of second-degree criminal sexual conduct, and was sentenced to 31 days, with credit for time served, and 25 years supervised probation.

Upon his release from Faribault County, Koppala was arrested by ICE officers and issued a notice to appear before a federal immigration judge. While in ICE custody, Koppala signed a stipulation agreeing not to contest his deportation. On April 1, 2014, a federal immigration judge ordered Koppala's deportation.

"ICE uses our unique immigration-enforcement authorities to help safeguard our communities from criminal aliens who pose a public safety threat," said Scott Baniecke, field office director for ERO St. Paul. "Koppala held a position of trust in the Catholic Church and the community. He broke that trust. We sincerely hope that his permanent removal from the United States will help the healing process for the victim and the victim's family."

Following his criminal conviction, Koppala was relieved of his ministry and discharged from service by the Archdiocese of Winona, which also alerted the bishop of his home diocese in Nellore, India. Any action to have Koppala removed as a priest from the Catholic Church must be effected by his diocese in India and the Vatican.

You may also visit us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, or access this news release on your mobile device.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is a 21<sup>st</sup> century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities. For more information, visit: [www.ICE.gov](http://www.ICE.gov). To report suspicious activity, call 1-866-347-2423.*

**Shawn Neudauer**  
Public Affairs Officer (Spokesman)  
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

[www.ice.gov](http://www.ice.gov)

[Shawn.A.Neudauer@ice.dhs.gov](mailto:Shawn.A.Neudauer@ice.dhs.gov)

**(952) 853-2602 (office)**

*Covering the following states:*



*Roman Catholic*  
**Diocese of Winona**  
*Serving the 20 southern counties of Minnesota*

**A STATEMENT FROM THE DIOCESE OF WINONA**

**WINONA, MN – May 14, 2014** –According to a press release issued today by the Department of Homeland Security, Father Leo Charles Koppala was deported back to India today in connection to a March 17, 2014 plea of guilty to the charge of Criminal Sexual Conduct in the Second Degree involving a minor child. Fr. Koppala has been on administrative leave from the Diocese of Winona since June 10, 2013 and was permanently removed from priestly ministry and employment in the Diocese of Winona on March 31, 2014.

Fr. Koppala has been in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security since his plea of guilty. The Diocese of Winona has submitted a full report to the Vatican Office of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith which will work directly with the Diocese of Nellore, India, in regards to Fr. Koppala's future as a Roman Catholic priest.

Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona, has taken extensive measures to ensure the Vatican and the Bishop of Nellore, Most Rev. Moses Doraboina Prakasam, are fully aware of Fr. Koppala's criminal conduct so that appropriate measures can be taken upon his return to India.

"Our hearts and prayers will continue to be with the victim of this case," stated Bishop Quinn, "I encourage anyone, or any organization, with information regarding the abuse or exploitation of children or young people to immediately report that information to law enforcement, as well as all of those who have suffered child sexual abuse."

The Diocese has fully adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People ("the Charter"), as promulgated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Diocese of Winona is committed to the protection of children and the safe environment of our parishes, schools and greater communities.

Complete and detailed information regarding the Safe Environment program of the Diocese of Winona is at [www.dow.org/safeenvironment](http://www.dow.org/safeenvironment) . Victims assistance information is at [www.dow.org/victimsassistance](http://www.dow.org/victimsassistance).

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Joel Hennessy  
**Diocese of Winona Pastoral Center**  
Director, Office of Mission Advancement & Communications  
55 W. Sanborn, PO Box 588, Winona, MN 55987  
507.858.1249 Office 507.254.3948 Mobile



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*Roman Catholic*  
**Diocese of Winona**  
*Serving the 20 southern counties of Minnesota*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Joel Hennessy, Director of Mission Advancement  
jhennessy@dow.org office 507.858.1249 cell 507.254.3948

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**From:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Content:** Thursday, May 29, 2014 2:07 PM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Richard; Thomas Braun; Dose, Larry  
**Subject:** Concern

See below. Disturbing message. Not sure what to do with it. Could be construed as a threat. Joel

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** >  
**Date:** May 29, 2014 at 12:56:08 PM CDT  
**To:** "[jhennessy@dow.org](mailto:jhennessy@dow.org)" <[jhennessy@dow.org](mailto:jhennessy@dow.org)>  
**Subject:** **Father Leo Charles Koppala**  
**Reply-To:** .

Father Leo Charles Koppala? How dare you refer to him as Father. That piece of Catholic Shit is a convicted Felon and is deported back to India. He is kicked out of our great country and you refer to him as Father? You clergy just don't get it. You are the problem in the Catholic Church and all its sexual abusers. Wait until hormones take over in all your new ordained priests. More sexual abusers coming in the future. This sex thing with you clergy has been going on for 15 years now. Doesn't that piss you off?. It makes me want to spit the communion in the Bishop's Face. Just wait until he come to Mankato!  
Now sweetie, copy this email to your Bishop!

Mankato, MN 56001



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**From:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2014 7:54 AM  
**To:** Colletti, Msgr. Rick  
**Subject:** FW: church in Guckeen

Please see below. We do not have Masses or a church in Guckeen, MN do we?? It's between Blue Earth and Fairmont just south of I-90.

Joel

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**From:** Jodelle Greiner [mailto:jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2014 8:57 PM  
**To:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Subject:** church in Guckeen

Hi Joel,

I have another question for you: does the Catholic Church still have a parish in Guckeen? I have been out there in the past couple years when they were doing some renovations to the outside and I also heard recently they still have a Latin Mass. If that church is still going, could you give me a name for the priest and contact information?

The reason I'm asking is we're doing our annual Hometown magazine and the theme this year is "Faith," so we're gathering stories from local churches. The fact there's an area church that still does a Latin Mass is kind of cool.

Thanks,  
Jodelle Greiner  
The Sentinel  
507-235-3303



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-----Original Message-----

From: "Hennessy, Joel" <JHennessy@dow.org>  
To: "Jodelle Greiner" <jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com>  
Date: 05/13/14 03:19 PM  
Subject: RE: Koppala's status

Jodelle,

Leo Charles Koppala has not yet been "laicized" by the Church. This process is initiated by his Bishop in the Diocese of Nellore, India and to our knowledge has not yet begun. It is a formal process which occurs through the Vatican Office of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The process of laicization has been occurring more quickly but I cannot estimate how long it takes since it varies from case to case.

The Diocese of Winona has submitted a full report to the Vatican Office of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith but again the actual process must be initiated by the Bishop of Nellore, Most Rev. Moses Doraboina Prakasam.

Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona, has taken extensive measures to ensure the Vatican and the Bishop of Nellore, Most Rev. Moses Doraboina Prakasam, are fully aware of Fr. Koppala's criminal conduct so that appropriate measures can be taken upon his return to India.

Joel Hennessy

**Diocese of Winona Pastoral Center**

Director, Office of Mission Advancement & Communications

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**From:** Jodelle Greiner [mailto:jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:42 PM  
**To:** Hennessy, Joel  
**Subject:** Koppala's status

Hi Joel,

Could you tell me if Leo Charles Koppala was defrocked by the Catholic Church? Has the process been started? Is it a long process? An ICE officer was asking me.

Thanks,

Jodelle Greiner

Sentinel

507-235-3303

jgreiner@fairmontsentinel.com