

April 19, 1948

Reverend Raymond S. Krebsbach  
St. Adrian's Church  
Adrian, Minnesota

Dear Father Krebsbach:

I am enclosing herewith the petition for affiliation form to be signed and sent back here by Robert Taylor. Also enclosed is the formula for your recommendation of this boy. Please supply, too, his record of Baptism, his Confirmation certificate, and the record of his parents' marriage. On receipt of all these papers, I shall forward his formal acceptance for this Diocese.

As I recall it Robert will be 18 on June 13 and he is now a senior at Adrian. Please have him apply at once for admission at St. Mary's College for the fall term beginning in September. In presenting his application, he should make known to the Brother his intention to study for the Diocese.

With sentiments of esteem and with all best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Coadjutor Bishop of Winona

April 19, 1948

Brother Joel Stanislaus, F.S.C.  
St. Mary's College  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Brother Joel:

Mr. Robert Taylor of Adrian will apply  
for admission at St. Mary's College for September.  
He is to be a seminarian of this Diocese.

With sentiments of esteem and with  
all best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Coadjutor Bishop of Winona

RECOMMENDATION OF A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRIESTHOOD

Your Excellency,

Mr. Robert Taylor of this Parish desires to study for the priesthood, and in compliance with your request, I make answer to the following questions:

In your opinion does the candidate give evidence of proper motives in seeking the priesthood? As far as I know, yes.

Are you convinced that he is not seeking the priesthood "to enjoy the easier (according to the common opinion) clerical life, to attain honors, to acquire riches more readily, or to escape manual labor, or to enjoy clerical privileges, such as exemption from military service, or at least to enjoy a higher station"? Yes

Are you convinced from positive signs that the candidate in question has a vocation to the priesthood? Yes

Do you recommend his acceptance by the Diocese of Winona? Yes

Has he always conducted himself prudently with boys, girls, and women? Yes

Does the candidate seek the priesthood freely and spontaneously? Yes

Is there any danger that he is influenced by grave fear, absolute or relative, such as reverential fear? No

Is there any pressure being exerted to induce the candidate to enter the priesthood, whether by parents, relatives or others? No

Do the candidate's parents enjoy a good reputation? Splendid

Is there in the family any inclination toward drunkenness? No

Has the candidate inherited "a disposition toward lust which savors of atavism"? No

Is there among his relatives any epilepsy or insanity? No

What is your judgment of the physical fitness of the candidate?  
He is physically fit

What is your judgment of his mental ability? He is brilliant

What is your judgment of his moral fitness and character?  
They are beyond question

What is your judgment of his piety? He displays solid piety

What foreign languages does he know? Latin

How long have you known the applicant? Nine months

Are you yourself a relative of the candidate? No  
If so, please indicate the names of other Priests who can be inter-  
rogated regarding him.

I have just now read Canons 983-988 of the Code of Canon Law; and on  
my own knowledge, after careful inquiry, I attest that the candidate  
does not labor under any irregularity or impediment.  
EXCEPTIONS?

REMARKS:

*Rev. R. Kubschach*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PASTOR

Date: 4/26/48

RT000028



SEMINARIAN PETITI

Your Exoellency,

It is my earnest desire to become a Priest; and I am firmly resolved to take the necessary means to persevere in my vocation. I humbly beg to be accepted as a student for the Diocese of Winona. I present this petition entirely of my own free and spontaneous will, with the advice and approval of my confessor.

Name Robert Allan Taylor

Date of birth June 12, 1930

Place of birth Adrian, Minnesota

Date of Baptism June 15, 1930

Place of Baptism Saint Adrian Church  
Adrian, Minnesota

Father's name

If deceased: Date of death

Occupation Farmer, Insurance salesman

Mother's maiden name

If deceased: Date of death

Religion of father Catholic

of mother Catholic

How many children in the family? Boys Nine Girls One

Name of Parish Saint Adrian Parish

Where have you been resident outside of the Diocese of Winona for six months or more since your 14th birthday? Continuous residence

Do you labor under any impediment or irregularity? No

For what year and course will you register? College Freshman

Please give name and location of each school you have attended, also the period of attendance:

Attended Saint Adrian Grade and High School  
Adrian, Minnesota

Were you dismissed from any school? No

Were you ever a member of a Religious Community? No

Have you received any orders? No

On the understanding that the Diocese of Winona will make payments for Seminary board and tuition for your Philosophy and Theology courses (younger students requiring financial assistance may make application for necessary loans), do you agree, if accepted, to fulfill the regulations of the Diocese regarding repayments?

I enclose a Baptismal certificate, Confirmation certificate, and the record of my parents' marriage.

With sentiments of reverence and devotion, I remain

Your Excellency's humble servant in Christ,

Signature of Applicant

Date: April 27, 1948

*Robert A. Taylor*  
Robert A. Taylor

RT000029

# *Saint Mary's College*

WINONA, MINNESOTA

May 1, 1948

Most Reverend Leo Binz, D.D.  
Coadjutor Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency:

I am in receipt of your letter of April 19 in which you state that Mr. Robert Taylor, of Adrian, will apply for admission to St. Mary's College for September as a seminarian.

I am turning this letter over to Brother J. Leo, who will act upon it when the credits of Mr. Taylor come in.

With sentiments of esteem and respect, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Brother Joel  
President

BJS:j

BROTHERS OF THE



CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

RT000030

May 13, 1948

Robert Allan Taylor  
Adrian, Minnesota

Dear Robert:

Some days ago I received your petition for affiliation as a student for the priesthood in the Diocese of Winona and also a recommendation on your behalf from your pastor. I am pleased to encourage you in this praiseworthy ambition; and I desire herewith to accept you formally as one of our seminarians. In doing so, I wish to assure you of my prayers that you may persevere in your worthy desire and that you may become a holy and zealous priest in the Diocese of Winona.

The certificates of your baptism, confirmation, and of your parents' marriage will be retained in the Chancery until you will need them at the major seminary.

I am pleased to learn from the authorities at St. Mary's College that you have already made application for registration for the new academic year which begins in September.

In regard to the expenses connected with your studies, it will, of course, be necessary for you to defray all expenses up to the end of your first two years of college. If you should find it necessary, the Student Loan Fund of the Diocese of Winona could be made available to you for this purpose; this loan fund operates on a purely business basis.

During the last two years of their college course, all candidates for the priesthood in the Diocese of Winona are expected to continue to pay their own expenses to the extent that this is possible without borrowing from the Student Loan Fund. Such payments, during these two years, will be made directly to the Bishop of Winona and any deficit that may occur will be met by the Diocese when it has been clearly established that a student himself or his family is unable to meet these obligations.

During the four years of your Theological course, the expenses entailed for board, room and tuition will be the obligation of the Diocese of Winona. During these years you will be entitled to the assistance made possible by the offerings received from the parishes for the training of priests; but the obligation is accepted by the student to refund after ordination \$125.00 for each scholastic year he was supported by the Diocese. In the event

RT000031

Robert Allan Taylor  
May 13, 1948  
Page two

of a change of plans, the full amount advanced becomes payable when a student discontinues his studies; but capacity to pay will, of course, govern the terms of the settlement.

With sentiments of esteem and with all best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Coadjutor Bishop of Winona

October 1, 1948

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that Robert Taylor, Adrian, Minnesota, is a student preparing for the Catholic priesthood under the direction of the competent ecclesiastical authorities of the Diocese of Winona; and that he is satisfactorily pursuing a full-time course of instruction at St. Mary's College, Winona, Minnesota, a recognized theological or divinity school.

---

Coadjutor Bishop of Winona

RT000033

Full name: Robert Allan Taylor

Home Address: Adrian, Minnesota

County: Nobles State: Minnesota

For what year of studies are you enrolled? Freshman, College

If your classification is doubtful for any reason, please explain:

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

Have you registered for Selective Service? Yes

Where did you register? Winona, Minnesota

How much of G.I. Bill Benefits do you have (including this year)?

What is the date of your birth? June 13, 1930

Signed Robert Allan Taylor

Present address Box 227, St. Mary's College  
Winona, Minnesota

Date: October 5, 1948

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SEMINARY

St. Mary's College

TERRACE HEIGHTS

Winona, Minnesota

January 3, 1949

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Leo Binz, D.D.  
Coadjutor Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

I wish to report that one of the seminarians, Robert Taylor, a freshman from Adrian, is at St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, taking treatments for a disease that is affecting his backbone. On his hospital chart the diagnosis given is brucellus spondylitis, as nearly as I could read the doctor's writing. A portion of one of the vertebrae has already been affected to the point that it does not show on the X-ray. Beginning last Monday, December 27, Robert is to take all the medical treatments he can stand for the period of about thirty days. The disease seems to be somewhat serious. I gather from Robert that the doctors are not absolutely certain of the diagnosis, and will not be until they see what effect the treatments have. I have not had the opportunity to speak directly with Robert's doctor.

If Robert will be able to get back to college after the thirty days he should be able to get all his credits for the year. The doctors were insistent that treatment begin immediately.

With sentiments of reverence and devotion, I remain

Your Excellency's humble servant in Christ,

*George H. Speck*  
Rector, Immaculate Heart of  
Mary Seminary

RT000489

RT

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SEMINARY

*St. Mary's College*

TERRACE HEIGHTS

Winona, Minnesota

January 3, 1948

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Leo Binz, D.D.  
Coadjutor Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

I wish to report that one of the seminarians, Robert Taylor, a freshman from Adrian, is at St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, taking treatments for a disease that is affecting his backbone. On his hospital chart the diagnosis given is brucellus spondylitis, as nearly as I could read the doctor's writing. A portion of one of the vertebrae has already been affected to the point that it does not show on the X-ray. Beginning last Monday, December 27, Robert is to take all the medical treatments he can stand for the period of about thirty days. The disease seems to be somewhat serious. I gather from Robert that the doctors are not absolutely certain of the diagnosis, and will not be until they see what effect the treatments have. I have not had the opportunity to speak directly with Robert's doctor.

If Robert will be able to get back to college after the thirty days he should be able to get all his credits for the year. The doctors were insistent that treatment begin immediately.

With sentiments of reverence and devotion, I remain

Your Excellency's humble servant in Christ,

RT000197



RT

January 6, 1949

Very Reverend  
Rector  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
St. Mary's College  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father

It seems that Robert Taylor and I must be playing a game of hide-and-seek. After your previous report on his condition I called for him at St. Mary's Hospital; but he was not there. I shall inquire for him again probably on January 15. Meanwhile, I am grateful to you for informing me of his condition. I shall keep him much in my prayers that God may grant him a complete and speedy recovery.

With sentiments of esteem and with all good wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Coadjutor Bishop of Winona

I called on Robert Taylor Jan 15 in the afternoon. Apparently he has some germ in his blood which is causing him to dehydrate. I was not able to get any very clear idea, however, of the seriousness of his illness.

RT000198

TAYLOR, ROBERT, SEMINARIAN

Copy of letter from Sister Domitilla.

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Saint Mary's Hospital  
Sisters of Saint Francis  
Rochester, Minnesota

February 14, 1949

Rev. George H. Speltz,  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary,  
Saint Marys College,  
Winona, Minnesota.

Dear Father Speltz:

With reference to your letter of Feb. 11th relative to Mr. Robert Taylor who was a patient here at St. Mary's.

Mr. Robert Taylor has undulant fever. This disease is caused from drinking milk from infected cows. It is probably just as well if the information is kept confidential for legal reasons. The infection is in the bones and it will be impossible to know the outcome for at least three months.

His doctor says he may return to the College in May to finish his work if you so desire. Then he may return here for a check up.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

/s/ Sister M. Domitilla  
Sister M. Domitilla  
Superintendent

SMD/af

RT000491

RT

TAYLOR, ROBERT, SEMINARIAN

Copy of letter from

\*\*\*\*\*

Saint Mary's Hospital  
Sisters of Saint Francis  
Rochester, Minnesota

February 14, 1949

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary,  
Saint Marys College,  
Winona, Minnesota.

Dear Father

With reference to your letter of Feb. 11th relative to Mr. Robert Taylor who was a patient here at St. Mary's.

Mr. Robert Taylor has undulant fever. This disease is caused from drinking milk from infected cows. It is probably just as well if the information is kept confidential for legal reasons. The infection is in the bones and it will be impossible to know the outcome for at least three months.

His doctor says he may return to the College in May to finish his work if you so desire. Then he may return here for a check up.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

RT000199

March 6, 1949

Mr. Robert Taylor  
Adrian, Minnesota

Dear Robert,

I have now received from Rochester the information that you may look forward to coming here to the Seminary in May in order to complete the work you missed from the first week in January until the end of the first semester of this school year. Personally I am very happy to know the doctors will not object to this plan. It would be well for you to write me the latter part of April stating how you feel. If at that time you feel strong enough to come here and study during May we can then complete the arrangements. Brother Leo, Registrar, feels that a month should be sufficient time. In the meantime please do not worry about it. We are anxious you should get well. That is far more important than any work you may have missed.

Just now the snow has nearly all gone, however, anyone who knows Minnesota weather will know that this does not mean Spring is here.

I hope each week finds you better, and that you are keeping in good spirits.

I want to assure you of a constant remembrance in my prayers as well as those of the seminarians. Please give my regards to your father.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

(Rev.) George H. Speltz, Rector

RT

March 6, 1949

Mr. Robert Taylor  
Adrian, Minnesota

Dear Robert,

I have now received from Rochester the information that you may look forward to coming here to the Seminary in May in order to complete the work you missed from the first week in January until the end of the first semester of this school year. Personally I am very happy to know the doctors will not object to this plan. It would be well for you to write me the latter part of April stating how you feel. If at that time you feel strong enough to come here and study during May we can then complete the arrangements. that a month should be sufficient time. In the meantime please do not worry about it. We are anxious you should get well. That is far more important than any work you may have missed.

Just now the snow has nearly all gone. However, anyone who knows Minnesota weather will know that this does not mean Spring is here.

I hope each week finds you better, and that you are keeping in good spirits.

I want to assure you of a constant remembrance in my prayers as well as those of the seminarians. Please give my regards to your father.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

RT000200

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE  
TERRACE HEIGHTS  
WINONA, MINNESOTA

March 6, 1949

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Leo Binz, D.D.  
Coadjutor Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

I am forwarding for Your Excellency's information the copy of a letter from Sister Domitilla concerning Mr. Robert Taylor, seminarian, also a copy of my letter to him. For the present, and until we learn the results of the check up mentioned in Sister Domitilla's letter, I do not believe there is much more we can do in his case. I hope Robert will be able to complete his first semester's work as indicated in the correspondence.

With sentiments of reverence and devotion,  
I remain

Your Excellency's obedient servant in Christ,

*George H. Spelby*  
Rector

RT

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE  
TERRACE HEIGHTS  
WINONA, MINNESOTA

March 6, 1949

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Leo Binz, D.D.  
Coadjutor Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

I am forwarding for Your Excellency's information the copy of a letter from concerning Mr. Robert Taylor, seminarian, also a copy of my letter to him. For the present, and until we learn the results of the check up mentioned in letter, I do not believe there is much more we can do in his case. I hope Robert will be able to complete his first semester's work as indicated in the correspondence.

With sentiments of reverence and devotion,  
I remain

Your Excellency's obedient servant in Christ,

RT000201

March 7, 1949

Very Reverend George H. Speltz  
Rector  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
St. Mary's College  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Speltz,

I wish to thank you for your letter of February 6 which was accompanied by a copy of a letter from Sister Domitilla regarding Robert Taylor, and a copy of your own letter addressed to Robert.

I sincerely hope that Robert's condition will permit him to complete his first semester work at St. Mary's, and that his health may be improved so that he can continue his seminary studies in September.

With sentiments of esteem and with all good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Coadjutor Bishop of Winona

RT000494



RT

March 7, 1949

Rector  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
St. Mary's College  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father

I wish to thank you for your letter of February 6 which was accompanied by a copy of a letter from Robert Taylor, and a copy of your own letter addressed to Robert.

I sincerely hope that Robert's condition will permit him to complete his first semester work at St. Mary's, and that his health may be improved so that he can continue his seminary studies in September.

With sentiments of esteem and with all good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Coadjutor Bishop of Winona

RT000202

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE  
TERRACE HEIGHTS  
WINONA, MINNESOTA

May 26, 1949

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Leo Binz, D.D.  
Coadjutor Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency:

I wish to report that Mr. Robert Taylor, a seminarian from Adrian, was not in condition to come here in May to complete his first semester's work as we had planned. One of the doctor's at the Clinic discouraged him. A few weeks later, i.e., about May 15, permission was given to have him return for the few remaining weeks. This, however, left too little time for him to complete the work.

I have asked Robert to keep in contact with the Clinic so that they can follow through with his case. At present the doctors seem to be a little uncertain of what to do. I believe we shall simply have to wait until there is a more definite diagnosis. If Robert's recovery continues to be slow it may be best to plan his return here in late Fall or early Winter when he would be able to resume where he left off this past Winter. I shall keep Your Excellency informed.

I remain  
With sentiments of reverence and devotion,

Your Excellency's obedient servant in Christ,

  
(Rev.) George H. Speltz

RT

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE  
TERRACE HEIGHTS  
WINONA, MINNESOTA

May 26, 1949

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Leo Binz, D.D.  
Coadjutor Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency:

I wish to report that Mr. Robert Taylor, a seminarian from Adrian, was not in condition to come here in May to complete his first semester's work as we had planned. One of the doctors at the Clinic discouraged him. A few weeks later, i.e., about May 15, permission was given to have him return for the few remaining weeks. This, however, left too little time for him to complete the work.

I have asked Robert to keep in contact with the Clinic so that they can follow through with his case. At present the doctors seem to be a little uncertain of what to do. I believe we shall simply have to wait until there is a more definite diagnosis. If Robert's recovery continues to be slow it may be best to plan his return here in late Fall or early Winter when he would be able to resume where he left off this past Winter. I shall keep Your Excellency informed.

With sentiments of reverence and devotion,  
I remain

Your Excellency's obedient servant in Christ,

RT000203

May 27, 1949

Very Rev. George H. Speltz, Rector  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Speltz,

I want to thank you for your letter of May 26 and for your report on Robert Taylor. I shall keep him in my prayers that God will grant him a full recovery in the not far distant future. I am grateful to you for keeping me informed regarding his case.

With sentiments of esteem and with all good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Coadjutor Bishop of Winona

RT

May 27, 1949

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear

I want to thank you for your letter of May 26 and for your report on Robert Taylor. I shall keep him in my prayers that God will grant him a full recovery in the not far distant future. I am grateful to you for keeping me informed regarding his case.

With sentiments of esteem and with all good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Coadjutor Bishop of Winona

RT000204

RT

June 17, 1949

Rector, Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
St. Mary's College  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear .

I called on Robert Taylor on January 15; but I was not able to get from him nor from any very clear idea of the seriousness of his case. I trust you will follow it and keep me informed.

With sentiments of esteem and with all good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Coadjutor Bishop of Winona

RT000205

August 29, 1953

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that ROBERT A. TAYLOR, Adrian, Minnesota, is applying for admission and permit to reside in Italy at the North American College, Rome, Italy, for four years for the purpose of studying Theology for the Catholic priesthood. The Diocese of Winona Inc., a religious corporation of the State of Minnesota, will be responsible for his expenses during the term of his studies.

He will leave New York on August 26, 1953, aboard the Queen Mary and after traveling through England, Ireland, Scotland and France, will arrive in Rome about September 12.

Very truly yours,

Bishop of Winona

The Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

The Most Reverend E. A. Fitzgerald, S.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Farist St.  
Winona, Minn.

Your Excellency,  
Examinations for the first semester are all finished and registration is about completed, as was ready for the second stretch of the year. My classes went from very difficult to fairly easy. Latin Camp, and Greek Hybrids were about what I expected and I did best in them both. Classical Scholarship was exactly what I figured and I am sure of a "B" in that course. Historical & Comparative Grammar was difficult and detailed - first he asked a bibliography of 25 books in the field with an annotation for each. Then he put up five different series of words - in about 7 languages and asked me to trace them back to the Mother Indo-European. My final exam was the Master's Latin Reading List, in which we try to cover some part of the Latin writers up to Caeser. We covered about 16,000 lines during the semester and expected some of this prepared matter but we had almost full-figured translation. For what I put down I could easily flunk the course, because it was just plain difficult. The only consolation was that everyone felt the same way. My marks will probably range from about 2 Fs, 2 or 3 Bs, and finally, & hopefully a C in the Reading List.

I have registered for the second semester according to your instructions regarding my course planning. I have about the same courses as the first semester with the exception that I have taken a course in the Medivae.



The Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

Institute. I can make up the other required courses in the summer. By next year same time I should be able to transfer to Patristic and Medical concentration. I'm thinking here if one should have a thorough grounding in the Classics before one can really understand the Fathers and the Medical Writers.

I am including my book list for the rest of the year listing the books according to my courses, which will give you a good idea of the sections and the work that I am doing. Needless to say you can see they are very expensive but I guess compared to other books used in past graduate work, as well as graduate school this is cheap. I planned a graduate student in the basket. A major in Mathematics he purchased two other books for \$39.<sup>00</sup>.

Father Mercier, a Sulpician, and classmate from Rome, Father Huber from Texas former secretary to Archbishop Bin, and I went to Philadelphia for a day during our break to visit Archbishop Conway and some classmates. They have about the same problems with their Latin program as we do.

I have made arrangements with Dave Busch and Jim Fitzpatrick to take them home in May for ordination. I find Adams on Wednesday some home plenty of time if we drive straight through.

Best Wishes to all.

Yours obediently in Christ  
Father Taylor  
RT000460



## SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

Local Board No. 77  
Nobles County

DEC 23 1952

Worthington, Minnesota  
(LOCAL BOARD STAMP)

23 December 1952

Robert A. Taylor  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Sir:

A review of our IV-D files recently indicated that we have several students incorrectly classified. Section 1622, 48 (a) and (b), of Selective Service Regulations states that the student must be "--preparing for the ministry under the direction of a recognized church or religious organization--".

We are, therefore, asking that you furnish us immediately with a certificate or letter from the denomination indicating their sponsorship of you as a student.

If you are not able to furnish such evidence, your file will be brought before the local board for reclassification.

Yours very truly,

BY DIRECTION OF THE BOARD

*Norma B. Voss*

Norma B. Voss, Clerk

Nbv

Also for:

It appears from the clerk's letter that what is needed is a letter of certification from the Bishop, rather than from the Seminary.

RT000035

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE  
TERRACE HEIGHTS  
WINONA, MINNESOTA

January 5, 1953

Your Excellency:

I am enclosing a communication from the Nobles County Selective Service Board to Robert Taylor requesting of him a letter of certification. I understand from one of our seminarians who spoke with the clerk, that what is wanted is a letter from the proper Church authority certifying that that Church is sponsoring the young man in question. I respectfully request that letters be prepared for Robert Taylor and sent to me. Thank you!

Inasmuch as similar letters were sent to and I believe, to I suppose similar requests will be coming from them to the Chancery.

January 6, 1953

Selective Service  
Local Board No. 77  
Nobles County  
Worthington, Minnesota

Gentlemen:

This will certify that Robert A. Taylor, Adrian, Minnesota, has been and is now a student at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona preparing for the ministry under the direction of the Roman Catholic Church, Diocese of Winona, Minnesota. He is entitled, therefore, to classification as specified under Section 1622, 43 (a) and (b) of Selective Service Regulations.

---

Roman Catholic Bishop  
Diocese of Winona, Minnesota

Above certification made also for:

RT000037

5/26/53  
Rome  
GWT

DIOCESE OF WINONA INC.  
Winona, Minnesota

I humbly ask the Bishop of Winona to appoint me to a School of Theology to prepare for ordination to the priesthood of the diocese.

Since the Diocese of Winona will pay the costs of board, room and tuition for me at the Seminary, I agree to refund to the diocese within five years after ordination one-fourth of the amount paid by the diocese for my education so as to help other priests.

If I should withdraw from the Seminary, I will repay to the diocese in full the amount paid for me.

Robert A. Taylor

Witnessed by

George H. Spelby

5-26-1953  
(Date)

[Redacted]

[Heavily obscured and illegible text]

RT

--  
R. Taylor (chambers copy)

Conduct : good

faculty vote : favorable

RT000001

RT

## SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE

Winona, Minnesota

The accompanying record is valid as a transcript when it bears the seal of the college and the signature of the Registrar.

Grades are reported as follows: A (highest passing), B, C, D (lowest passing), E (conditioned), F (failure), Inc. (incomplete), W (withdrew). The grades P or S indicate passing or satisfactory work in a non-credit course, and the grade U indicates unsatisfactory work in a non-credit course. Where a non-passing grade is secured, the number indicating credit is enclosed in parentheses.

Honor points are assigned on the basis of the quality of a student's work, as follows: For each hour of A - 3 points; B - 2 points; C - 1 point. The requirement for graduation is 120 semester hours of credit and as many honor points as credits. Catholic students are required to have an additional 8 semester hours credit in Religion.

Credit is not granted for only one semester of a year course, indicated on the record by an asterisk - thus 3\*.

The term honorable dismissal refers to conduct only. Penalties for poor scholarship, if still active, are shown on the record. If the deficiency has been removed it is not shown on the record.

(OVER)

RT000002



RT

The following is a list of the abbreviations used in this record:

B.—Biology	M.L.—Modern Language
C.—Chemistry	O.—Orientation
D.—Drawing	P.—Physics
E.—English	P.E.—Physical Education
Ec.—Economics	Ph.—Philosophy
Ed.—Education	P.S.—Public Speaking
F.A.—Fine Arts	P.Sc.—Political Science
G.—Greek	Psy.—Psychology
H.—History	R.—Religion
L.—Latin	S.—Sociology
M.—Mathematics	

RT000003

RT

**PERMANENT RECORD**      **SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE**  
WINONA, MINN.

**NAME** TAYLOR, Robert Allan      **HOME ADDRESS** R.M. #1      **Adrian, Minnesota**

**PARENT OR GUARDIAN** Bryan C. Taylor

**DATE OF BIRTH** June 13, 1930      **PLACE** Adrian, Minn.

**DATE OF ENTRANCE** 9-13-48      **LEFT** 12-17-48      **ADVANCED STANDING FROM** St. Adrian      **Adrian, Minn.**

**REENTERED** 9-11-50      **LEFT**      **GRADUATION DATE** May 27, 1948      **RANK** 1/18

**DEGREE** Bachelor of Arts

**DATE** May 31, 1953

**MAJOR** Philosophy      **TOTAL CREDITS** 126

**MINOR** Education      **HONOR POINTS** 325

**MINOR** Latin

DEFICIENCIES		ALGEBRA I		PHYSICS	
ENGLISH	4	ALG. II	1	PHYSICS	1
LATIN	2	ALGEBRA II	1	CHEMISTRY	1
PHYSICS	1	PHYSICS	1	BIOLOGY	1
CHEMISTRY	1	BIOLOGY	1	B. SCIENCE	1
BIOLOGY	1	B. SCIENCE	1	COM. LAB	1
B. SCIENCE	1	OTHERS			
COM. LAB	1				
OTHERS					
					<b>TOTAL</b>
					16

**GRADUATION HONORS** Summa cum laude

COURSE NO.	COURSE DESCRIPTION	GRADE	SEM.	H.P.	COURSE NO.	COURSE DESCRIPTION	GRADE	SEM.	H.P.
<b>I Semester 1948-49</b>					<b>II Semester 1951-52</b>				
RI	Catholic Ideal of Life I	W	(1)	0	Ph35	Life of Christ	A	2	6
E11	English Composition I	W	(3)	0	ML16	Elementary Spanish II	A	3	9
ML1	College Algebra	W	(3)	0	LI2,2	Elem. Latin Reading II	A	3	15
LI3	Latin Composition	W	(4)	0	Ph32	Theistic Psychology	C	3	3
GI1	Greek Gram. & Xenophon I	W	(4)	0	Ph22	Intro. to Literature II	B	3	6
ES11	Public Speaking	W	(2)	0	Ed47	Philosophy of Education	B	3	6
O1	Orientation	W	0	0	Ph33	Philosophy of Nature	B	3	6
PE10	Phy. Ed.	W	0	0		<b>Total</b>		42	101
					<b>Cumulative Total</b>				
<b>I Semester 1950-51</b>					<b>Summer Session 1952</b>				
RI3	Apologetics I	B	1	2	Ph51	Cont. Philosophy	A	3	9
GI1	Elementary Greek I	A	4	12	Ph32	Philosophical Psychology	A	3	9
E11	Biology Survey I	A	3	9	Ed33	Educational Psychology	A	3	9
LI1.1	Beginners Latin I	A	5	15					
LI3	Latin Composition	A	4	12	<b>I Semester 1952-53</b>				
E11	English Composition I	B	3	6	Ph45	Metaphysics I	B	3	6
					<b>II Semester 1950-51</b>				
RI4	Apologetics II	A	1	3	Ph43	General Ethics	A	3	9
E12	Biology Survey II	A	3	9	Ph42	Theory of Knowledge	B	2	4
LI1.2	Beginners Latin II	A	5	15	L45	St. Augustine	A	3	9
GI2	Elementary Greek II	A	4	12	Ed41,6	Spec. Methods: Religion	A	2	6
ML1	College Algebra	B	3	6	L21	Law	A	3	9
Ph31	Logic	A	3	9	<b>II Semester 1952-53</b>				
E12	English Composition II	B	3	6	Ph46	Metaphysics II	B	3	6
<b>Total</b>					<b>Ed44,6</b> Social Philosophy				
					L46 Christian Latin Poets				
					L24 Ovid's Metamorphoses				
					Ed44 Directed Teaching				
<b>Summer Session 1951</b>									
ML2	Plane Trigonometry	A	3	9					
<b>I Semester 1951-52</b>									
RI1	Sacred Scripture	A	2	6					
LI2	Elementary Latin Reading I	A	5	15					
E21	Intro. to Literature I	A	3	9					
Ph37	Ancient & Med. Philosophy	B	2	4					
ML15	Elementary Spanish I	A	3	9					
Ed23	Intro. to Education	B	2	4					
Ed21	Principles of Economics I	C	3	3					

**HONORABLY DISMISSED**

ISSUED: **JUN 6 1953**

*Brother J. Leo*

**REGISTRAR**

RT00004

PONTIFICAL NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

REPORT OF EXAMINATIONS

ACADEMIC YEAR 19 53 - 19 54

Name TAYLOR, Robert Diocese Winona  
 Class I Theology

	SEMESTER	
	I.	II.
Fundamental Theology . . . . .		8
Dogmatic Theology . . . . .		
Moral Theology . . . . .		9
S. Scripture . . . . .		
Church History . . . . .		10
Canon Law . . . . .	6	
Ascetical Theology . . . . .		
Oriental Theology . . . . .		
Liturgy . . . . .		
Hebrew . . . . .	10	
Biblical Greek . . . . .		
Special Course . . . . .		
Practical Exercise . . . . .		
Italian . . . . .		
Academic Degree . . . . . Points		

*Richard K. Burns*  
 V. RECTOR

RT  
**PONTIFICAL NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE**

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 1A  
 ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
 VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

**SCHOLASTIC REPORT**

Academic Year 19 54-19 55

NAME TAYLOR, Robert H.  
 DIOCESE WINONA CLASS II THEOLOGY

**I. Courses at the Pontifical Gregorian University**

	Semester Hours	
	I	II
Dogmatic Theology . . . . .		8
Sacred Scripture . . . . .		
Moral Theology . . . . .		9
Canon Law . . . . .	10	
Church History and Patrology . . . . .		10
Ascetical Theology . . . . .		
Oriental Theology . . . . .		
Liturgy . . . . .		
Hebrew . . . . .		
Biblical Greek . . . . .		
Patrology . . . . .		
Special Course: .....		
.....		
Practical Exercise: .....		
.....		
.....		
.....		

**Examinations for the Licentiate**

Written ..... Oral Comprehensive .....

Academic Degree S. T. B.

**II. Courses at the North American College**

	Semester Hours
Italian . . . . .	4
Homiletics . . . . .	2
Pastoral Theology . . . . .	
Gregorian Chant . . . . .	2

Passing grade = 6  
 Good = 8  
 Cum laude = 9  
 Summa cum laude = 10

*Martin J. Conroy*  
 Rector

RT

# PONTIFICAL NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14  
R O M E

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

## SCHOLASTIC REPORT

Academic Year 1955-1956

NAME TAYLOR, Robert H.

DIOCESE Winona CLASS 3rd THEOLOGY

### I. Courses at the Pontifical Gregorian University

	Semester Hours	I		II	
Dogmatic Theology	16				7
Sacred Scripture	12				7
Moral Theology					
Canon Law					
Church History					
Ascetical Theology	2		7		
Oriental Theology	2				8
Liturgy					
Hebrew					
Biblical Greek					
Patrology					
Special Course: <u>T 1 - Anglican Theology</u>	2		8		
Practical Exercise: <u>Methodology</u>	1		-		

### Examinations for the Licentiate

Written ..... Oral Comprehensive .....

Academic Degree .....

### II. Courses at the North American College

	Semester Hours
Italian	
Homiletics	2
Pastoral Theology	
Gregorian Chant	2

Passing grade = 6  
 Good = 8  
 Cum Laude = 9  
 Summa cum Laude = 10

  
 Rector

RT000007

**RTThe Catholic University of America**  
WASHINGTON 17, D. C.

**GRADE REPORT**

OF STUDENT

TAYLOR ROBERT H REV

00	00	00
MO.	YR.	

ING ADDRESS:

TAYLOR ROBERT H REV  
212 MARRIET STREET  
WINONA MINN

GRADING SYSTEM	DEPARTMENT	COURSE	DESCRIPTION OF COURSE	GRADE			CREDIT HOURS			
				1ST	2ND	SUM.	1ST	2ND	SUM	
<b>GRADUATE STUDENTS</b>										
ELLENT	4	LAT	620		A				3	
ERIOR	3	LAT	624		A				3	
RAGE	2	HIST	550		A				2	
EST PASSING	1	G L	608		A				3	
LURE	0	LAT	610		C				3	
OMplete										
<b>DUATE STUDENTS</b>										
ELLENT										
ERIOR										
SFACTORY FOR THE										
DUATE LEVEL										
LURE										
OMplete										
<b>S IN THE LAW SCHOOL</b>										
STANDING	3									
ERIOR	2									
D	1									
SFACTORY	1									
ATISFACTORY	0									
LURE	0									
OMplete										
DIT										

SSION SHOULD BE RE-  
PROMPTLY TO YOUR  
TOR AND TO THE OFF-  
THE REGISTRAR IN

ATES NO CREDITS

**DIocese OF WINONA  
STUDENT RECORD**

Name TAYLOR, Robert A. Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Home address Adrian, Minn. Parish \_\_\_\_\_

*Ordained priest in Valerian City (Pons) Dec. 16, 1956*

Schools Attended	Year	Class	Reports		Expenses Paid
			Scholastic	Character	
N. Amer. Col.	56-57	Th. IV			900.00

Taylor - Rev Robert - ordained June 16, 1956

REPAYMENTS MADE TO DIOCESE

99127

Amount Due 600.<sup>00</sup> (510.<sup>00</sup>)

Date	Amount Paid	Date	Amount Paid	Date	Amount Paid
8/21/57	\$510.00				
<i>Education account paid in full with disburse.</i>					



**DIOCESE OF WINONA  
STUDENT RECORD**

Name Robert A. Taylor

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Home address Adrian, Minn.

Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Schools Attended	Year	Class	Reports		Expenses Paid
			Scholastic	Character	
IHM	51-52	Col. II	A-		
IHM	52-53	Ph. II	A		
IHM	52-53	Ph. II	A	S	
N. Amer. Col.	53-54	Th. I			\$900.00
N. Amer. Col.	54-55	Ph. II	9	S	900.00
N. Amer. Col.	55-56	Th. III	C-	S	900.00

# Profession of Faith

I, Robert H. Taylor, touching with my hand God's holy Gospels, enlightened by divine grace, profess the faith which the Catholic, Apostolic, Roman Church teaches. I believe that Church to be the one true Church, which Jesus Christ founded on earth: to which I submit with all my heart.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

I believe that seven sacraments were instituted by Jesus Christ for the salvation of mankind; namely, Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Penance, Extreme Unction, Holy Orders and Matrimony.

I believe that the Pope, the Bishop of Rome, is the Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth, that he is the supreme visible head of the whole Church, and that he teaches infallibly what we must believe and do to be saved.

I also believe everything which the Holy, Catholic, Apostolic and Roman Church defines and declares we must believe. I adhere to her with all my heart, and I reject every error and schism which she condemns.

So help me God and these His holy Gospels which I touch with my hand.

R. H. Taylor

(Seal)

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ordinary of Winona (Delegate)

Date \_\_\_\_\_



## Saint Mary's College

WINONA, MINNESOTA - 55987

The Most Reverend E. A. Fitzgerald, D. D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minn.

Dear Bishop,

As you know I now have been associated with the college and the seminary seven years, an extent which exceeds most of the priests who serve the college. In that time I think I have grasped some of the problems and conveniences of our system. If you would like to speak about my ideas concerning either the college or the seminary, I would be pleased to do so. I am sure a mutual appointment can be arranged.

I think that my work and energy expended for the college, the church and seminary, speak clearly of my loyalty and obedience.

In Christ, our brother

*Robert H. Taylor*

RT000016

The Catholic University of America  
Washington, D. C.

The Most Reverend E. G. Fitzgerald, S. S.  
275 Harriet St.  
Winona, Minn.

Your Excellency,

Just a note about your request to help out in Adrian after summer school. I do not take my vacation until sometime in the middle of the month of August; as yet the schedule has not been posted, but I am sure the earliest I can be free is the 15<sup>th</sup> of August.

When I had planned to take my folks who are flying here, to visit relatives in D. C., N. Y., and Syracuse; I had thought we would be back in Winona about the 25<sup>th</sup> of Aug.

If this does not meet your approval, please inform me so that I can make the necessary change.

Yours obediently  
Father Robert Taylor

The Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

The Most Reverend E. A. Fitzgerald, S.O.  
275 Harriet St.  
Winona, Minn.

Your Excellency,

Because of a new system of billing, I have paid my summer school bill and have misplaced the receipt; but enclosed you will find the charges taken from the catalogue.

Six hours of Graduate Work @ \$40 per hr.	\$240 -
Registration Fee	5 -
Room & Board	150 -
Books	25.15
	<hr/>
	\$420.15

You can send this amount to my checking account at Merchants in Winona so the check does not bounce.

I have spoken to my director & the head of the department and they have informed me that I will be eligible for the degree in Jan. 1964. I hope this meets with your approval.

I was satisfied with my last semester work - all "A's" in my graduate course, and a "C" in Required Undergraduate course. I must admit I only fulfilled the requirement and did not expect myself as it counts nothing for the degree.

Yours Obediently  
Felix R. Taylor

RT000018



The Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

The Most Reverend E. A. Fitzgerald, S.S.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet St.  
Winona, Minn.

Your Excellency,  
Examinations for the first semester are all finished and registration is about completed and we are ready for the second stretch of the year. My exams went from very difficult to fairly easy. Latin Camp and Greek Stylistics were about what I expected and I did excel in them both. Classical scholarship was exactly what I figured and I am sure of a "B" in that course. Historical & Comparative Grammar was difficult and detailed - first he asked a bibliography of 25 books in the field with an annotation for each. Then he put up five different series of words - in about 7 languages and asked us to trace them back to the Mother Indo-European. My final exam was the Master's Latin Reading List, in which we try to cover some of each of the Latin writers up to Caesar. We covered about 10,000 lines during the semester and expected some of this prepared matter but we had almost all slight translation. For what I put down I could easily flunk the course, because it was just plain difficult. The only consolation was that everyone felt the same way. My marks will probably range from about 2 Fs, 2 Ws, 3 Bs, and finally, & hopefully a C in the Reading List.

I have registered for the second semester according to your instructions regarding my course planning. I have about the same courses as the first semester with the exception that I have taken a course in the Medius.

The Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

Institute. I can make up the other required courses in the summer. By next year same time I should be able to transfer to Patristic and Medical concentration. The thinking here is if one should have a thorough grounding in the Classics before one can really understand the Fathers and the Medical Writers.

I am including my book list for the rest of the year listing the books according to my courses, which will give you a good idea of the sections and the work that I am doing. Needless to say you can see they are very expensive but I guess compared to other books used in past graduate work, as well as graduate school this is cheap. I followed a graduate student in the bookstore. A major in Mathematics he purchased two thin books for \$39.00.

Came, a Sulpician and classmate from  
from Texas - former secretary to  
and I went to Philadelphia for  
a day during our break to visit Overbush Seminary  
and some classmates. They have about the same  
problems with their Latin program as we do.

I have made arrangements with  
and to take them home in May  
for ordination. I finish exams on Wednesday  
some have plenty of time if we drive straight  
through.

Best Wishes to all.

Yours obediently in Christ  
Father Taylor



The Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

1) Latin Historians

Cornelii Taciti de vita Agricolae (Tacitus) 9<sup>00</sup>  
 Caii Sallustii Crispi Catilinae (Sallust) 8<sup>25</sup>  
 Livy - Selections (Livy) 6<sup>00</sup>

2) Introduction to Medieval Studies

Medieval Latin 8<sup>50</sup>  
 Primer of Med. Latin 4<sup>50</sup>

3) Historical Morphology & Phonology

Historical Greek & Latin Grammar 8<sup>00</sup>  
 The Latin Language - Palmer 7<sup>00</sup>

4) Masters Reading List

Romischer Erber (2 Vol) 10<sup>50</sup>  
 Lucretius 6<sup>00</sup>  
 Quintilian 3<sup>00</sup>  
 Bucolic } 4<sup>25</sup>  
 Eclogues } 4<sup>05</sup>  
 Select Letters of Cicero

5) Introduction to Greek Civilization & Culture

Herodotus } all books 10<sup>50</sup>  
 Thucydides } at 3<sup>50</sup>  
 Plato - Phaedo - Apology }  
 \$12<sup>33</sup>  
 2/6/63

\$80.15

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE  
TERRACE HEIGHTS  
WINONA, MINNESOTA

TAYLOR, ROBERT ( St. Adrian's, Adrian)

SCHOLASTIC RECORD:

HONOR STUDENT. Very good ability.

Latin: 2 years in highschool; 36 hours in college. "A" student in Latin

Greek: 1 year.

Philosophy: will complete major. "B" to "A" student.

ACTIVITIES: Prefect. In charge of dining room and waiters.  
Very cooperative.

PERSONAL AND MORAL QUALITIES:

"A" Good character and piety.

FACULTY VOTE: favorable - 4

SEMINARY: American College, Rome. Would advise a final check-up  
at the Mayo Clinic this summer.

RT000023

### SEMINARIAN'S RECORD

Name TAYLOR, ROBERT ALLAN Address ADRIAN, MINN Parish S. ADRIAN  
Last First Middle

Petition for Affiliation   
 Baptismal Certificate   
 Confirmation Certificate   
 Parents' Marriage Certificate   
 Petitioner's Birth Date Jan 13<sup>th</sup> 1930  
 High School Record .....  
 Recommendation of Pastor   
 Recommendation of School .....  
 DOCTOR'S EXAM:  
 Date .....  
 Date .....  
 Letter of Acceptance

**COLLEGES ATTENDED:**

1. Address .....  
 .....  
 From (Date)..... To.....  
 2. Address .....  
 .....  
 From (Date)..... To.....

**SEMINARIES ATTENDED:**

1. Address .....  
 .....  
 From (Date)..... To.....  
 2. Address .....  
 .....  
 From (Date)..... To.....

**TEST. FROM SEMINARY RECTORS:**

1. Name of Sem. ....  
 2. Name of Sem. ....

**EX-RELIGIOUS:**

Religious Superior .....  
 Indult(s) from Holy See .....  
 1. Date .....  
 2. Date .....

**OATHS:**

Domicile ..... Service.....

**PROFESSION OF FAITH:**

Sub-deacon (Date) .....  
 Faculties (Date) .....

ORDERS	Test. on Studies	Test. on Exam	Test. of Rector	Test. Bishop of Dom.	Petition and Declaration of Freedom (Date)	Publication (Date-Place)	Retreat (Date)	Dimissorials (Date)	Ordination (Date)	Dispensations	
										Needed	Date Obtained
Tonsure					P	x x x					
Ostiariate					P	x x x					
Lectorate					P	x x x					
Exorcist					P	x x x					
Acolyth.					P	x x x					
Subdiaconate					PD						
Diaconate					PD						
Priesthood					PD						

RT000024

Saint Catherine's Villa  
Rome, Italy  
September 18, 1953

The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

Our trip was climaxed on September 14th with our arrival in Rome. Monsignor Freking met us at the train and afterwards treated us to a delicious dinner. A short tour of the old college followed and thence to the villa where Roy Literksi was the first to greet us.

Needless to say, we both immensely enjoyed our tour of the British Isles. For my part, our visit to Stratford-on-the-Avon was the height of our visit to England. In Ireland we rented a car for almost nothing, sixteen (16) dollars apiece, I believe. We drove south from Dublin to Waterford and then west to Mount Mellarey on the first day. The following day we proceeded to Cork where a new Franciscan church is worthy of mention. Its altar and sanctuary are finished in gold mosaic, the gold having been collected in the same manner you employed for the Cathedral monstrance. Neither of us have seen the likes of it in either the United States or in all Britain. From Cork we travelled on to scenic Killarney and then north to Galway. We concluded our tour of Ireland by visiting the National Pilgrimage at Knock at the shrine of Our Lady of Knock.

Generally speaking, however, there was one thing I enjoyed more than the great cathedrals, castles, and palaces, namely, conversing with the common people about America, Europe, and their own problems, political and otherwise. It gives one a much better understanding of their heritage, customs, and culture. My only regret is that I will not be able to do the same in most of the other countries because of language barriers.

To begin to thank you for this splendid opportunity is almost futile. In the brief period of a month since our departure new worlds of culture have been opened to us on our journey to this Eternal City. But here in Rome is the center of that Christian culture and heritage and you have sent us into the very midst of it. My only wish is that I may fulfill those high ideals of the priesthood first instilled at Immaculate Heart and which I am sure, judging from the spirit of faculty and students, are deeply impregnated here. May it please Mary out of whose womb was formed the Eternal High Priest that I attain those ideals.

Your Excellencie's most humble  
and obedient servant,

*Robert A. Taylor*

in the North American College  
Vatican City  
December 15, 1952

The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

As Christmas draws nearer and its spirit increases within us, I pause for a moment to extend to you a blessed Christmas and another zealous, profitable year in this, the Marian Year.

This week has been full of anxious anticipation and preparation for ordination of . . . on Saturday. This afternoon his mother and cousin arrived and as . . . is in retreat, . . . and I are taking care of his temporal affairs, and hence, met them and helped them get settled.

. . . and I plan to spend our three day Christmas vacation at Assisi. We leave here on Monday morning, December 28<sup>th</sup>, and return on Wednesday afternoon at 6:00 p.m.. The short break in schedule should do us both good.

School is coming along fine, and although the studies are not too difficult, the time element in which to master them keeps one stepping.

My health and spirit are good and generally I like Rome. As evidence, already we have been here four months and it seems only yesterday we arrived. Again, best wishes for a happy holiday season!

Your Excellency's Humble and Obedient Servant  
Robert Taylor

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14

VATICAN CITY

April 10, 1954

The Most Reverend E. A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

In a few hours the events of Holy Week will begin anew, and by the time you receive this letter, the church will be singing the glorious alleluias. After a difficult and tiring week of services, I hope you can find a few minutes of peace and joy at Easter. As I stand in St. Peter's Square on Easter morn awaiting the "Urbe et Orbe" blessing, I shall make a special remembrance of you and of your intentions.

is up and around now and I think he has made a wonderful recovery. Although he does not attend classes as yet, he participates in all the other house exercises. His spirits are very excellent and he does not seem worried about the future.

We have a two week vacation from classes. Of course the first week I plan to absorb as much as I possibly can from the Holy Week services, for it is a great opportunity as we have no other cares. The following week is more or less free.

My health and studies are progressing fine and in general all of us seem to be in excellent condition and high spirits.

Your Excellency's humble  
and obedient servant,  
Robert L. ...

RT000042

TAYLOR Robert  
Winona.

Has done very well in his studies to which he brings both ability and conscientious application. Has shown himself faithful to his spiritual duties and in observance of the rules. Has a pleasant, friendly personality, gets along well with others, is a cheerful and willing worker, dependable, and always respectful towards his superiors.

*MJO* *Connor*  
*Therbor*  
*Aug 7, 1954*



OFFICE OF THE RECTOR

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE  
VATICAN CITY  
(EUROPE)

AIR MAIL

August 6th 1954

His Excellency  
Most Rev. Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

The enclosed observations on Mr.  
Robert Taylor of your Diocese may be useful both  
as a record and a reference for the future.

With deepest esteem and every good  
wish, I remain

Faithfully yours in Christ

Martin J. O'Connor  
Rector

RT000044



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANIGOLO 14

VATICAN CITY

Sept. 21, 1954

His Excellency,  
Most Reverend E. A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Mariet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

As I entered the second year of Theology, and since it is the custom in the North American College to receive Tonsure within the coming year and Minor Orders in Third Theology, I respectfully beg Your Excellency to give me the call requisite for these orders.

I declare that I am receiving these orders of my own free will and with the grace of God I hope to persevere in my holy vocation.

Humbly asking Your Excellency's blessing, I remain,

Your Excellency's most  
humble servant in Christ,  
Robert H. Taylor

*Taylor*

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

ROME, ITALY

October 13th 1954

His Excellency  
Most Rev. Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota.

Your Excellency,

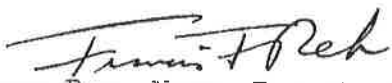
At the direction of the Most Reverend Rector I am writing to inform you that, after consultation with the members of his faculty at their spring meeting and after observation since then, he had decided that your student, Robert H. Taylor, has shown the requisite positive signs of vocation to the clerical state. It is the Bishop's recommendation, therefore, that he be called to First Tonsure and to Minor Orders.

Attached herewith is the petition of the candidate in accordance with the Instruction of the Sacred Congregation of Sacraments (Dec. 27, 1930). Proper certificates of Baptism and of Confirmation are on file at this Seminary. The candidate labours under no irregularity or impediment to the clerical state.

If, therefore, Your Excellency should agree with this recommendation, I respectfully ask that you complete with signature, date and seal the enclosed form of Dimissorial Letters. It is the expressed wish of the Vicariate of Rome that the enclosed form be employed in preference to any other. First Tonsure will be conferred during January 1955 in a Church designated by the Cardinal Vicar of Rome.

With sentiments of profound respect and esteem, and with personal good wishes, I am

Your humble servant in Christ

  
Very Rev. Msgr. Francis F. Reh  
Vice Rector

*Sent  
11/2/54  
EAT.*

RT000046



Pontificium Collegium  
Foederatarum Americae Civitatum  
de Urbe

Hisce litteris fidem facimus atque testamur

Dominum Robertum H. Taylor  
ad Primam Tonsuram  
promotum fuisse die XVI mensis Januarii anni 1955  
in Basilica SS. Apostolorum, Romae  
ab Excmo. ac Rmo. Dno. Hectore Cunial, Vicesgerente II<sup>o</sup>

Datum Romae,

Apud aedes Collegii

die XXIV mensis Januarii anni 1955

℞. S.

Vice Rector



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO, 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS :  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

August 3, 1955

OFFICE OF THE RECTOR

Your Excellency,

The following observations on your student Mr. Robert H. Taylor may be useful both as a record and a reference for the future:

He continues to apply himself faithfully to his spiritual duties and to observance of the Rule of the College. He has a friendly and somewhat quiet personality. He is always respectful to his superiors. He has shown courage to persevere despite the back ailment he suffers. He continues to do very well in his studies.

I am enclosing the scholastic record of your student for this year.

With deepest esteem and every good wish, I remain

Faithfully yours,

Rector

RT000048



Pontificium Collegium  
Foederatarum Americae Civitatum  
de Urbe

Hisce litteris fidem facimus atque testamur

Dominum ..... ROBERTUM H. TAYLOR .....  
ad ..... OSTIARIATUM ET IECTORATUM .....  
promotum fuisse die xxvii mensis novembris ..... anni 1955 .....  
in ..... Basilica SS. Cosmae et Damiani, Romae .....  
ab <sup>E</sup>xcmo ac Rmo Alphonso Carinci, Arch.Tit.Seleuciensi in Isauria

Datum Romae,

Apud aedes Collegii

die ii ..... mensis ..... decembris ..... anni 1955 .....

E. S.

Vice Rector



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO, 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

February 24, 1956

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota.

Your Excellency,

I have been waiting for the first opportunity to advise you of the results of my trip to Belgium. As you will recall, I left here shortly after Christmas. The examinations were more prolonged than I had anticipated, and consequently I returned to the college shortly before the semester examinations. It seemed advisable to give all my time to study then, and now that the tests are finished, I can write a more detailed and organized report. From what the doctor told me, I can make these observations:

In general my health is in sound condition. From all appearances, the respiratory, circulatory and digestive systems are excellent. The doctor was especially impressed with my nervous system, considering the life of a seminarian, and more particularly, because of the pain which accompanies back maladies.

The old lesion of 1948 continues to heal. The calcification of the decomposed vertebrae is, in fact, progressing more rapidly than expected. The bone texture is much better, which may indicate that these vertebrae are, or soon will be, performing their regular functions. In the present situation it seems unlikely that surgery will ever be needed.

It is precisely because of this excellent prognosis that the present trouble developed. It seems that because of over protection and over consciousness of the infected region, the lower region of the back was made to over work, thereby causing a strain. Then also, the old brace, made to support the infected region, did not sufficiently protect the lower back. There is not a spread of the infection, but only a fatigue in another region.

To remedy this, the doctor prescribed and made a new brace. This one, although it continues to support the old infection, does so only in a secondary capacity. It is aimed primarily at supporting the fatigued lower region.

RT000496

RT



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO, 14

R O M E

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

February 24, 1956

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota.

Your Excellency,

I have been waiting for the first opportunity to advise you of the results of my trip to Belgium. As you will recall, I left here shortly after Christmas. The examinations were more prolonged than I had anticipated, and consequently I returned to the college shortly before the semester examinations. It seemed advisable to give all my time to study then, and now that the tests are finished, I can write a more detailed and organized report. From what the doctor told me, I can make these observations:

In general my health is in sound condition. From all appearances, the respiratory, circulatory and digestive systems are excellent. The doctor was especially impressed with my nervous system, considering the life of a seminarian, and more particularly, because of the pain which accompanies back maladies.

The old lesion of 1948 continues to heal. The calcification of the decomposed vertebrae are, in fact, progressing more rapidly than expected. The bone texture is much better, which may indicate that these vertebrae are, or soon will be, performing their regular functions. In the present situation it seems unlikely that surgery will ever be needed.

It is precisely because of this excellent prognosis that the present trouble developed. It seems that because of over protection and over consciousness of the infected region, the lower region of the back was made to over work, thereby causing a strain. Then also, the old brace, made to support the infected region, did not sufficiently protect the lower back. There is not a spread of the infection, but only a fatigue in another region.

To remedy this, the doctor prescribed and made a new brace. This one, although it continues to support the old infection, does so only in a secondary capacity. It is aimed primarily at supporting the fatigued lower region.

RT000206

RT



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO, 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

The doctor gave me one precaution. It is his opinion that should I ever become seriously ill, or should my resistance become exceedingly low, I could have a re-infection, which might have complications. My own opinion, however, is that since the Mayo Clinic never mentioned it, the likelihood of such a crisis is negligible.

In summary, the old infection is not completely healed but appears satisfactory. The remedy for this latest fatigue in the lower back will depend on the present brace. It appears satisfactory and thus far helpful, but the doctor believes that six weeks time should give a more definite and accurate answer.

I was pleased with the doctor, the Sisters at the hospital, and the general care afforded. I shall write later how effective the treatment is, but in the meantime, I shall try to carry out the necessary precautions. Upon the return of my parents from Mexico I informed them of the present status, and they, needless to say, were relieved.

I am grateful to Your Excellency, the faculty here and especially to his kind and paternal interest.

Asking Your Excellency's blessing, I remain,

Your Excellency's obedient  
servant in Christ,

RT000207



RT



OFFICE OF THE RECTOR

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14  
ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS :  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

March 1st, 1956

His Excellency  
Most Rev. Edward A. Fitzgerald D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Bishop Fitzgerald,

In your letter of February 23rd  
you inquired about your three students.

seem to be doing quite well and are in good  
health.

Mr. Robert H. Taylor has received  
full Minor Orders but I think it prudent to send you a  
full report in anticipation of your judgement of his  
reception of Major Orders as there has been some question  
about his health. In a very short time I will be able  
to send you this complete statement.

With kindest regards and every good  
wish, I remain

Faithfully yours

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin J. O'Connor".

Martin J. O'Connor  
Rector

RT000208

RT

March 5, 1956

Mr. Robert A. Taylor  
North American College  
Via del Gianicolo, 14  
Vatican City

Dear Robert,

I was pleased to receive your letter of February 24 as I have been waiting for a report on the medical examination which you had. I am glad to hear that there are no serious complications and I hope that the treatments given will be successful. It is important that you take every precaution so that the healing process may proceed.

Kindly extend my greetings to  
and the other Winona seminarians.

With kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000209



Pontificium Collegium  
Foederatarum Americae Civitatum  
de Urbe

Hisce litteris fidem facimus atque testamur

Dominum ..... ROBERTUM H. TAYLOR .....  
ad ..... EXORCISTATUM ET ACOLYTHATUM .....  
promotum fuisse die ..... xxv ..... mensis ..... februarii ..... anni 1956 .....  
in ..... Basilica SS. Apostolorum, Romae .....  
ab ..... Excmo. ac Rmo. Aloysio Traglia, Vicesgerente .....

Datum Romae,

Apud aedes Collegii

die ..... i ..... mensis ..... martii ..... anni ..... 1956 .....

G. S.

Vice Rector



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO, 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

March 8, 1956

Your Excellency,  
The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, S. O.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,  
As I am now in my third year of theology,  
and since it is the custom at the North American  
College for the students to receive Major Orders,  
during this year, I humbly request Your  
Excellency to send me the calls requisite for  
these orders.

I wish to receive these orders of my own  
free will, and with the grace of God, I  
hope to persevere in my holy vocation.  
With sincere gratitude, I remain,

Your Excellency's most obedient  
servant in Christ,  
Robert H. Taylor

RT



OFFICE OF THE RECTOR

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS :  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

March 16th 1956

His Excellency  
Most Rev. Edward J. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

You will receive within a short time document attesting the fact that your student, Robert H. Taylor, received the Minor Orders of Exorcist and Acolyte on February 25th 1956. He will be eligible to receive subdiaconate with his class as planned for July 15th, 1956. According to our custom he would be ordained to diaconate next October and to the Sacred Priesthood in Decemebr of this year, presuming that we obtain the usual dispensation for this earlier ordination of our students.

Attached herewith is the petition of the candidate in accordance with the Instruction of the Sacred Congregation of Sacraments (December 27, 1930). The required Profession of Faith, Oath against Modernism, the oath prescribed by canon 981 par. 1 and the oaths of free acceptance of the Orders will be made before the Vice Rector as delegate of Your Excellency. After consultation with the members of my faculty, I have decided that Robert Taylor continues to show the requisite positive signs of vocation to the priesthood in respect of sanctity and intellectual ability without any doubt. Regarding the sign of vocation which is health, I find it necessary to bring to your attention certain facts about most of which you are already informed, but which in my judgement should be re-examined now.

not in his capacity as Spiritual Director but as a priest of your diocese, has been aware of the back ailment from which Robert suffers. Since this ailment began before his entrance as a student into the American College, Your Excellency too, will have known about it. We are able, however, to supply certain information since his life at the College.

./.

RT000210

Last November Mr. Taylor informed us that he was having more than the usual difficulty with his back. The examination to which he submitted during the previous year had been useless since the X-rays taken here had not been helpful to the Mayo Clinic where Robert was first a patient. The doctor, although a good medical man, confessed that he was not an orthopaedic specialist. It was decided that Mr. Taylor should inquire from the Mayo Clinic about competent men in Europe and especially about those who might have studied at Rochester. His doctor there, wrote on November 26th 1956 and listed several orthopaedic specialists. We decided that

, was the best of those suggested since he was the only one who had trained in the Mayo Clinic where he had studied during 1952-53. Robert was given permission to make arrangements for examination by this doctor whom he visited with a fellow student as companion.

He returned on January 30th quite satisfied with the thoroughness of the examination and rather relieved by its results. Enclosed is copy of a letter which Mr. Taylor informed me that he had written to you on February 24th giving you the results of his trip to Belgium. I did not ask that a report be sent directly to the College since I understood that it would be forwarded instead to the Mayo Clinic where it would be much more intelligible than to ourselves.

Since coming to the American College, Robert Taylor has proved that he can live a very active life. He has not only fulfilled all required by the schedule but has also contributed considerably in extra-curricular work. Our records reveal that he has not spent even one day in our infirmary since its inauguration in September 1954; and since his entrance into the College his record of classes and exercises attended is practically perfect. His scholastic record will indicate that he is able to apply himself well to his studies. He accepts the discomfort he experiences with fine maturity. He has not allowed that his ailment destroy a constant display of good spirits nor that it occasion self pity. From our experience with his life at the College, therefore, there is indication that he would be able to contribute active service to the diocese of Your Excellency. It could be said too that he would be able to accomodate himself in alleviation of his discomfort more easily even as an active

priest than he can as a seminarian. I refer to such difficulties as the lengthy sitting in an uncomfortable seat at the University.

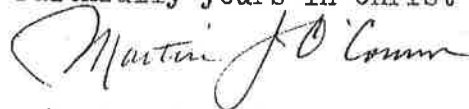
We do not have on record here any diagnosis or prognosis made at the Mayo Clinic where Robert was a patient before coming to Rome. The recent letter of                      says in brief "You will recall that our diagnosis when you were here in 1948 was of brucella infection of the spine at the level of the interspace between the first and the second lumbar vertebra". Since we are unable to make any founded judgement in that highly specialized field of                      medicine and surgery, I have instructed Robert that he cause                      to send a complete report to the Mayo Clinic of Rochester in the care of                     

I have asked also that he send directly to                      a professional release allowing that complete information be given to anyone whom Your Excellency may designate. In this way Your Excellency can inform yourself more directly and perhaps more completely than Robert could in his letter of February 24th. You may decide, however, that our own judgement of experience here is of greater importance. I do, therefore, repeat that he has shown himself capable of leading a very active life during his years at the College. I am convinced that he is spiritually and psychologically able to continue endurance of the pain from his ailment in the degree in which he now suffers it. Should his condition, therefore, even not improve, I expect that he would contribute really active service without the need or danger that he over-favpr himself.

If, therefore, Your Excellency should decide to call Robert Taylor to Major Orders, permit me to ask that you complete with signature, date and seal the enclosed form of Dimissorial Letters. It is the expressed wish of the Vicariate of Rome that the enclosed form be employed in preference to any other. Dispensation from the prescript of Canon 976 par. 2 would be requested in your name of the Sacred Congregation of Seminaries and Universities of Studies so that Mr. Taylor may be ordained to the Priesthood in December. He was baptised in St. Adrian's Church, Adrian, Minnesota, on June 15th 1930.

With kindest personal regards and every good wish, I remain

Faithfully yours in Christ



Martin J. O'Connor  
Rector

RT



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO, 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

March 18, 1956

March 18, 1956

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

I received your letter of March 5, and was greatly encouraged by your suggestions. By now I presume you have notification of my reception of the last two Minor Orders.

In several days you will also receive a letter from the Rector, Bishop O'Connor, concerning his recommendation for a Call to Orders, and discussing further various aspects of my health.

In my discussions with the faculty, it was decided, as will be explained in the Rector's letter, that I send a full Medical and Professional Release to the Mayo Clinic in favor of yourself. I have also decided to discuss the matter with your convenience should you wish to discuss it with him.

As you will remember from my previous letter, the doctor in Belgium said that from six to eight weeks would elapse before any definite signs of progress could be perceived. As you know, treatment in orthopedics is slow and I will have to be patient before expecting a complete recovery. In general, however, I am good, and I am happy and content.

Asking your Excellency to please accept a priest of the Diocese of Winona with

Your Excellency's obedient servant  
In Christ,

Respectfully yours,

Robert A. Taylor

Most Rev. Edward A. Fitzgerald  
Bishop of Winona





NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS :  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

March 20th 1956

His Excellency  
Post Box, Number 1, Pittsford, N.Y.  
Diocese of Winona  
275 Main Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

Given  
me your letter of March 20, 1956 to his and your Episcopal  
Letters in favor of Robert H. Taylor that he may receive  
Major Orders. I am very glad that you have seen fit to give  
him this call since I have learned to hold him in high esteem.

Your Excellency will be informed  
when the Orders have been conferred.

With sentiments of respect and  
esteem and with personal good wishes, I am

Yours respectfully in Christ

Rt. Rev. Mess. Francis F. Reb  
Vice Rector

RT000052

RT

March 20, 1956

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Martin J. O'Connor, D. D.  
Rector, North American College  
Via del Gianicolo, 14  
Vatican City

Dear Bishop O'Connor,

I thank you for your detailed letter of March 16 in regard to the physical condition of Robert Taylor. I was aware of his ailment when I sent him to the North American College because the Mayo Clinic had stated that in their judgment he was fully capable of carrying on his work.

In view of the fact that he has manifested a splendid spirit, I am enclosing herewith a Dimissorial Letter for his ordination in accordance with the program which is customarily followed at the North American College.

I pray that God may bless him and, if it be His Holy Will, restore him to complete health.

With kindest regards, I beg to remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

enc.

RT000214

RT

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE (EUROPE)

VIA DEL GIANICOLO, 14  
R O M E



March 18, 1956

March 23, 1956

Your Excellency,  
The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.,  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

I received your letter of March 5, and was greatly encouraged by your suggestions. By now I presume you have received notification of my reception of the last two Minor

Dear

I am enclosing herewith a release which I have received from the Rector, Robert A. Taylor of America, at present a theological student at the North American College in Rome. Since he has had treatment for a back ailment at the Mayo Clinic under your direction, I will appreciate very much, if you will give me a confidential report as to his future physical condition insofar as you may be able to diagnose it. He is bearing the close of his theological studies and a permanent decision on my part is necessary concerning his ordination to the priesthood. As you will remember from my previous letter, the doctor in Belgium said that from six to eight weeks would elapse before he informed me that he has at your suggestion received a new physical examination from a doctor in Paris and that he was having that doctor send you a report to be added to the Clinic findings.

If it would be more convenient for you, I could designate a priest of the Diocese to discuss this matter with you.

Your Excellency's obedient servant,  
Thanking you, I am

*Robert A. Fitzgerald*  
Sincerely yours,

Most Rev. Edward A. Fitzgerald  
Bishop of Winona



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14  
ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS :  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

March 29th 1956

His Excellency  
Most Rev. Edward A. Fitzgerald D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

Bishop O'Connor has given me your letter of March 20, 1956 to him and your Dimissorial Letters in favor of Robert H. Taylor that he may receive Major Orders. I am very glad that you have seen fit to give him this call since I have learned to hold him in high esteem.

Your Excellency will be informed when the Orders have been conferred.

With sentiments of respect and esteem and with personal good wishes, I am

Your servant in Christ

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis F. Reh  
Vice Rector

# MAYO CLINIC

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

Copy of letter received April 26, 1956, from Dr. M. Vandemoortele  
3 Martelaarsleaan  
Ghent, Belgium

dated: March 30, 1956

quote:

Dr. Paul R. Lipscomb, M. D.  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Doctor Lipscomb:

On the request of Mr. Robert H. Taylor of Adrian, Minnesota, now living in Rome, I send you a report concerning the state of health of your patient.

He entered my service at the Hospital on the last days of December, 1955, for a general check-up.

At that time he was complaining of general fatigue and weakness in the low back area. On examination: muscle tenderness and pain in the circumscribed lumbosacral region. No pain in the upper lumbar region. No muscle spasm.

The agglutination test for brucellosis was 1:40. X-rays showed evidence of a gradual calcification of the lesion located in the upper front portion of the second lumbar vertebra with a narrowing of the space between the first and second vertebra. When comparing with the previous x-rays (sent from the Mayo Clinic) I can see no remarkable change except for the calcification of the lesion. All the other tests were normal.

It was felt that the lumbosacral type of pain was more caused by fatigue than by any recurrence of activity of the old infection.

He was fitted with a light lumbosacral belt. This worked out quite satisfactorily, and, I hope will give him a good support on the wooden benches of the North American College.

I thank you again for all the previous information you sent me about Mr. Taylor's case.....unquote.

Yours very truly,

(signed)  
M. Vandemoortele

RT000497

RT

April 28, 1956

Dear Doctor

I wish to thank you for your kindness in sending me the report concerning Robert Taylor, including your letter of April 10 and also the letter sent by the doctor from

I am satisfied with this report and have notified the authorities at the Seminary in Rome that Mr. Taylor may continue with his studies for the priesthood.

Very sincerely yours,

Bishop of Winona

RT000218

RT



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS :  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)  
June 15th 1956

His Excellency  
Most Rev. Edward L. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

In his letter of March 16th, 1956 the Most Reverend Rector described to you at length the medical history of your student, Robert H. Taylor, in addition to the other signs of vocation to the priesthood in reference to a call to Major Orders. We were happy to have the reply of Your Excellency of March 20th advising us that you were aware of Mr. Taylor's ailment and your Dimissorial Letters which would call him for the Sub-diaconate on July 15th with his class.

Before leaving on his retreat Bishop O'Connor instructed me to write you now regarding Mr. Taylor. Some time after the receipt of your Dimissorial Letters he did not seem quite well and he was directed to the care of a physician. It seems that he was experiencing a nervous exhaustion which may or may not be connected with his back ailment. Under the care of this physician he has since improved greatly and it is our thought that rest this summer will restore his nervous system to good status.

There would seem to be no change in respect to the condition described in detail in the Rector's letter of March 16th. It is quite likely that anxiety regarding the outcome of the examination to which he submitted in Ghent last January with the general strain of concern whether he might be permitted to continue to the priesthood could have been the cause of the nervous exhaustion he has experienced. He has, as I have already mentioned, improved considerably and is presently preparing for his final examinations. It has been the judgement of the physician, however, with which Mr. Taylor concurs, that

./.

RT000219

RT

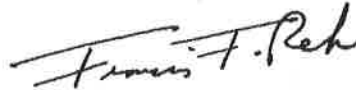
- 2 -

it might not be advisable to rush him now to the Subdiaconate on July 15th. The Rector has agreed that if he so wishes he may instead decide upon taking this Order later on, perhaps in September, after he has had the opportunity for rest during the vacation period. Instead of travelling he will remain for the four weeks allotted him in the healthful atmosphere of Lugano, Switzerland, to obtain more rest.

May I ask therefore, for the Most Reverend Rector your decision regarding the postponement of his Sub-diaconate by Mr. Taylor. It was thought at first that he might even gain more rest if Your Excellency would allow him to return home for the summer. Mr. Taylor, however, has indicated that he will obtain more restful benefit in Lugano and later at our Villa than he would in the environment of his home.

With sentiments of respect and esteem and personal good wishes, I am

Your servant in Christ



Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis F. Reh  
Vice Rector

RT000220



RT

June 22, 1956

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis F. Reh  
Vice Rector, North American College  
Via del Gianicolo, 14  
Vatican City

Dear Monsignor Reh,

I thank you for your letter of June 15 with the detailed information concerning the health of Robert Taylor.

I had heard some reports concerning the fact that he probably was not as well as he had been, but I was hoping and praying that it might not be so serious as to prevent his advancement to the holy priesthood. I am happy to read in your letter that it is the hope of the doctor and the officials of the College that a summer's rest will help to restore his health. I sincerely hope so because he certainly has all other qualities essential for a vocation to the holy priesthood.

I approve of the postponement of reception of the subdiaconate on July 15 to a later date and will concur in whatever decision you may make concerning him.

I wish that you would assure Robert of our deep concern for him and of our prayers that his health may be restored sufficiently so that he may be ordained with his class in December.

With kindest regards and many thanks for the information which you have sent me, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000221

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)



Dear Sir,

July 18, 1956

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota.

Mr. Robert Taylor  
Casa San Basilio  
Via del Paradiso  
Lugano, Switzerland

Dear Robert,

Your Excellency,

I was very pleased to receive your letter today with further details concerning my health. I am glad to hear you are well and that you have been able to keep your faith. I remember that you proposed to go to Rome in 1955. I had hoped that in about two months you would be able to return. I had seen the doctor when he came this summer. I had been informed you had returned. At that time there was no marked improvement, I consulted the faculty as to the advisability of postponement of the subdiaconate for a two-fold reason. Firstly, in my own physical condition it seemed to be a matter of prudence. Secondly, because of the obscurity and inaccessibility of the case, I would have been extremely difficult to find. I had just received your letter with enough data so that you could make a judgment. The opinion of the faculty was that the condition had altered sufficiently since their letter of about March. I had been informed you had received further orders.

I pray that God will help you and I hope that recovery has not been satisfactory. In fact, it seemed to be a matter of prudence that the malady was becoming more serious toward the end of April. I, then, underwent a physician's care here in Rome. At this point that I consulted the faculty and requested a postponement of the subdiaconate. I wrote shortly thereafter that it was my opinion that I was suffering from complete nervous exhaustion possibly because of the strain and tension coming from the stress and not a serious one. The doctor prescribed some medicine and a recuperation. He felt that I was very weak and my nervous system was operating at too rapid a pace. However, the postponement of the subdiaconate was a very good idea. My prescription was a new drug called hydrocortisone, which, correctly, is closely allied to Cortisone. Its main purpose was to alleviate some of the muscular spasm in my back to reactivate them with proper muscle tone. This latter treatment was so successful that I was able to study for all my exams and quite happily passed them.

Bishop of Winona

RT



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

However in the latter days of June, I was again feeling quite weak, but managed to take my final exam on the third of July.

The following day I again returned to the physician and he admitted that he had kept me on the Tolseron prescription not necessarily too long, but rather with too strong a dosage, with the consequence that it did have a draining and wearing effect on the body. He said, however, that I could make the subdiaconate retreat, which we completed last Saturday, (with as retreat master).

In summary, it seems that no definite decision should be made at this time. My plans for the summer are to vacation at a rest home in Switzerland. I had originally requested extra time but the Rector asked me to withdraw it, possibly a sign that he thinks that after a month's rest, things will be considerably improved.

In case you should desire to deem it necessary to contact me, my address will be the Casa San Brigida, Via del Paradiso, Lugano, Switzerland. I will be there from the 20th of July to the 13th of August.

Despite the difficulties, the year has passed swiftly and quite busily. Yesterday I received the Subdiaconate and will receive the Priesthood on December 16th.

I want to thank Your Excellency for all your consideration and kindness shown me, and especially through the past year. Because of the distance it is difficult to always express precisely all the aspects of the problem, yet this has been greatly overcome by your generous confidence in the faculty and myself. I shall try to persevere and have patience by using all due precaution this summer.

I ask Your Excellency's blessing and your prayers that God will see fit to give me the necessary light to make a decisive judgment in the fall.

Your Excellency's obedient servant  
in Christ,

*Robert H. Taylor*

RT000223

RT

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANNICOLA 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)



July 18, 1956

July 24, 1956

Mr. Robert Taylor  
Casa San Brigida  
Via del Paradiso  
Lugano, Switzerland

The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.,  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Robert,

I was very pleased to receive your letter today with further information concerning your health. I am happy to hear that you are improving and I trust that the vacation in Switzerland may restore your health completely and that you may be relieved of any undue worry so that you may have the grace to persevere in your desire for ordination. I hope to have a visit with you when he comes this summer, and he perhaps can give me further information concerning you. I have been grateful to the Rector and Vice-Rector for their careful attention in sending me details concerning your health, and I am willing to abide entirely by their decision in this matter.

I had a report from Dr. [Name] in Rochester in which he stated that he did not see why there should be any physical disability, and it probably can be relieved if your nerves are adjusted. You perhaps have been under a strain because of worry concerning your condition and the fact of whether you should persevere or not. I hope that during this month of rest you will be completely relaxed and leave yourself entirely in the hands of God.

I pray that God may help you and I am sure that He will. Everything in the diocese is progressing nicely and my health is improving so that I have been able to resume my customary activities and program.

I have assigned [Name] to attend the North American College this year and I believe that he plans to leave the States early in September. I am sure that he will make a splendid addition to the Winonans who are already there. The prospects for the tenants at the Seminary this year are very good. In fact, we have fourteen applications at this time and a few others that are possible. I am looking forward to the ordination of your class so that they will help us in the diocese in 1957.

With kindest regards, I remain  
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona



OFFICE OF THE RECTOR

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO, 14

R O M E

POSTAL ADDRESS :  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

July 26, 1956

Your Excellency,

The following observations on your student Mr. Robert H. Taylor may be useful both as a record and a reference for the future:

He continues to be most sincere and earnest in the fulfillment of his duties as a student for the priesthood. He has done satisfactory work in all his studies at the University. Is most respectful, cooperative and willing. As Your Excellency has already been informed, Mr. Taylor still suffers from a serious back ailment and it has been decided to postpone his reception of the subdiaconate.

I am enclosing the scholastic record of your student for this year.

With deepest esteem and every good wish, I remain

Faithfully yours,

Rector

RT000053



Pontificium Collegium  
Foederatarum Americae Civitatum  
de Urbe

Hiscе litteris fidem facimus atque testamur

Dominum ..... ROBERTUM A. TAYLOR .....

ad ..... SUBDIACONATUM .....

promotum fuisse die ..... xxii ..... mensis ..... septembris ..... anni ..... 1956 .....

in ..... Ecclesia S. Marcelli ..... Romae .....

ab ..... Excmo. ac Rmo. Aloysio Traglia, Vicesgerente .....

Baptizatus est in Ecclesia Sancti Hadrianus, xv junii, 1930  
Adrian, Minnesota

Datum Romae,

Apud aedes Collegii

die ..... i ..... mensis ..... octobris ..... anni ..... 1956 .....

S. S.

*Rw. Robert J. Miller*

A. ViceRector

October 24, 1956

Dear

In case you have not received notification from Rome, we wish to inform you that Robert Taylor received the order of Subdiaconate in Rome, Italy, on September 22, 1956. This fact should be noted in the baptismal record of St. Adrian's.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000055



Pontificium Collegium  
Foederatarum Americae Civitatum  
de Urbe

Hisce litteris fidem facimus atque testamur

Dominum ..... ROBERTUM H. TAYLOR .....

ad ..... DIACONATUM .....

promotum fuisse die xxviiimensis octobris ..... anni 1956

in ..... Ecclesia Scti. Marcelli, Romae .....

ab ..... Excmo. ac Rmo. Hectore Cunial, Vicesgerente II<sup>o</sup> .....

Datum Romae.

Apud aedes Collegii

die ..... ii ..... mensis ..... novembris ..... anni ..... 1956 .....

E. S.

Vice Rector



Thank You

Adrian Minn.

11/15-56

Dear Bishop Fitzgerald,

We want you to know that we are planning to attend our son's ordination in Rome on Dec. 16. He will leave the latter part of Nov.

is going to make the trip with us.

We are mindful of the many kindnesses you have given to Bob; and we shall always be grateful to you.

We will pray for you and your many intentions during our days in Europe.

With loyalty & great respect for you we remain,  
Sincerely,

December 7, 1956

Dear Father Taylor,

I am happy to be able to salute you with the above salutation because of your ordination on December 16. On that day I shall remember you in a particular manner at Holy Mass and pray that God may grant you renewed good health and much happiness.

I welcome you as the 177th priest on the present rolls of the Diocese of Winona and look forward with much pleasure to your return from Rome for active work in the Diocese next July.

On the morning of December 16 you will have received the powers of the Holy Priesthood of Jesus Christ, Who has said to you, "Iam non dicam vos servos sed amicos." You will have imparted to your good father, mother and sister your first priestly blessings as a partial reward to them for their guidance, prayers and sacrifices that have made your ordination possible. I am sure that they are filled with joy and happiness because henceforth they will have a priest son and brother to offer Masses for them.

I pray that God may grant you an abundance of blessings and the strength to do His work in this Diocese of Winona.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I beg to remain

Sincerely your Bishop in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

Reverend Robert A. Taylor  
North American College  
Vatican City

RT



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

Dec. 7, 1956

His Excellency,  
The Most Rev. Edward Fitzgerald, D. D.  
Bishop of Winona  
Winona, Minnesota  
Your Excellency,

Ordination day is now less than ten days away and from all present appearances, the long anticipated day will be soon realized. With the condition of my health earlier this year, and then more recently, the international incidents, many times the day of ordination seemed doubtful.

My health has held its ground very well since my month long rest in Switzerland this past summer. I returned in the best condition I had been in for over a year and a half. Now after we are well into the school year, and even with all the additional preparations for ordination, I can say that I feel that an almost complete recovery has been realized. By following the instructions of the doctor regarding diet, rest and moderate exercise, and by using the proper precautions, I have experienced no difficulty for some time. However, the most quelling part of the year is before me, but I have no fears.

My parents were due to leave home toward the end of November and travel through Spain and Portugal before their arrival in Rome on the 14<sup>th</sup> just to see them

RT000225

RT



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

will be a relief after their serious accident this past summer. They will return to the U.S. about the first week of the New Year.

spoke to me this morning about the possibility of them bringing back a sword for since [unclear] has very little luggage, there will be no problem.

This past week I gave my thesis at the University with [unclear] as moderator and advisor. It was a study and rebuttal of the reasons usually adduced for legalized prostitution. Recent medical and social literature seems to point to many fallacies in the arguments. The main objection was from authority, namely St. Thomas & St. Augustine. But St. Thomas answered his objection in the oft quoted "The weakest argument is that of authority."

[unclear] has made an excellent adjustment to the routine of Rome and our College. Altho' mine all the Winonans are well and send their greetings. The doctor with whom I was speaking a short time ago asked to be remembered to you.

Retreat will begin on Monday. I beg Your Excellency's prayers and blessings so that in these final days of preparation, God may shower me with every grace.

Your Excellency's obedient  
servant in Christ  
Robert Taylor

RT000226

**Diocese of Winona**

275 HARRIET STREET

Winona, Minnesota

In account with Reverend Robert A. Taylor

Since the Diocese of Winona has expended \$3,600 at North American College towards my education to the Priesthood, I promise to repay to the Diocese of Winona within five years the sum of \$600 to assist others in preparation for the Priesthood.

Date July 10, 1957

Signed Robert A. Taylor

N.B. A discount of 15% will be allowed on the above if paid in full before September 1, 1957.

(Return this form properly signed to the Chancery, Box 115, Winona, Minnesota.)

RT000515

## DECLARATIO

propria manu subscribenda a Candidatis in singulis sacris Ordinibus  
suscipiendis, iuramento coram Ordinario praestito <sup>1</sup>

Ego subsignatus Robertus Taylor

cum petitionem Episcopo exhibuerim pro recipiendo ~~subdito~~  
~~ritu~~ ~~(seu x d i c t o r i a x x x x x x)~~ presbyteratus), Ordine, sacra instante  
Ordinatione, ac diligenter re perpensa coram Deo, iuramento  
interposito, testificor in primis, nulla me coactione seu vi, nec  
ullo impelli timore in recipiendo eodem sacro Ordine, sed ipsum  
sponte exoptare, ac plena liberaque voluntate eundem velle, cum  
experiar ac sentiam a Deo me esse revera vocatum.

Fateor mihi plene esse cognita cuncta onera caeteraque  
ex eodem sacro Ordine dimanantia, quae sponte suscipere volo  
ac propono, eaque toto meae vitae curriculo, Deo opitulante,  
diligentissime servare constituo.

Praecipue quae caelibatus lex importet clare me percipere  
ostendo, eamque libenter explere atque integre servare usque  
ad extremum, Deo adiutore, firmiter statuo.

Denique sincera fide spondeo iugiter me fore, ad normam  
ss. Canonum, obtemperaturum obsequentissime iis omnibus quae  
mei praecipient Praepositi, et Ecclesiae disciplina exiget, paratum  
virtutum exempla praebere sive opere sive sermone, adeo ut de  
tanti officii susceptione remunerari a Deo merear.

Sic spondeo, sic voveo, sic iuro, sic me Deus adiuvet et  
haec Sancta Dei Evangelia, quae manibus meis tango.

Romae die 13 mensis decembris anni 1956



(Manu propria)

*Robert Taylor*

<sup>1</sup> Iuxta instructionem S. Congregationis de Disciplina Sacramentorum, die xxvii mensis  
decembris an. MDCCLXXX.

*In fidem: Francis Rah*

Libreria Editrice Vaticana - 5000 - VII - 49

RT



Pontificium Collegium  
Foederatarum Americae Civitatum  
de Urbe

Hiscе litteris fidem facimus atque testamur

Dominum ..... ROBERTUM H. TAYLOR .....

ad ..... PRESBYTERATUM .....

promotum fuisse die ..xvi.. mensis ..decembris.. anni ..1956

in oratorio principali Pont. Coll. Foed. Americae Civitatum, Romae

ab Excmo. ac Rmo. Martino J. O'Connor, Episcopo Tit. Thespiensi

Datum Romae.

Apud aedes Collegii

die ..xvii.. mensis ..decembris..... anni ..1956.....

E. S.

Vice Rector

RT000061



RT



NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14

ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

Feb. 10, 1957

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

I am returning the promissary note signed and dated as you requested. I shall take care of the matter upon my return next summer.

I am assuming that you did not receive my letter of gratitude sent some time ago. May I simply reiterate my thanks to God and to you for the great gift of Holy Orders. I think we are often tempted to look upon them as achievements, but once one has attained them, we begin to see how truly great a gift and grace has been bestowed.

Because of the difficulties entailed in obtaining boat passage next summer, we have been advised to reserve as soon as possible. The examinations at the Gregorian will begin on June 17th and continue, in alphabetical order, until about July 4th. We have consulted with \_\_\_\_\_ and have arrived at the following tentative schedule. The first convenient boat for \_\_\_\_\_ and on which he has made reservations disembarks on July 1st. Because my name comes up late in the alphabet, the most convenient boat for me is about July 10th. I will arrive in New York on July 17th. Because of obligations to my relatives in the East, I would like about a week before returning to Winona. This should bring to Winona about July 23rd and to Adrian on the 24th.

*approved*  
Upon your approval and correction of this schedule I shall write to \_\_\_\_\_ requesting a convenient date for the First Solemn Mass in Adrian.

My health continues to be excellent- not only in comparison to this previous year but also considered "in se". No doubt that the real test will come in these next strenuous months studying for the degree. If any complications should arise, I shall inform Your Excellency.

Your Excellency's obedient  
servant in Christ,

*Robert Taylor*  
Robert Taylor

*See 7/16/57*

*Appointment in August*

RT000062

RT



OFFICE OF THE RECTOR

NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

VIA DEL GIANICOLO 14  
ROME

POSTAL ADDRESS :  
VATICAN CITY (EUROPE)

May 21st 1957

His Excellency  
Most Rev. Edward A. Fitzgerald D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

Permit me to inform you that your student, the Reverend Robert H. Taylor, ordained to the priesthood last December, is eligible for the degree of Licentiate in Sacred Theology. He is presently preparing for the comprehensive examinations for this degree which he will take next month.

I do not know what Your Excellency may have in mind with regard to further study for Father Taylor, but it is our judgment that he will succeed in his examinations and that he is able to do postgraduate work here in Rome. During his course he has maintained a very good average in his studies.

If, therefore, Your Excellency should decide to have him do further study in any particular field here, we would be pleased to accept him in the priests residence hall of the American College on the Via dell'Umiltà. I would be grateful if you would let me know your wishes in this matter and I shall be happy to supply you with any further information which you may desire regarding postgraduate work.

If Father Taylor is to be assigned to Rome for further study, we would strongly recommend, as we do for all, that he be permitted to return home to his own diocese for the summer. Experience has shown that this brings spiritual, mental and physical benefit to the student.

Assuring you that it will be a pleasure to be of assistance in any way possible, I remain

Faithfully yours in Christ

Martin J. O'Connor  
Rector

RT000063

RT

May 27, 1957

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Martin J. O'Connor, D. D.  
Rector, North American College  
Via del Gianicolo, 14  
Vatican City

Dear Bishop O'Connor,

I have received your letters in regard to Fathers Conway and Taylor who are eligible for the degree of Licentiate in Theology. I hope that they may be successful in their examinations, but I trust that they will not be unduly worried about them as the degree is not an absolute requirement as far as I am concerned.

I do not plan to have them continue with graduate work at the present time as I believe that parochial experience is a valuable asset to any priest. I will, therefore, assign them as assistants in parish work and most likely will use them partly as teachers in our high schools.

I presume you have already received my letter in regard to whom I have assigned for graduate study in Rome this year. I trust that you will have space available for him, and I know that he will be most successful.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I beg to remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000064

RT

July 8, 1957

Reverend Robert H. Taylor, S.T.L.  
Adrian, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I am pleased to welcome you back to America and to the Diocese of Winona and to congratulate you on your successful passing of the examinations for the Licentiate degree. I am also pleased to be able at this time to appoint you to be assistant to \_\_\_\_\_ at St. John's Church in Rochester as of August 13.

I am sure that you will be most zealous in co-operating with him and the other priests in the spiritual development of that parish and in the care of the sick at the hospitals in downtown Rochester.

With kindest regards and best wishes for your success, I beg to remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000065

July 12, 1957

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that the Reverend Robert A. Taylor, Adrian, Minnesota, is an ordained priest of the Diocese of Winona. He is authorized to assist at marriages according to the ecclesiastical canons of the Roman Catholic Church.

---

Bishop of Winona



R.M.S. Washington D.C.

July 22, 1957

Holland-America Line

His Excellency,  
 The Most Reverend E. G. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
 Bishop of Winona  
 275 Harriet St.  
 Winona, Minn.

Your Excellency,

From one hot continent to another hot continent, is not much change, but at least our eight days at sea were cool, restful and pleasant. The first days out were upon very rough seas, but fortunately I was tired from the studies and packing that I slept most of the time. We were five in our group from the college, but the boat was loaded with monks and priests returning after their studies. Our group received some sad news at sea, as one Father from Tulsa, Oklahoma was notified by radio-telegram that his father died. As soon as we arrived in New York harbor, they came to take him to the airport and he flew home for the funeral. We made the other arrangements for him - baggage, customs etc.

When I arrived in New York I also received some pleasant news - almost a surprise. I left Rome so quickly after the exam



R.M.S. page 2

Holland-America Line

that the official results were not yet returned from the exams. Even now it is not really official but I passed. I say it was quite pleasant news because, even though, I did not believe that I would have any serious difficulty, I actually thought I had flunked. Just wasn't my day, so I am quite grateful and relieved.

Although I will be in Wisconsin sometime Thursday, I want to express my sincere thanks and gratitude for the opportunity to study abroad, as well as for the encouragement shown during days when my vocation was in question. I do hope that I can show my gratitude by a faithful and obedient service to you and the Service.

I will be spending these next several days with relatives here in the East; then on Wednesday I will fly to New York, and take a train to Wisconsin on Thursday.

With gratitude, I remain  
your Excellency's obedient  
servant in Christ.

Robert H. Taylor

The Church of Saint John

415 FIRST STREET S. W.

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

August 19. 1957

His Excellency,  
The Most Reverend E. A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet St.  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency,

I am enclosing a check for \$510.00 (five hundred ten dollars) in full payment to the diocese for my education. I have left the check blank as I am not certain what fund this is payable.

Again my thanks for the opportunity afforded me to study in Rome. Only years can make me realize how small a repayment this is.

Your Excellency's humble and  
obedient servant,

*Robert H. Taylor*  
Robert H. Taylor

RT000069

RT



RT

APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION  
TO PURCHASE AN AUTOMOBILE

CHANCERY  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

I hereby request permission in accordance with Diocesan Statute #63 to purchase an automobile for use in performing necessary parochial duties as an assistant pastor.

1. What parochial duties require the use of an automobile?

Sick Calls and general parochial duties

2. Is there any other automobile that can be used for such purposes? No

3. Approximate cost of purchase of an auto? \$ \$800.00

4. How much money do you have available in cash for such purchase?

\$ \$800.00

5. How do you plan to finance an unpaid balance? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you any other financial indebtedness or obligations? No

If so, how much? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that if the permission is granted, the auto shall be used for necessary parochial duties.

Date August 28, 1957

Signed

Robert H. Taylor

PERMISSION FROM PASTOR

I certify that the foregoing answers to the questions are correct and I approve of his plan to purchase an automobile for parochial work. The parish will reimburse him by payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month for such use of an auto in performing his parochial duties (Diocesan Statute #266).

James O. Day  
Pastor

RT000070

RT

August 30, 1957

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Church of St. John  
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I am pleased to grant you permission to purchase an auto for use in your parochial duties. I am pleased to see that you are purchasing a used car which I think is very sensible for any young priest starting out.

With kindest regards and best wishes,  
I beg to remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000071

RT

August 3, 1960

Reverend Robert H. Taylor, S.T.L.  
Church of St. John  
Rochester, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I am herewith appointing you to be full-time instructor at Cotter High School, Winona, and assistant at St. Stanislaus Church where you will reside and help insofar as the assignments do not conflict with your work at Cotter High School, effective as of August 30.

You will receive compensation of \$60.00 a month from Cotter High School, including transportation expense, for ten months, and an assistant's salary from St. Stanislaus for the months of July and August since you will be full-time assistant during those months.

I am sure that you will be most faithful in the discharge of your duties as a teacher at Cotter and help whom I have appointed as Headmaster.

With kindest regards and appreciation for the faithful services you have given at St. John's in Rochester, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000072

RT

May 25, 1961

**Reverend Robert H. Taylor, S.T.L.  
St. Stanislaus Church  
Winona, Minnesota**

**Dear Father Taylor,**

I am herewith transferring you from your duties at Cotter High School and as assistant at St. Stanislaus Church in Winona to be a member of the faculty of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary and St. Mary's College in Winona effective as of June 26 when you will register for summer school classes at St. Mary's College Graduate School. I also direct that you attend the Workshop for Teachers at St. Mary's College June 9-17.

Because of a conflict of dates I herewith transfer you from the retreat of June 12 to the retreat of June 19.

If you wish you to do so, you may remain in residence at St. Stanislaus rectory during the summer schools which will end on August 4 to assist with daily Masses and part-time confessions insofar as they do not interfere with your class work and your preparation for such. If you remain at St. Stanislaus, I will expect that you will be remunerated with an assistant's salary by the Church during June and July.

I am enclosing herewith a diocesan check of \$150 to cover: Workshop fee (with religious discount) \$65.00; tuition for summer session (with religious discount) \$90.00; registration fee \$10.00; breakage fee \$5.00; and another check of \$25.00 to cover transportation expenses.

Wishing you blessings and success in your new assignment which is of extreme importance because it deals directly with the formation of our future priests of the diocese and future Catholic leaders of college students, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000073

May 25, 1961

Reverend Robert H. Taylor, S.T.L.  
St. Stanislaus Church  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I am herewith transferring you from your duties at Cotter High School and as assistant at St. Stanislaus Church in Winona to be a member of the faculty of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary and St. Mary's College in Winona effective as of June 26 when you will register for summer school classes at St. Mary's College Graduate School. I also direct that you attend the Workshop for Teachers at St. Mary's College June 9-17.

Because of a conflict of dates I herewith transfer you from the retreat of June 12 to the retreat of June 19.

If Monsignor Grulkowski wishes you to do so, you may remain in residence at St. Stanislaus rectory during the summer schools which will end on August 4 to assist with daily Masses and part-time confessions insofar as they do not interfere with your class work and your preparation for such. If you remain at St. Stanislaus, I will expect that you will be remunerated with an assistant's salary by the Church during June and July.

I am enclosing herewith a diocesan check of \$150 to cover: Workshop fee (with religious discount) \$65.00; tuition for summer session (with religious discount) \$90.00; registration fee \$10.00; breakage fee \$5.00; and another check of \$25.00 to cover transportation expenses.

Wishing you blessings and success in your new assignment which is of extreme importance because it deals directly with the formation of our future priests of the diocese and future Catholic leaders of college students, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

cc: Msgr. Grulkowski  
Msgr. Speltz

RT000456

RT

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

Terrace Heights  
WINONA, MINNESOTA

June 1, 1961

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet St.  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency:

I wish to thank Your Excellency for the assignment of Father Robert Taylor to the faculty of the Seminary and the College. The Seminary faculty welcomes the added member and feels that he will be a competent and energetic teacher.

From a telephone conversation with Your Excellency of about a week ago, I understand that the question whether Father Taylor will begin his work for an M.A. in Latin this coming year, or will wait until the following, is not necessarily settled by your May 25 letter of appointment.

From the viewpoint of his preparation as a teacher, I am inclined to think it would be advantageous for Father Taylor to have the experience of teaching for one year prior to his graduate work. \_\_\_\_\_ has assured me that he can arrange a schedule of classes for him this next year, including a six-hour course in Intermediate Latin and a section of the seminarian course in Religion. For some time the College has felt that Father Galles' large class (about 55) should be divided. However, if Your Excellency prefers to have Father Taylor get a year of graduate work first, I am sure the College can get along without his help next year. The dean has not indicated any urgent need for him, but simply that he could use him to good advantage.

I hope it may be possible when Father Taylor comes, this year or next, to have him in residence at the Seminary. I do feel that I need his help and that he, himself, would gain from residence at the Seminary.

Father Taylor tells me that in accordance with the provision in his letter of appointment he will be staying at St. Stanislaus this summer.

With all reverence and esteem for Your Excellency,  
I remain

Sincerely in Christ,

RT000074

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

Terrace Heights  
WINONA, MINNESOTA

June 1, 1961

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet St.  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency:

I wish to thank Your Excellency for the assignment of Father Robert Taylor to the faculty of the Seminary and the College. The Seminary faculty welcomes the added member and feels that he will be a competent and energetic teacher.

From a telephone conversation with Your Excellency of about a week ago, I understand that the question whether Father Taylor will begin his work for an M.A. in Latin this coming year, or will wait until the following, is not necessarily settled by your May 25 letter of appointment.

From the viewpoint of his preparation as a teacher, I am inclined to think it would be advantageous for Father Taylor to have the experience of teaching for one year prior to his graduate work. Brother Julius, dean, has assured me that he can arrange a schedule of classes for him this next year, including a six-hour course in Intermediate Latin and a section of the seminarian course in Religion. For some time the College has felt that Father Galles' large class (about 55) should be divided. However, if Your Excellency prefers to have Father Taylor get a year of graduate work first, I am sure the College can get along without his help next year. The dean has not indicated any urgent need for him, but simply that he could use him to good advantage.

I hope it may be possible when Father Taylor comes, this year or next, to have him in residence at the Seminary. I do feel that I need his help and that he, himself, would gain from residence at the Seminary.

Father Taylor tells me that in accordance with the provision in his letter of appointment he will be staying at St. Stanislaus this summer.

With all reverence and esteem for Your Excellency,  
I remain

Sincerely in Christ,

  
Rector

RT000457

RT

July 19, 1961

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Stanislaus Church  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I trust that your summer school has been both enjoyable and intellectually profitable for you.

Since the summer school will be closing in August, you will have permission for the customary vacation allowed, until September 2 when you will report for work as a member of the faculty of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary.

I trust that you may be most successful in your work in assisting in the formation of the seminarians who are preparing for the priesthood.

Asking God's blessing upon you, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000075



RT

October 27, 1961

**Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary's College  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota**

**Dear Father Taylor,**

Since [redacted] will be moving from St. Mary's College to the residence at St. Paul's Church in Minnesota City on October 31, I herewith appoint you as the chaplain for the Christian Brothers at La Salle Hall effective as of November 1.

I am sure that you will continue the fine spiritual work which [redacted] has carried on during the past few years in furnishing inspiration to the Brothers in the development of their spiritual life.

Thanking you, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**Bishop of Winona**

RT000076

October 27, 1961

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary's College  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

Since Father Moudry will be moving from St. Mary's College to the residence at St. Paul's Church in Minnesota City on October 31, I herewith appoint you as the chaplain for the Christian Brothers at La Salle Hall effective as of November 1.

I am sure that you will continue the fine spiritual work which Father Moudry has carried on during the past few years in furnishing inspiration to the Brothers in the development of their spiritual life.

Thanking you, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

cc: Rt. Rev. Msgr. George H. Speltz  
Brother I. Basil, F.S.C.

RT000454

RT

April 18, 1962

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary's College  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I am pleased to appoint you for graduate studies in Greek and Latin at the Catholic University for September in 1962. I have written to the Rector of Caldwell Hall to ask that a room reservation be made for you in that building.

You will kindly make application for admission to the graduate school and have St. Mary's College send them a transcript of your record.

I have also approved of re-  
commendation that you be permitted to register for graduate studies during this summer at the University of Michigan. I will be pleased to receive a statement as to the dates of that summer session.

Wishing you many blessings in your preparation for further work at the Seminary, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

enc.

RT000077

RT

April 18, 1962

Office of the Registrar  
Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

This is to certify that Reverend Robert H. Taylor is a priest in good standing in the Diocese of Winona and has been assigned by me for graduate study at the Catholic University in the department of Latin and Greek.

The Diocese of Winona will be responsible for his tuition and board and room, for which application has been made to the Vice Rector at Caldwell Hall.

*Seal*

Very truly yours,

Bishop of Winona

RT000078

April 18, 1962

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary's College  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I am pleased to appoint you for graduate studies in Greek and Latin at the Catholic University for September in 1962. I have written to the Rector of Caldwell Hall to ask that a room reservation be made for you in that building.

You will kindly make application for admission to the graduate school and have St. Mary's College send them a transcript of your record.

I have also approved of Monsignor Speltz's recommendation that you be permitted to register for graduate studies during this summer at the University of Michigan. I will be pleased to receive a statement as to the dates of that summer session.

Wishing you many blessings in your preparation for further work at the Seminary, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

enc.

RT000455

RT

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

Terrace Heights  
WINONA, MINNESOTA

April 21, 1961<sup>2</sup>

His Excellency,  
The Most Reverend E. A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency:

The Classical Studies Institute at the University of Michigan  
begin on June 25 and continue to August 18, 1962.

Yours obediently,

*Robert H. Taylor*  
(Reverend) Robert H. Taylor

RT000079

RT

April 28, 1962

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary's College  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I am enclosing herewith an acknowledgment of a reservation for you at Caldwell Hall at the Catholic University in Washington, D. C. for 1962-63. I also appoint you at this time to take up your studies in the classical languages, Latin and Greek, at the Catholic University and request that you report there according to the directions from

The Diocese of Winona will be responsible for tuition, board and room and necessary books in connection with the course leading to a master of arts degree.

I have also received your letter indicating the dates for your attendance at the Classical Studies Institute at the University of Michigan June 25 to August 18 and grant you permission to be absent from the diocese for that purpose. I would, however, be pleased to receive information as to your place of residence at the University during that time. I have instructed that the Seminary shall be responsible for your expenses for the summer school.

You will be entitled to the customary vacation during the month of September before you register for the course at Catholic University.

With prayers for your success in your graduate studies,  
I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

enc.

RT000080

RT

December 11, 1962

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Caldwell Hall  
Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

Dear Father Taylor,

Since Christmas is approaching, I am wondering whether you have planned to come back to the Diocese. If so, I will be pleased to assign you to assist at one of the parishes in the west at Christmas.

I trust that your work has been pleasant and profitable. We have returned from Rome with much experience but without too many definite decisions made. However, it is nice to be back in Winona even though the temperature has fallen below zero today.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000081



RT

February 6, 1963

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Caldwell Hall  
Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

Dear Father Taylor,

I was very pleased to receive your interesting and detailed letter concerning your course at C. U. thus far. I am happy to hear that you have successfully completed the first semester and have entered upon your work for the second period.

We are enclosing herewith our check for \$100 to cover cost of texts, etc. which are necessary for your course.

We are at last having spring-like weather after several weeks of extreme cold. Fortunately, we have not had any serious illness and all the priests are at their posts of duty.

With kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

enc.

RT000082

RT

July 12, 1963

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Catholic University of America  
Caldwell Hall  
Washington 17, D. C.

Dear Father Taylor,

We have today deposited to your account No. \_\_\_\_\_ at the Merchants Bank in Winona a check for \$420.15 to cover the invoice of your summer school expenses at the Catholic University.

I am pleased to hear that you have done well in your course work and particularly pleased to hear that you should have your work completed and be eligible for a degree in January, 1964. You may arrange to re-register at the Catholic University in September. We will look forward to your resumption of teaching duties at St. Mary's College and the Seminary for the second semester.

I presume that you will soon be returning home and I will be pleased if you would be able to assist \_\_\_\_\_ until August 20 when \_\_\_\_\_ will report as assistant. I have transferred \_\_\_\_\_ as of July 31, but I do not know just when you will be able to report. It will, however, be after your summer school and your return home.

Everything is moving nicely in the Diocese, and is busy arranging for the coming school year.

With kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000083

July 12, 1963

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Catholic University of America  
Caldwell Hall  
Washington 17, D. C.

Dear Father Taylor,

We have today deposited to your account No. 56-004 at the Merchants Bank in Winona a check for \$420.15 to cover the invoice of your summer school expenses at the Catholic University.

I am pleased to hear that you have done well in your course work and particularly pleased to hear that you should have your work completed and be eligible for a degree in January, 1964. You may arrange to re-register at the Catholic University in September. We will look forward to your resumption of teaching duties at St. Mary's College and the Seminary for the second semester.

I presume that you will soon be returning home and I will be pleased if you would be able to assist Father Glynn at Adrian until August 20 when Father John Wera will report as assistant. I have transferred Father Weidert to Pius X Parish as of July 31, but I do not know just when you will be able to report. It will, however, be after your summer school and your return home.

Everything is moving nicely in the Diocese, and Monsignor McGinnis is busy arranging for the coming school year.

With kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000453

RT

August 12, 1963

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

We have just received a statement from Catholic University accounting department for an invoice totaling \$315 with a credit of \$215 paid July 10, indicating the amount of \$100 still due. In July we received a letter from you stating that you had given the Catholic University a check for \$420.15 and we deposited this amount as you requested to your account in the Merchants Bank.

I wish that you would be able to take care of this matter since they are urgently asking payment of the amount due.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

enc.

RT000084

RT

Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary

Terrace Heights  
WINONA, MINNESOTA

September 3, 1963

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency:

In your letter regarding the bill at Catholic University, you stated that you received a letter from me stating I had given the University a check for \$420.15. I believe I stated that because of a new system of billing it would be simpler for me to pay it rather than have multiple billings to you. This seems to be ascertained by the confusion of the billing.

The first billing was for two courses consisting of four Graduate Hours Credit at \$40.00 each, for a total of \$160.00. There was also a \$5.00 registration fee for a total tuition fee of \$165.00. My room and board at Caldwell was \$150.00, for a total of \$315.00.

The second billing was for \$80.00 for an audit of a course from which I was excused as a requirement but since it is necessary for comprehensive, I was advised to audit it. This audit cost \$80.00 and this plus the \$315.00 gives a total of \$395.00. The difference of \$395.00 and \$420.15 is \$25.15 which was the total, I believe, of my book bill. These various accounts are payable at different offices and when I return to the University I shall investigate the \$100.00 still due to see if it is an oversight or a mistake.

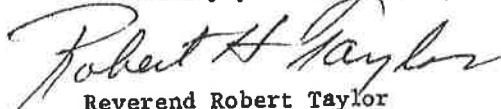
If you so desire, I can send the cancelled checks as well as the transcript of credits as proof of the courses I took this summer.

The work to my degree is progressing very rapidly and I am now in the midst of preparing the final draft for my thesis. According to your wishes I should be able to return to Saint Mary's College in the first part of February 1964. However, in the fall semester I will have certain elective courses and I would like to know whether I should enroll for the terminal degree or whether you expect me to continue my work in the summers. If I enroll as a terminal degree I will have a choice in these electives but should you wish me to continue my work in the summers I will have to take courses which are only offered during the scholastic year.

I would also like to advise you that until I return to the Diocese I find it impossible to continue payment on my Diocesan Development Fund because of the added cost of transportation, books and educational materials and the general higher cost of living in Washington.

I shall be returning to Washington in another two weeks.

Obediently yours in Christ,

  
Reverend Robert Taylor

RT000085

RT

September 5, 1963

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I thank you for your letter of September 3 and am pleased to receive the explanation concerning the account with the Catholic University. I trust that you will be able to straighten it out with them upon your registration for the new semester. It is not necessary for me to receive your canceled checks on this account.

I am pleased to hear of the progress of your work toward the degree and trust that everything will be satisfactorily completed so as to make possible your return to classes at St. Mary's College in February, 1964.

I do not have any plans for you to continue work in the summer toward any degree after the M. A. has been obtained. Therefore you may arrange your registration accordingly and take advantage of elective subjects which may be useful for your future work.

Thank you for the copy of your Will which we have received. We have placed it on file here in the Chancery.

With kindest regards and very best wishes for your success during this coming semester, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000086

The Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

Jan 17, 1964

His Excellency,  
The Most Reverend C. A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
Winona, Minn.

Your Excellency:

Although I will not be eligible for a degree until the June commencement, I think it best to take care of the following charges:

Graduation Fee - \$25.00 and thesis  
Typing fee - 162 pages @ 45 per page +  
10¢ per page for carbon \$89.10

Total \$114.10

you may send this directly to me or deposit it at Merchants, acc't

My tests are over the 30<sup>th</sup> of Jan. I plan to stay here a few days, pack, and make the big drive back late the next week.

I was sorry to hear of the death of

My debt to him will be

forever inestimable.

With Best Regards,

Yours sincerely,  
Fr. Robert Taylor

RT

January 23, 1964

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Caldwell Hall  
Catholic University of America  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Father Taylor,

I am happy to hear that you are completing your work and that you will be able to return shortly after the 30th of January. I have notified the Seminary and St. Mary's College that you will be available for classes during the second semester. They are happy to have you to relieve the problem of adequate instruction for the students. I am also happy to know that you will be back on the faculties of those institutions to give the students the benefit of the educational programs that you have absorbed during the past one and one-half years.

I am enclosing herewith a check for \$150.00 to pay the expenses indicated in your letter and to assist in your transportation expenses on the return journey.

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

enc.

RT000088



RT



# THE NEW CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA, WASHINGTON 17, D.C. Telephone 529-6000

February 6, 1964

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Most Reverend Edward A. Fitzgerald, D.D.  
255 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota

Your Excellency:

I regret very much that a recent death and sickness have made it necessary for Father Robert Taylor to give up his graduate work and begin teaching in the second semester. He told me that it was absolutely necessary for him to leave and he looked forward to his teaching assignment.

Father Taylor received his M.A. recently and was already well embarked on a program toward the doctorate in Greek and Latin and Medieval Studies. He has already completed courses in Greek and Latin Grammar, Methodology and Bibliography, Greek and Latin Composition, Medieval Latin, Ancient History, and courses in Latin authors. Furthermore, he has passed his French and German examinations. It would take him about a year and a half as a minimum to complete his work for the Ph.D. He has further course work to take in both Greek and Latin, followed by comprehensive examinations, and he will have to write a doctoral dissertation. Both in his courses and in his master's dissertation, he has shown that he is a student of superior ability and we recommend definitely that he continue his work for the doctorate.

Accordingly, we would be very happy indeed if it would be possible for Father Taylor to return to the University at a later date to complete his work for the doctorate.

Respectfully yours,

P.S. I am heavily engaged in work on the New Catholic Encyclopedia, but I still give two courses in Greek and Latin, and direct a few doctoral dissertations.

RT000089

RT

February 10, 1964

Professor of Greek and Latin  
Catholic University of America  
Washington 17, D. C.

Dear Doctor

I am very grateful to you for your fine letter of January 6 for the commendations of Father Robert Taylor. Your letter has confirmed my opinion of him and I hope that someday we may permit him to return to the University to complete his work for the doctorate.

At the present time, however, we need his services to provide the important Latin courses for our seminarians. He has always shown himself to be an excellent teacher and I am sure that with the additional training he has received he will be even more effective.

With kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000090

December 5, 1964

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

Monsignor Ryan of Slayton has asked that you help him with the spiritual work at Slayton for Christmas this year. I am happy to assign you to this aid so that you may also be able to visit your home and parents on Christmas Day.

Kindly notify Monsignor Ryan when you will be able to report for confessions.

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

cc: Monsignor Ryan

RT000449

RT

October 2, 1967

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

This is to acknowledge your letter of recent date requesting an appointment with me to speak about problems and programs at the college and seminary.

I am always pleased to welcome any priest at my office when I am here. Customarily I am in the office every day from 8:00 in the morning until 5:00 p.m. unless I have been called to other appointments in the Diocese. Accordingly, whenever it is convenient for you, you may call the office and if I am in the city and present I will be most happy to speak with you as I am always anxious to hear suggestions as to how we might improve our apostolate.

Thanking you for your interest and for your cooperation, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000091

RT

June 6, 1968

Reverend Robert H. Taylor, S.T.L., M.A.  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I thank you for your letter of recent date in regard to the departure of \_\_\_\_\_ from the 18 years of service as instructor and as rector of the Seminary. I appreciate very much your expression of gratitude for the faithful and unselfish service that he has rendered throughout those years. He has left an enduring influence on the many young men who were privileged to be under his guidance and direction during those years, and I am sure that their prayers will continue with him as he moves into the apostolate of pastoral life in a parish.

I fully recognize the deep debt that the Diocese of Winona owes to him in this great work of service in helping to build and develop the priesthood in the Diocese which we now have. More than one-half the priests of the Diocese have passed under his influence; for that we are most grateful.

It is impossible to adequately express in a monetary fashion the appreciation we have for him and his work as well as for all the priests who have served the Seminary. We realize full well that money could not possibly buy such unselfish service, and I am sure that \_\_\_\_\_ is well aware of the high esteem in which he is held by all who know him, and particularly by me, his Bishop.

I would be happy to set up a scholarship in his honor for the family from which he came, but I do not have any funds available for that specific purpose since all the funds I receive, with the exception of those which are specifically marked for the scholarship fund, have been used through the years to meet the heavy expenses of educating seminarians and priests, and particularly furnishing some of the priests with graduate studies

RT000092

RT

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
June 6, 1968  
Page two

which are very necessary to carry on our curriculum.

Any funds that are indicated in the scholarship list as incomplete are specifically indicated by the donor, some of whom plan to and are building up that scholarship through the years by their savings and generous contributions for which we are deeply grateful.

The income only can be used for educational purposes. During the past year the educational program of seminaries and graduate studies for the priests cost \$45,000.00. A large portion of this has come from the Bishop's Lay Committee for Vocations and also from particular donations given to me at various times and places by priests as an expression of their cooperation and desire to help.

I am sure that \_\_\_\_\_ will not be offended at my failure to accept your recommendation to set up a scholarship of that kind.

With gratitude and thanks for your interest and suggestions, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000093

cc: Father Literski

June 6, 1958

Reverend Robert H. Taylor, S.T.L., M.A.  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I thank you for your letter of recent date in regard to the departure of Monsignor McGinnis from the 18 years of service as instructor and as rector of the Seminary. I appreciate very much your expression of gratitude for the faithful and unselfish service that he has rendered throughout those years. He has left an enduring influence on the many young men who were privileged to be under his guidance and direction during those years, and I am sure that their prayers will continue with him as he moves into the apostolate of pastoral life in a parish.

I fully recognize the deep debt that the Diocese of Winona owes to him in this great work of service in helping to build and develop the priesthood in the Diocese which we now have. More than one-half the priests of the Diocese have passed under his influence; for that we are most grateful.

It is impossible to adequately express in a monetary fashion the appreciation we have for him and his work as well as for all the priests who have served the Seminary. We realize full well that money could not possibly buy such unselfish service, and I am sure that Monsignor McGinnis is well aware of the high esteem in which he is held by all who know him, and particularly by me, his Bishop.

I would be happy to set up a scholarship in his honor for the family from which he came, but I do not have any funds available for that specific purpose since all the funds I receive, with the exception of those which are specifically marked for the scholarship fund, have been used through the years to meet the heavy expenses of educating seminarians and priests, and particularly furnishing some of the priests with graduate studies

RT000450

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
June 6, 1968  
Page two

which are very necessary to carry on our curriculum.

Any funds that are indicated in the scholarship list as incomplete are specifically indicated by the donor, some of whom plan to and are building up that scholarship through the years by their savings and generous contributions for which we are deeply grateful.

The income only can be used for educational purposes. During the past year the educational program of seminaries and graduate studies for the priests cost \$45,000.00. A large portion of this has come from the Bishop's Lay Committee for Vocations and also from particular donations given to me at various times and places by priests as an expression of their cooperation and desire to help.

I am sure that Monsignor McGinnis will not be offended at my failure to accept your recommendation to set up a scholarship of that kind.

With gratitude and thanks for your interest and suggestions, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona



June 6, 1958

Brother Gregory  
Father Literski  
Reverend Robert H. Taylor, S.P.L., M.A.  
St. Mary's College  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

Brother Gregory of St. Mary's College has informed me that the College has formulated a plan for the coming year in which they are endeavoring to promote learning centers in the dormitories on the campus of St. Mary's College. With the increasing number of students it has been considered desirable that additional faculty members be assigned for residence in the student dormitories where they will serve as hall counselors and as moderators to encourage a more studious attitude on the part of all. They are assigning a number of faculty Brothers to this work, but they have also suggested that perhaps you would be available to assist them in this particular educational project.

Having considered the matter seriously and prayerfully and having consulted as to the needs of the Seminary, I believe that it is possible to permit you to accept their invitation for full time residence at St. Mary's College instead of at the Seminary. At the same time you could also serve as chaplain for the Sisters of Guadalupe at Cotter Hall.

Owing to the decreasing number of students at the Seminary, it has been decided that one floor of Leo Hall will be vacated this coming year so that the need of faculty members presiding on each corridor is lessened.

I am grateful to you for your help at the Seminary during the years and I trust that you will be able through your classes to influence the young men from the Seminary to aspire to spiritual development as priests as well as to intellectual growth.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000452

RT

June 6, 1968

Reverend Robert H. Taylor, S.T.L., M.A.  
St. Mary's College  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

of St. Mary's College has informed me that the College has formulated a plan for the coming year in which they are endeavoring to promote learning centers in the dormitories on the campus of St. Mary's College. With the increasing number of students it has been considered desirable that additional faculty members be assigned for residence in the student dormitories where they will serve as hall counselors and as moderators to encourage a more studious attitude on the part of all. They are assigning a number of faculty Brothers to this work, but they have also suggested that perhaps you would be available to assist them in this particular educational project.

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I am grateful to you for your help at the Seminary during the years and I trust that you will be able through your classes to influence the young men from the Seminary to aspire to spiritual development as priests as well as to intellectual growth.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000094

RT

October 22, 1969

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary's College  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I am pleased to appoint you as administrator of HolyCross Parish of Dakota with all the faculties, duties, rights, and privileges which an administrator has in accordance with the Code of Canon Law (canons 472, 473).

has told me of his conversation with you and of your willingness to assume this responsibility. I am pleased that you will be able to care for this parish in addition to the many duties you have at St. Mary's College. I would appreciate it much if you would take over the full care of the parish this weekend, October 25 and 26. I would also be pleased if you would arrange to offer Mass there one other time during the week and take care of all special devotions.

You will be entitled to a salary in accord with the special legislation in regard to salaries of priests which was issued on October 2, 1968, and which became effective on January 1, 1969. I shall enclose a copy of this legislation. Your parish and Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary should each pay one-half of your salary as described in this legislation.

I wish at this time to thank you for your wonderful priestly work exercised at St. Mary's College. I am sure that you will give the People of God of your new parish the same attention which you have given to all your tasks in the past.

With kindest personal greetings and a request for your prayers, I remain

Faternally yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000095

cc: Msgr. Literski  
Fr. Berrum

October 22, 1969

Reverend Robert M. Taylor  
St. Mary's College  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I am pleased to appoint you as administrator of HolyCross Parish of Dakota with all the faculties, duties, rights, and privileges which an administrator has in accordance with the Code of Canon Law (canons 472, 473).

Monsignor Tighe has told me of his conversation with you and of your willingness to assume this responsibility. I am pleased that you will be able to care for this parish in addition to the many duties you have at St. Mary's College. I would appreciate it much if you would take over the full care of the parish this weekend, October 25 and 26. I would also be pleased if you would arrange to offer Mass there one other time during the week and take care of all special devotions.

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With kindest personal greetings and a request for your prayers, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000468



Saint Mary's College

WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

*RT*

October 24, 1969

Most Reverend Loras J. Watters  
Bishop of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota 55987

Dear Bishop Watters,

I thank you for the letter of appointment to Holy Cross parish of Dakota. I fully realize that it will be an extra burden, but I feel that it can be organized into more of a regular schedule than the present substitution route on weekends. If I find that it is too burdensome or that I cannot adequately assume this regular pastoral work, I shall inform you and ask to be relieved. Concomitantly, I would be pleased if you would inform me if the people of the parish do not feel that they have adequate coverage.

I really do not know anything about the financial condition of the parish and I am not prepared to make any recommendations in that area at this time. However, for the record, it does not seem that the parish should assume one-half of my salary when proportionately, they will have very little of my time. After things get settled down, probably this should be re-assessed.

Peace and love in Christ.

*Fr. Robert Taylor*  
Rev. Robert H. Taylor

*Please  
check  
later*

RT000096

RT

August 14, 1970

Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary's College  
Terrace Heights  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

In accord with our recent conversation I am pleased to appoint you pastor of Holy Cross Church, Dakota, and Precious Blood Church, La Moille, effective August 20. I commit to you the full care of souls of those parishes in accord with the Code of Canon Law and our diocesan statutes.

I thank you, Father Taylor, for your kindness in assuming this responsibility. I am sure that you will give the same kind attention to the people of Precious Blood Parish which you have shown to those of Holy Cross, Dakota.

With kindest regards and prayers, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000097



# Saint Mary's College

WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

August 18, 1970

Most Rev. Loras Watters  
Diocese of Winona  
275 Harriet Street  
Winona, Minnesota 55987

Dear Bishop,

I want to acknowledge and thank you for the appointment as pastor of Holy Cross in Dakota and Precious Blood in LaMoille.

I have to admit that it is not until the rereading of your letter that I finally realize that it is an appointment as pastor for Dakota.

Last evening we had a meeting of the parents of grade school children for the religious education program. I have engaged as the coordinator of religious instruction. We have an exciting program for the first eight grades. The high school area still is "up-in-the-air".

As of yet, we have made no decision about the Sunday Mass schedule. More than likely, we will go to a Saturday evening Mass schedule at one of the parishes.

In His love and mine,

*R. H. Taylor*

Rev. Robert H. Taylor

RHT/jsk

RT000098

RT

First Quarter Report  
BUREAU OF PRIESTS' RETIREMENT  
Diocese of Winona

1972  
year

Name and Address

Rev. Robert H. Taylor  
Saint Mary's College  
Winona, MN 55987

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Quarterly Assessment \$ <u>60<sup>00</sup></u>	Quarterly Assessment \$ _____	Quarterly Assessment \$ _____	Quarterly Assessment \$ _____
Arrears \$ _____	Arrears \$ _____	Arrears \$ _____	Arrears \$ _____
Total Now Due \$ _____	Total Now Due \$ _____	Total Now Due \$ _____	Total Now Due \$ _____
Date Paid	Date Paid	Date Paid	Date Paid
Amount Paid \$ _____	Amount Paid \$ _____	Amount Paid \$ _____	Amount Paid \$ _____
Balance \$ _____	Balance \$ _____	Balance \$ _____	Balance \$ _____

FINAL BILLING

PRIEST   
PARISH   
INSTIT.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
ARREARS NOW DUE

\$ 240<sup>00</sup>  
Yearly Assessment

Thank you

Winona Printing Co. 1-M-772-17265

RT000099



RT

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor

is an ordained priest of the Diocese of Winona. He is authorized to assist at marriages according to the ecclesiastical canons of the Roman Catholic Church.

Given at the Office of the Chancellor, Winona, Minnesota,  
on this 22nd day of May in the year 1972.

---

Rev. Msgr. Emmett F. Tighe  
Chancellor, Diocese of Winona

RT000100

RT

SMay 23, 1972

Clerk of Court  
La Crosse County  
County Court House  
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601

Dear Sir:

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor, pastor of Holy Cross Church in Dakota, Minnesota, is to assist at a wedding ceremony in La Crosse on Saturday, May 27. Through an oversight we neglected to send you the credentials attesting to the fact that he is an ordained priest in good standing in the Diocese of Winona.

We are happy now to send you this certification and ask that he be registered in your office. May we also ask that after he has been registered you return the certificate to him at Holy Cross Church, Dakota, Minnesota 55925, so that he may have it by Saturday, and that you send us assurance that he has been so registered.

Thank you very much for this favor.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Msgr. Emmett F. Tighe  
Chancellor

Enclosure

RT000101

RT

# Church of All Saints

MADISON LAKE, MINNESOTA 56063

September 10, 1975

Rev. Robert Taylor, Sec-Treas  
Bureau of Priests Retirement  
Diocese of Winona  
Winona, Minnesota

Dear Father Taylor,

I write to you, asking your kind attention to process the  
benefits to which is now entitled.

He was 68 on

In assuming the responsibility of Vernon Center Parish,  
he did so with the assurance from Bishop Watters that his income  
would be implemented by the Diocese, until he reached his 68th  
birthday. At his 68th birthday, the Bureau would take over.

He negotiated with the trustees of the parish for a  
salary of \$200.00 per month.

However, he owns his own home, and has been paying for  
domestic expense and utilities which he estimates at \$150.00  
per month, out of his own pocket.

In addition, he has taken nothing for car expense.

He certainly qualifies for re-imbusement from the  
Priests Retirement Fund, according to Article XIII on page  
6.

I recommend that you begin these payments, starting  
with August 1, 1975. I also ask your kindness in doing this  
immediately. Should there be any aspects of his status  
that you need to clarify, please do so with  
and also the Ordinary if it is necessary.

Thanking you for your prompt consideration of this  
matter, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

RT000102

RT

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
275 HARRIET STREET  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

Oct. 6, 1975

The Reverend Robert Taylor  
Bureau of Priests' Retirement  
St. Mary's College  
Winona, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Just a note to accompany the enclosed letter to  
re-appointed As all of us agreed previously, I've accepted the resignation and  
with the understanding  
that he would work out satisfactory arrangements with the Parish Council. His  
letter indicates that he is receiving \$100.00 a month as salary and \$100.00  
for board. I believe that he does qualify for 1/2 the monthly retirement benefit  
from the Bureau.

With kindest personal greetings and gratitude for your work with the Bureau,  
I remain

Fraternally in Christ,

+ *James J. Watters*  
Bishop of Winona

RT000103

+

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
275 HARRIET STREET  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

Oct. 6, 1975

The Reverend Robert Taylor  
Bureau of Priests' Retirement  
St. Mary's College  
Winona, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Just a note to accompany the enclosed letter to Reverend Monsignor William P. Schimek. As all of us agreed previously, I've accepted the resignation and re-appointed Monsignor Schimek pastor of St. Matthews with the understanding that he would work out satisfactory arrangements with the Parish Council. His letter indicates that he is receiving \$100.00 a month as salary and \$100.00 for board. I believe that he does qualify for 1/2 the monthly retirement benefit from the Bureau.

With kindest personal greetings and gratitude for your work with the Bureau, I remain

Fraternally in Christ,

*+ James J. Watters*  
Bishop of Winona

RT000448

Church of All Saints  
MADISON LAKE, MINNESOTA 56063

April 9, 1978

Most Rev. Loras J. Watters, D. D.  
Bishop of Winona

Dear Bishop Watters,

Your very kind and gracious letter of April 6 really made me "ride the waves" for a little while. I write to sincerely thank you for thoughtful expression of my priestly work in the Diocese over the years.

My roots are deep in the Diocese, going back to before 1860 when I settled in this area from . . . I have always desired to give something back to God for this blessing. Your letter indicates that I have succeeded a little bit at least.

I am grateful too, that you are willing to have me continue as pastor of All Saints. I will do my best to fulfill the responsibilities which are required for the spiritual well-being of the parishioners. And as time goes along you will find me cooperative with your recommendations and suggestions by which this spiritual health is maintained. In turn, I will be very forthright and honest with you when I judge that I am not measuring up to what the good people of the parish are entitled to in pastoral care and service.

Your kindness in stopping by personally on April 4 was a lovely gesture. It was the last thing in my mind, of course, that such would happen. I had a scheduled meeting with my income-tax consultant in Rochester. It was a good day to get it over with.

Age is very deceptive. I do not feel any older than I did when I was first ordained. Yet in many ways it must show, but about which one is never quite aware. It is really a strange experience. Maybe the clue will come when my drives don't travel 200 yards any more.

Let me assure you of my cooperation with you in your heavy responsibilities. The "maverick" in my make-up may surface occasionally, but it will be as proof of my loyalty to you in your truly selfless and dedicated devotion to charter sound policies, especially for the Priests of the Diocese.

So, in the words of the old Maryknoll Missionary in China, "we will keep on keeping on."

With kind personal greetings, I am

Respectfully yours in Christ,

RT

April 18, 1978

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor, Pastor  
Holy Cross Church  
Dakota, Minn. 55925

Dear Father Taylor,

The grace and peace of God Our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you and the people of Holy Cross and Precious Blood Parishes you are serving so well in His Name!

In a letter this week to the priests of the Diocese of Winona I will be stating my intention to continue to implement our term-of-office policy, not legalistically, but with pastoral concern for both priests and people.

In advance of that letter, I am writing to you to say that I find good reason, at least at present, to ask you to remain another year as pastor at Dakota and LaMoille. I know that ministry in these parishes is convenient in terms of work at St. Marys College and management of the diocesan portfolio; and at present I do not find that consideration for other priests or pastoral needs of the diocese suggest a change.

With kindest personal greetings, renewed gratitude for the service you give in so many ways to the Church in the Diocese of Winona, and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000105

+

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

August 26, 1978

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Saint Mary's College  
Winona, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of "Administrative Offices of the Diocese of Winona, Financial Statements as of June 30, 1978". As you will recall, the Diocesan Board of Consultors recommended that I contract with Arthur Andersen & Co. for the preparation of a limited audit or review of all diocesan finances.

Even at the cost of about \$10,000 I was happy to follow that recommendation because there were many good reasons to request the professional help of an accounting firm at this time.

First of all, Sister Helen Marie and Father Schmitz have worked very hard to make the change from the previously used system of bookkeeping and accounting which served the diocese well for many years because of the skill of Miss Theresa Walter and the dedication of Monsignor Emmett Tighe to the one recently mandated by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops; they more than deserved to have even the smallest detail of their year-long efforts reviewed and validated by a professional firm. In addition, Sister Helen Marie, Father Schmitz and I want to be certain that the new system is sound, complete, understandable by those who use it each day, and productive of monthly reports which will be helpful to all of us.

Secondly, I know that I am accountable to the diocesan Church for at least having on file here in the Diocesan Pastoral Center a complete and up-to-date statement of the financial status of all money entrusted to my administration.

Thirdly, I need all the facts regarding diocesan assets, liabilities and fund balances if I am to make sound decisions regarding the availability of money for possible new diocesan programs or for loans to the increasing number of parishes requesting them.

And finally, I need to know how much money the Office of Finances will need to receive on a regular basis (monthly, I believe we have now agreed) from the portfolio and that that amount will be available.

Mr. Eugene Wise and Mr. Ronald Rush of Arthur Andersen & Co. made a presentation regarding our financial statements as of June 30, 1978, at the Consultors meeting in Albert Lea last Thursday. They emphasized that the report was "Preliminary and Tentative" and so marked the copies distributed to the Consultors. I was in part responsible for the incompleteness of their work which they and all of us found

RT000446



disappointing; I had asked to have the report before leaving for Rome on Monday, August 28th. Even though four other members of their staff worked very hard for over two weeks, they still were not able to review all the documentation they needed to check.

Since the report is still in its preliminary stage, Mr. Wise, Mr. Rush and I are anxious to have your help in making the final revision as complete and correct as possible. With this letter, then, I ask you to study the entire document, giving special attention to pages 2 through 5 of the section, "Notes to Financial Statement". As you will see, these are the pages dealing with the diocesan investments. It is important, as you well realize, that the statements regarding the real estate investments be accurate because the finalized version will be given to the Consultors and to the Diocesan Pastoral Council's Finance Committee and perhaps published in a slightly condensed form.

Your records are the only place this complete information can be found; I am now asking you to supply to Mr. Wise and Mr. Rush all the details regarding the present status of the portfolio as well as other information they may request regarding the purchase prices and all other related transactions.

The investments in Georgia and Arizona have been and continue to be of more than a little concern; at the same time, however, I believe that they should be evaluated in light of efforts being made to protect the investments, the possibility of an early sale of the property, and the over-all performance of the diversified portfolio. I am convinced that in fairness to you and to me the history of the investments should be reviewed with Mr. Wise and Mr. Rush. With that background information they will be in a much better position to strike a better balance in their presentation of this complicated matter than they were able to do in this first draft of their report.

Also, the history of the account at Loewi's which is shown as \$654,987 at 9 1/2% interest under "Accounts Payable" on the Balance Sheet should be reviewed. It is my hope that as the real estate is sold this indebtedness will also be resolved.

I am most anxious to have Arthur Andersen & Co. follow their usual procedures in order they can give us the benefit of a complete report regarding all diocesan finance. Both of us know that the portfolio has grown over recent years; perhaps it has arrived at the point where smaller returns should be accepted together with decreased risk. This question becomes all the more important as the Diocesan Pastoral Center will soon receive the income from the sale of the land in Owatonna and the Newman Center in Mankato. At present, I am inclined to say that this money should be put in a separate endowment fund with the interest earmarked for the Newman Apostolate in the diocese.

Once again, Father Taylor, I want to thank you for your careful attention to the many important decisions and detailed record keeping involved in your management of the diocesan portfolio. Also, I want to express my gratitude for the help you will be giving Mr. Wise and Mr. Rush as they complete the same type of professional review of the finances of this diocese as they have done in many others.

I look forward to discussing the completed report with you when I return Oct. 1.

With kindest personal greetings, a promise of prayers in Rome, and a request for yours, I remain  
Fraternally in RT000447

cc: Sister Helen Marie Fr. Schmitz, Fr. Brom

Bishop of Winona

RT

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454 4643

Office of the  
Bishop

August 26, 1978

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Saint Mary's College  
Winona, MN

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And finally, I need to know how much money the Office of Finances will need to receive on a regular basis (monthly, I believe we have now agreed) from the portfolio and that that amount will be available.

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RT

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I look forward to discussing the completed report with you when I return Oct. 1.

With kindest personal greetings, a promise of prayers in Rome, and a request for yours, I remain  
Fraternally in Christ,

RT000108

RT

+

*press  
file*

April 27, 1978

The Reverend Robert Taylor  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Bureau of Priests' Retirement  
Diocese of Winona  
St. Mary's College  
Winona, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Greetings in the name of the Lord.

This letter is to put in writing the fact that the  
complied with the by-laws of our Bureau of Priests' Retirement  
and submitted his letter of resignation a few days before his 70th  
birthday which was on April 4, 1978. He has, then, to be reassigned as  
Rather than accept his resignation,  
I indicated that I would be happy to have him continue on as Pastor with  
the understanding that we would review this decision on a yearly basis.  
Also, I indicated that he would be eligible for the 25% payment each month  
from the Bureau.

In his reply, expressed his delight with how smoothly  
all this was arranged and indicated his pride (justifiable, I think) in the  
fact that he had something to do with the organization of the Bureau.

If you need any further documentation regarding case,  
please let me know.

With renewed gratitude and a request for your prayers, I remain

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000106

RT

+

August 3, 1979

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Bureau of Priests' Retirement  
Diocese of Winona  
St. Mary's College  
Winona, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

The peace of Christ Jesus be with you and the many, many members of His pilgrim people you are serving in the diocese of Winona.

With this letter I wish to put in writing what I said at the conclusion of the productive meeting of the Retirement Board of the Bureau of Priests' Retirement at St. Mary's College yesterday afternoon. In the name of the priests of this diocese as well as in my own I wish to have the minutes of the meeting reflect the gratitude of all of us to you for the efficient and yet pastoral way you carried out the rather demanding services of the Bureau over the past year.

Our retired brothers in Christ continue to be our collaborators in building up the Church, especially through their celebration of Mass and their recitation of the Liturgy of the Hours each day. After 40 and more years of service to the people entrusted to their pastoral care they are indeed entitled to a retirement free from apprehension about matters financial; they are grateful to the generous people of the diocese as well as to you, the elected representative of the presbytery, for the efficient way in which the Constitution and By-Laws of the Bureau are implemented.

The various reports you prepared for the meeting of yesterday speak for themselves. I know that all the priests will join me in thanking you for your careful supervision of the portfolio which has resulted in significant growth of the corpus and necessary income to the Bureau. Also, they share my gratitude for your personal interest in each of our retired brothers.

I believe that the adjustments the Board made in the light of actual experience will be helpful to you and to our retired priests; hopefully, they will also be accepted as a sincere effort to respond to the requests the Board received.

With kindest personal greetings, a special blessing, and a request for your prayers, I remain

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000109

RT

*file  
Fr Taylor*

January 25, 1980

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary's College  
Winona, MN 55987

Dear Father Taylor,

Prayerful greetings on this feast of the conversion of Saint Paul "in whom God's grace was always at work" (Antiphon for Morning Prayer).

Just about two years ago the Diocesan Consultants recommended that I engage the services of Arthur Andersen & Co. to help with the reorganization of our system of bookkeeping and the development of our new Diocesan Office of Finances. Thanks to the professional competency and hard work of many people here in the Diocesan Pastoral Center who have cooperated with we have made progress to the point where we can follow the recommendation of the Andersen Company, of some of the Diocesan Consultants, and of other experienced people to centralize all diocesan finances in this one office.

A review of the progress made since July 1, 1978, shows that our Diocesan Office has introduced a new and very efficient system of bookkeeping which has eliminated any duplication of work in all the other offices. The next logical step is to complete the development by including the supervision and record keeping connected with the diocesan portfolio.

As we both remember, in the summer of 1974 I needed help with the management of the portfolio. At that time I ask you to accept that responsibility at least until I could see how some other equally satisfactory arrangement could be worked out.

Over all these five and a half years I have been most grateful to you for the efficient way you managed the diocesan investments. I appreciated, too, the fact that in the last few years you also provided for an annual payment to the diocese which in turn helped to hold down the diocesan tax on our parishes.

The recently completed yield analysis by Arthur Andersen & Co. clearly indicated the good performance of the stock and bonds which you bought and sold. The presently anticipated sale of real estate in both Georgia and Arizona will certainly improve that picture a great deal.

All this time, too, Father Taylor, I have been mindful of the heavy work load you continue to carry at St. Mary's College and in your two parishes; in fairness to you and to the many, many people you are spending yourself to serve in the name of the Lord Jesus I now want to take what steps I can to reduce it.

RT000110

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
January 25, 1980

Page 2.

There is the further consideration, of course, that I must look to the future and try to make the best possible provisions for the necessary continuity in the supervision and management of something as important as the diocesan investments. It is only within the last few months that I have been convinced that our Diocesan Office of Finances has progressed to the point where it can accept this additional responsibility and serve the diocese as well as you have these past years in this specialized way.

With this letter, then, I am asking you to help me integrate the supervision of the portfolio into the Diocesan Office of Finances as of February 15, 1980, when it will be prepared to accept it.

As far as the management of the investments after the middle of next month, the Diocesan Office will continue the contract with Arthur Andersen & Co. and the Diocesan Board of Consultors, I will organize a Finance Committee of qualified people to help state the goals and objectives for which you and I have been working and evaluate the performance of the firm(s) which will be hired to provide the needed services.

Naturally, and I will need help during this period of transition. May I ask you to meet with us at a regularly scheduled time every week or two until the end of the present fiscal year? I will be most appreciative of whatever you can do to assist me complete the organization of the Diocesan Office of Finances as it accepts the responsibility for the supervision of the diocesan portfolio.

With renewed gratitude for your splendid work in the difficult field of finances during these past years of inflation and with a special blessing, I remain

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

cc:

RT000111

RT

DIOCESE OF WISCONSIN  
35 WEST SANBORN  
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53233

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

July 28, 1982

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor, Pastor  
Church of the Holy Cross  
Dakota, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Prayerful greetings to you in the name of Christ Jesus who is Lord for ever and ever! Once again I extend to you and to all the members of your wonderful family heart-felt and prayerful condolences in your present bereavement; God blessed all of you with wonderful and holy parents. How good it is to know with the certainty of faith that part of the joys of heaven will be unending reunion with those we love, especially the members of our families, in God's glorious presence.

As you know from our pleasant conversations of recent weeks, you have made outstanding contributions to the members of the faculty, staff, and student body of St. Mary's College for which they and I are deeply grateful. And this for over twenty years while at the same time serving on the faculty of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary and ministering to the pastoral needs of the people of Holy Cross and Precious Blood Parishes since 1969 and 1970 respectively. In addition, you have helped your brother priests in a very special way by administering the affairs of our Bureau of Priests' Retirement.

All of us in this diocese join you in praising and thanking God that He has showered His gracious gifts of nature and grace upon you and called you to share in the pastoral work of Christ Jesus, the true and eternal Highpriest.

It is with a deep sense of our shared responsibility with all our brother priests in this Diocese for providing the best possible pastoral care for all of our 120,000 brothers and sisters in the Lord that I now appoint you Pastor of the Church of St. Pius X, Rochester, effective August 18, 1982. I make this appointment in Christ's name with joy and confidence because I know that sharing in the priesthood of Him whom the Father sent to assure all people of His love you, too, want to be missioned by that same Jesus who is Lord for ever and ever.

I realize that St. Pius X is one of the largest, if not the largest, parish in the diocese. Your love of the Church universal and your loyalty to the Holy Father which were nourished during your student days in Rome, your sound priestly spirituality, your long-standing personal involvement in Catholic education, your personal ministry to the sick, the poor and those confined because of violations of the law, and your widely recognized accomplishments as a competent administrator have all prepared you as well as any priest could be to accept this rather unique ministry of service in this diocesan church. I am grateful to you for your willing cooperation and I assure you of my prayers, interest and support.

will send you the usual documents; may I ask to to sign the required form and return it to the diocesan pastoral center as soon as possible?

RT000112



RT

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor

Page 2.

I will be pleased to install you at the 11:30 am Mass on Sunday, August 22nd. As we both know, this Rite of Installation is appreciated very much by our people because it is a short but impressive summary of the sacramental roles of their priest and encourages them to pray for us who are happy to accept the responsibility for their pastoral care.

Do take care in moving; you do need to follow the doctor's directives and get enough rest. I continue to pray that you will soon be back to good health. However, should you need additional days before the doctor gives his approval, please make the necessary arrangements. Even the installation can be delayed a week or two.

As for \_\_\_\_\_ I am confident that you, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ can work out an arrangement which will be satisfactory to all of you and the members of the parish.

With kindest personal greetings, renewed gratitude for your priestly commitment, and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

P.S. Notice of your appointment is being sent to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
The COURIER of August 5th will carry the Official Announcement of the related appointments, all effective August 18, 1982.  
ljw

RT000113

OFFICE OF THE  
BISHOP

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 586  
Tel. 507/451-4643

July 28, 1982

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor, Pastor  
Church of the Holy Cross  
Dakota, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Prayerful greetings to you in the name of Christ Jesus who is Lord for ever and ever! Once again I extend to you and to all the members of your wonderful family heart-felt and prayerful condolences in your present bereavement; God blessed all of you with wonderful and holy parents. How good it is to know with the certainty of faith that part of the joys of heaven will be unending reunion with those we love, especially the members of our families, in God's glorious presence.

As you know from our pleasant conversations of recent weeks, you have made outstanding contributions to the members of the faculty, staff, and student body of St. Mary's College for which they and I are deeply grateful. And this for over twenty years while at the same time serving on the faculty of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary and ministering to the pastoral needs of the people of Holy Cross and Precious Blood Parishes since 1969 and 1970 respectively. In addition, you have helped your brother priests in a very special way by administering the affairs of our Bureau of Priests' Retirement.

All of us in this diocese join you in praising and thanking God that He has showered His gracious gifts of nature and grace upon you and called you to share in the pastoral work of Christ Jesus, the true and eternal Highpriest.

It is with a deep sense of our shared responsibility with all our brother priests in this Diocese for providing the best possible pastoral care for all of our 120,000 brothers and sisters in the Lord that I now appoint you Pastor of the Church of St. Pius X, Rochester, effective August 18, 1982. I make this appointment in Christ's name with joy and confidence because I know that sharing in the priesthood of Him whom the Father sent to assure all people of His love you, too, want to be missioned by that same Jesus who is Lord for ever and ever.

I realize that St. Pius X is one of the largest, if not the largest, parish in the diocese. Your love of the Church universal and your loyalty to the Holy Father which were nourished during your student days in Rome, your sound priestly spirituality, your long-standing personal involvement in Catholic education, your personal ministry to the sick, the poor and those confined because of violations of the law, and your widely recognized accomplishments as a competent administrator have all prepared you as well as any priest could be to accept this rather unique ministry of service in this diocesan church. I am grateful to you for your willing cooperation and I assure you of my prayers, interest and support.

Father Schimtz will send you the usual documents; may I ask to to sign the required form and return it to the diocesan pastoral center as soon as possible?

RT000444

I will be pleased to install you at the 11:30 am Mass on Sunday, August 22nd. As we both know, this Rite of Installation is appreciated very much by our people because it is a short but impressive summary of the sacramental roles of their priest and encourages them to pray for us who are happy to accept the responsibility for their pastoral care.

Do take care in moving; you do need to follow the doctor's directives and get enough rest. I continue to pray that you will soon be back to good health. However, should you need additional days before the doctor gives his approval, please make the necessary arrangements. Even the installation can be delayed a week or two.

As for Monsignor Tierney and his residence at St. Pius X Rectory. I am confident that you, Father Pete and Father Gotmer can work out an arrangement which will be satisfactory to all of you and the members of the parish.

With kindest personal greetings, renewed gratitude for your priestly commitment, and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

P.S. Notice of your appointment is being sent to Brother Peter Clifford and to the Area Directors. The COURIER of August 5th will carry the Official Announcement of the related appointments, all effective August 18, 1982.

ljw

RT

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend Loras J. Watters, D.D.  
Bishop of Winona  
Winona, Minnesota 55987

Your Excellency:

I herewith resign my pastorate at Holy Cross, Dakota, MN  
and Precious Blood Parish, LaMoille, MN to be  
effective August 18, 1982 and accept the pastorate of  
Saint Pius X, Rochester, Minnesota  
I will report at my new assignment on August 18, 1982

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Rev. R. H. Taylor

Date Aug 10, 1982

RT000114

RT

# Decree of Possession

In Nomine Domini. Amen.

Under the Roman Pontificate of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II,

The Most Reverend Loras J. Watters being Ordinary of the Diocese of Winona,  
I, \_\_\_\_\_, Dean of this district and delegate  
of the Most Reverend Ordinary, give to the

**Reverend** ROBERT H. TAYLOR

the possession of the

**Parish of** St. Pius X Rochester, MN  
NAME OF CHURCH NAME OF CITY

to which he has been canonically appointed August 18, 1982  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean—Delegate

Caroline P. Conway  
Witness

Margaret Davis  
Witness

This document is to be signed before the services and is read after the transfer of the symbols of pastoral prerogatives and powers.

RT000115

CHURCH OF ST. PIUS X  
P. O. BOX 6546  
1315 - 12TH AVENUE N. W.  
ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA 55901

February 20, 1984

The Most Reverend Loras Watters, D. D.  
Bishop of the Diocese of Winona  
55 West Sanborn  
Winona, Minnesota 55987

Dear Bishop Watters,

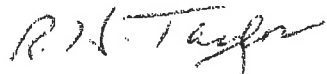
Today I received a check from Pax Christi for the total amount due in subsidy to St. Pius School.

Father Brown has asked me to inform you that they are current in their subsidy payments, and further that it was not really a problem of finance on the part of Pax Christi, but the age-old problem of communication between institutions. I suppose more specifically not so much between institutions as respective boards.

A delegation of our Parish Board met with their Parish Board, and our representatives said it was a very productive meeting.

I was sure you would want this information.

Sincerely in Christ,

  
(Rev.) Robert H. Taylor  
Pastor

cc: Father Brown  
Pax Christi

RT000514

RT

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507-454-4613

Feb. 22, 1984

The Reverend Syl Brown, Pastor  
The Church of Pax Christi  
Rochester, MN

Dear Father Brown,

Prayerful greetings in the name of Christ Jesus, the source of our peace!

As you note, I am enclosing a copy of my letter of this morning to Father Taylor. While that letter speaks for itself I do want to add this further expression of gratitude for the steps you took to improve communications with the members of the Council of St. Pius X. Communication problems let unresolved only grow to more serious proportions. On the other hand, cooperation between members of parishes witness<sup>es</sup> to the presence of the Risen Lord Jesus among us.

I hope that your Parish Council will see the wisdom of inviting or some other couple to present the concept of stewardship. Father Trocinski reported at the last Presbyteral Council meeting that the response in St. Theodore's to their presentation was a very pleasant surprise.

Do enjoy these lovely days of "pre-spring".

With kindest personal greetings, renewed gratitude for your love for the priesthood and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Faternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

enc 1

RT000116

RT

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

Sept. 20, 1984

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor, Pastor  
The Church of St. Pius X  
Rochester, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Prayerful greetings in the name of Christ Jesus who is Lord for ever and ever!

As you know from our recent review of the Ten Point Program which you and the members of the Parish Council have implemented so successfully over these past two years at St. Pius X, I am writing to thank you for accomplishing what I asked you to do in Rochester and to appoint you to serve the people of St. Mary's Parish, Madelia, where a building project is in the planning stages.

You know that the people of St. Pius X share my gratitude to you for your pastoral leadership in their faith community. Many of them have told me of the moving beauty of the Eucharistic Liturgies you celebrate on the occasions of baptisms, weddings, and funerals as well as on weekends; they appreciate the instruction and encouragement of your homilies and your spiritual direction in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They know, too, of your devotion to the sick and the elderly as evidenced by your celebration of Masses in retirement homes and visits to the hospitals. Also, they are grateful to you for your help with the finances which permitted the necessary repairs and improvements while operating the school, the Religious Education Program, and many other pastoral services within a balanced budget.

To the people who ask me how you can be so zealous and generous with your time and talents I respond that the secret is in the Holy Hour you make before the Blessed Sacrament each morning before most of the members of the parish are up and about.

As I write this letter of appointment I cannot but recall that our friendship goes back to just this time of the year in 1956 when we met at the North American College in Rome. You as a seminarian for the diocese of Winona and I as one of the spiritual directors from the archdiocese of Dubuque shared a deep and growing love for the priesthood and the Church served then by the great Pope Pius XII. Over all these years, thank God, we have both received the gift of fidelity to our priestly commitments.

With kindest personal greetings, renewed gratitude for your willingness to share with me the pastoral care of all our people in this diocese, and a request for your prayers, I remain,

P.S. This appointment is effective Oct, 4, 1984, May I ask you to make this announcement to the members of St. Pius X this weekend - Sept. 22-23? Thank You!

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000117



RT

# Decree of Possession

In Nomine Domini. Amen.

Under the Roman Pontificate of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II,

I, The Most Reverend Loras J. Watters, Ordinary of the Diocese of Winona,

give to the

**Reverend** ROBERT H. TAYLOR

the possession of the

**Parish** of St. MARY, Madelia, MN

NAME OF CHURCH

NAME OF CITY

to which he has been canonically appointed Oct. 4, 1984

DATE

*Loras J. Watters*  
Bishop of Winona

*[Signature]*  
Witness

          
Witness

RT

October 11, 1984

Bishop Loras Watters  
Diocese of Winona  
55 West Sanborn  
Winona, MN 55987

Dear Bishop Watters:

It occurred to me after your letter of May 21, 1984 that you really were not interested in helping the victims of Taylor's inappropriate sexual behavior that I have told you about. In checking with others in the diocese and across the county that fact was verified by other women's experience with you and Taylor and by the reputation the diocese has on women's issues and women's civil rights.

I have become aware now that others have told you about Taylor's inappropriate sexual behavior towards other men, and you also choose to disregard them. Now Taylor has been reassigned to a third parish in as many years with your apparent support. After your disasterous handling of [redacted] and his sexual problems, you again choose to gloss over the defects in character and allow Taylor (as you allowed [redacted] to continue ravaging lives in a fresh environment.

Perhaps no other thing angers the people of [redacted] more than to know that as bishop you knowingly sent a sex offender to our parish and that you now send him to another parish to start over breaking relationships and ruining lives at will.

One has to wonder at the character and judgment of anyone who would allow this to happen.

Again, I ask you to act to save the people of Madelia from the same fate as the people of [redacted] and the people of St. Mary's. In the same regard, I again ask you to take responsibility for Taylor's actions and use every means available to help the priests, sisters, parish workers, liturgists, parents, and children who have been ravaged by your subordinate. Time will not heal these wounds or clean up the mess. Only with honesty, openness, and a willingness on your part to repair this damage will the church in the Winona diocese be able to move on.

Please do it now this week before the people of Madelia have to hear the truth from others. There is no doubt in my mind whatsoever that they will soon hear of this tragedy.

UNANSWERED AS OF  
12/27/84. Re sent Certified Mail 12/28/84

RT000227

RT

## Profession of Faith

I, ROBERT H. TAYLOR, touching with my hand God's holy Gospels, enlightened by divine grace, profess the faith which the Catholic, Apostolic, Roman Church teaches. I believe that Church to be the one true Church, which Jesus Christ founded on earth: to which I submit with all my heart.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

I believe that seven sacraments were instituted by Jesus Christ for the salvation of mankind; namely, Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Penance, Extreme Unction, Holy Orders and Matrimony.

I believe that the Pope, the Bishop of Rome, is the Vicar of Jesus Christ on earth, that he is the supreme visible head of the whole Church, and that he teaches infallibly what we must believe and do to be saved.

I also believe everything which the Holy, Catholic, Apostolic and Roman Church defines and declares we must believe. I adhere to her with all my heart, and I reject every error and schism which she condemns.

So help me God and these His holy Gospels which I touch with my hand.

Robert H. Taylor

(Seal)

ATTEST:

John J. Walter  
Ordinary of Winona (Delegate)

Date Oct. 13, 1984

RT000119

RT

Saint Mary's College

Winona, Minnesota 55987  
507-452-4430

Brother Louis DeThomas, F.S.C., Ph.D.  
President

March 20, 1985

To: Priestly Life Committee  
Diocese of Winona

From: Brother Louis DeThomas, F.S.C.  
Consultant to the Committee

At your request I have reviewed the list of assets on hand as of June 30, 1983 (list attached). You have asked me to give my analysis of this portfolio as a retirement fund investment portfolio. My observations are as follows:

1. To list assets of a portfolio without reporting the cost of each security held and the market value of said security at the date of evaluation is inappropriate, irregular and not acceptable according to generally accepted accounting procedures. I cannot imagine why the assets of the portfolio as you have presented to me is completed in such an unacceptable format. This kind of format leads the professional financial reviewer to ask why such a totally unacceptable recording procedure is utilized. Your committee's unsuccessful attempts to give me such a normal and expected accounting of assets leaves me bewildered.
2. The equities within this portfolio, with the exception of General Motors and a few other holdings, are comprised of small high risk stocks. Such a preponderance of these highly speculative issues is inappropriate for a portfolio for retirement funds.
3. Some of the holdings on this list have recently gone through bankruptcy proceedings. For example, Beef Steak Charlie's, Braniff International and Seneca Oil have either been in bankruptcy or are currently.
4. Other holdings within this portfolio are in danger of bankruptcy. Such imminent bankruptcy candidates that are held in this portfolio are Manitowoc, Oak Industries, Republic Airlines and Tipperary Corporation.
5. Generally speaking the investment portfolio holdings viewed in its entirety have a very low dividend yield. This is quite inappropriate for such a retirement fund.

RT000120

RT  
Priestly Life Committee  
Diocese of Winona

Page 2

6. Many of the holdings within the portfolio are companies with very poor earning records. This is most inappropriate for retirement funds investment.

CONCLUSION -

My personal analysis is that the attached portfolio would in no way meet the standards of an investment quality portfolio. The list of these equities in fact are frightening to me even if this were an investment portfolio of individuals interested in highly speculative and risk taking positions. It is generally and professionally understood that retirement funds should be invested in equities of high quality companies with a minimum of risk. An investment manager of retirement funds should screen the equities universe to find companies with proven earnings records, paying dividends and with a low debt to capitalization ratio. There should be at least a 13% return on equity and a market to book value ratio of no more than two times. Such prudent criteria are not found in the holdings as elaborated in the list given to me for analysis.

RT000121

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

May 10, 1985

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor, Pastor  
The Church of St. Mary  
Madelia, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Prayerful greetings!

Just a note to help with your planning for the Bureau of Priests Retirement.

The Reverend Monsignor Henry F. Speck, Pastor of St. Casimir's here in Winona, has asked to retire on June 30, 1985. I have granted that permission. He intends to live with his brother, Father James, who I understand is going to have a back operation to help the constant pains in his legs. God willing, that operation in LaCrosse will be successful.

I suspect that Father Weir will be retiring soon, too. He is taking physical therapy at St. Marys in Rochester these days. I hope to visit him soon. When we talked last week at his sister's apartment in Mankato, he asked about how one gets into St. Anne's, Sacred Heart, or St. Mary's in St. Paul. He didn't seem to be very hopeful about regaining the use of his right leg. Alice is showing the tiring effects of 24 hour a day care which he needs now.

As you perhaps know, Msgr. Warren Ryan will begin chemotherapy next week; tests disclosed that he has a malignant tumor on his lung which is inoperable. He will be staying with his sister in Rochester until he can find an apartment in the same building.

It was good to visit with you last week. I didn't make contact with Father Joe Mountain regarding the Board meeting; I hope I can do that this morning.

With kindest personal greetings, renewed gratitude for your priestly dedication, and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000442

RT

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

May 10, 1985

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor, Pastor  
The Church of St. Mary  
Madelia, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Prayerful greetings!

Just a note to help with your planning for the Bureau of Priests Retirement.

has asked to retire on June 30, 1985. I have granted that permission. He intends to live with who I understand is going to have a back operation to help the constant pains in his legs. God willing, that operation in LaCrosse will be successful.

I suspect that will be retiring soon, too. He is taking physical therapy at St. Marys in Rochester these days. I hope to visit him soon. When we talked last week at his sister's apartment in Mankato, he asked about how one gets into He didn't seem to be very hopeful about regaining the use of his right leg. is showing the tiring effects of 24 hour a day care which he needs now.

As you perhaps know, will begin chemotherapy next week; tests disclosed that he has a malignant tumor on his lung which is inoperable. He will be staying with until he can find an apartment in the same building.

It was good to visit with you last week. I didn't make contact with regarding the Board meeting; I hope I can do that this morning.

With kindest personal greetings, renewed gratitude for your priestly dedication, and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

RT000122

RT

June 5, 1985

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor, Pastor  
The Church of St. Mary  
Madelia, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Prayerful greetings to you in the name of Christ Jesus who is Lord for ever and ever!

This letter is to officially appoint you Pastor of Holy Family Parish, Lake Crystal, MN, effective as of this date. As you understand, this appointment is in addition to the one you presently have as Pastor of the Parish of St. Mary, Madelia. I appreciate more than I can say your willingness to accept this additional pastoral responsibility as well as the cooperation of the people of both parishes where adjustments will have to be made in Mass schedules and in other parish activities. Such understanding and mutual concern for neighbors speaks volumes about love for the Lord Jesus who came 'not to be served, but to serve' and witness to the unity which He prayed His followers would enjoy.

As we all know, \_\_\_\_\_ was deeply appreciative of the understanding and love he received from the members of Holy Family and his brother priests during his illness. Our prayers, cards, and visits helped to sustain him in his acceptance of his portion of the redemptive sufferings of Christ; we are confident that now that father is sharing in the joys of our Lord's victory over sin and death he will continue to pray for all of us.

This letter also gives me the opportunity to thank you again for your brotherly concern for Father Veir and the people of Holy Family these past several months. You, Father Taylor, like so many of our brother priests, don't wait to be asked to help when it is obvious that some immediate assistance is needed; may God reward you for your zeal.

With kindest personal greetings, renewed gratitude for your priestly commitment and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

P.S. No doubt, you have already worked out satisfactory arrangements regarding financial matters with both parish Councils.

P.P.S. The July COURIER will carry the official announcement of this new appointment; you are free to announce it to both parishes at any suitable time.

ljw

RT000123



June 5, 1985

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor, Pastor  
The Church of St. Mary  
Madalia, MD

Dear Father Taylor,

Prayerful greetings to you in the name of Christ Jesus who is Lord for ever and ever!

This letter is to officially appoint you Pastor of Holy Family Parish, Lake Crystal, MN, effective as of this date. As you understand, this appointment is in addition to the one you presently have as Pastor of the Parish of St. Mary, Madalia. I appreciate more than I can say your willingness to accept this additional pastoral responsibility as well as the cooperation of the people of both parishes where adjustments will have to be made in Mass schedules and in other parish activities. Such understanding and mutual concern for neighbors speaks volumes about love for the Lord Jesus who came that to be served, but to serve and witness to the unity which He prayed His followers would enjoy.

As we all know, Father Veir was deeply appreciative of the understanding and love he received from the members of Holy Family and his brother priests during his illness. Our prayers, cards, and visits helped to sustain him in his acceptance of his portion of the redemptive sufferings of Christ; we are confident that now that Father is sharing in the joys of our Lord's victory over sin and death he will continue to pray for all of us.

This letter also gives me the opportunity to thank you again for your brotherly concern for Father Veir and the people of Holy Family these past several months. You, Father Taylor, like so many of our brother priests, don't wait to be asked to help when it is obvious that some immediate assistance is needed; may God reward you for your zeal.

With kindest personal greetings, renewed gratitude for your priestly commitment and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

P.S. No doubt, you have already worked out satisfactory arrangements regarding financial matters with both parish Councils.

P.P.S. The July COURIER will carry the official announcement of this new appointment; you are free to announce it to both parishes at any suitable time.

ljw

RT000443

RT

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

July 22, 1985

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor, Pastor  
The Church of St. Mary  
Madelia, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

PAX ET BONUM!

Thank you for your willingness to accept the responsibility for the pastoral care of the people of St. Katherine Parish, Truman.

This letter, then, is to make this appointment official, as of August 1, 1985, or whatever date you work out with the Trustees of the Parish as being more convenient.

I realize that this is in addition to your care for the people of St. Mary Parish, Madelia, and Holy Family Parish, Lake Crystal. Thus, I am all the more grateful for you making this additional adjustment. Hopefully, this won't be too burdensome to you and at the same time will lessen somewhat the financial burden on all three parishes.

I have already written to \_\_\_\_\_ and told him about this change. I will also write to \_\_\_\_\_ and indicate that I appreciate his help these past weeks and that you will be asking him from time to time, as you see fit, to celebrate the Eucharist at St. Katherine.

\_\_\_\_\_ is convalescing at Assisi Heights; it will be a couple of months before his doctors decide how much work he can do. Hopefully, by that time we will be able to make whatever arrangements he needs to continue in pastoral work, even on a reduced basis.

\_\_\_\_\_ is going back to Guest House, Rochester, for a month or so; they will "tailor-make" a program for him. Then, he will have to find a "half-way" situation in which he can live with another priest until he establishes a track record for quality sobriety. At that point he can responsibly accept pastoral assignments; the people have been most understanding, but the time comes when their rights also have to be considered.

I hope the construction of the school continues so beautifully as it has in the past.

With kindest personal greetings, renewed gratitude for your cooperation, and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,

Bishop of Winona

P.S. The "Official" announcement of this appointment will be carried in the September issue of THE COURIER. Ljw

RT000124

RT

SUMMARY

Remarks of Brother Louis DeThomasis, F.S.C.  
Financial Consultant to the Priestly Life Committee

Albert Lea, May 19, 1986

RT000125

1. Foundational Rule of Investment Practices - No personal considerations can be considered in the accountability and management of investment type funds.

A. From Amy Domini, portfolio manager with Franklin Research and Development Corp. in Boston and is co-author of Ethical Investings (Addison-Wesley, 1985):

"What happens when boards without particular expertise attempt to manage endowments?

Not long ago, a friend asked me to review a small institution's endowment portfolio run by a board member without any special guidance or review. Over half the funds were in two limited partnerships. The first, a real estate partnership, was paying 14% return. The second, an oil and gas partnership was paying next to nothing. For growth, the board member had taken a position in silver futures.

Now you can understand why Rule 1 of managing what you've got is "Supervise, supervise! Let nothing evade your eyes!"

Turning over day-to-day endowment management to someone not on the board makes supervision much easier; it's hard to criticize the performance of someone you must eat with."

B. Obligations of participants and duly elected/appointed committees thereof is to SUPERVISE the funds for proper management, proper administration, proper distribution and clear and complete accountability to all beneficiaries/participants of the "trust."

To accomplish this:

- Absence of personalities
- Absence of personal considerations
- Accountability
- Clear and professional record keeping
- Independent audit verification

2. Presently, the Priests Pension Plan for the Diocese of Winona is seriously deficient in being administered with proper and clear fiduciary roles.

A. The March 15, 1985 Report to Members of the Priests Retirement Plan from the Retirement Board Section V re: Fiduciary is inaccurate, incorrect and misleading.

"V. Fiduciary - The custodian and fiduciary for the Bureau of Priest Retirement is the Trust Department of the Marquette Bank of Rochester. Two brokerage firms are used: Piper, Jaffrey and Hopwood, and Smith, Barney, Inc. of La Crosse. All three are audited yearly and their reports are reviewed by the board, and are available to any priest member of this employee plan . . ."

- From March 27, 1985 letter to Priestly Life Committee from the Trust Department of Marquette Bank (H.M. Stellner, Jr.) - "The bank's role relative to the Bureau of Priests' Retirement is that of custodial agent only for the Bureau and certain of its securities." (emphasis supplied by me)

- What does the mentioning of the two brokerage firm audits have to do with being in a fiduciary role with the Pension Plan? These are two broker-dealer firms - they are not investment advisors to the Pension Plan.

3. The Priests Pension Plan is seriously and significantly deficient in reporting and accountability procedures re: current financial information, valuation of investments, and bookkeeping functions.

At present:

- There is NO segregation of duties in the cash disbursement of the Retirement Plan.
- Some significant disbursements do not require dual signatures.
- There is NO general ledger.
- There are NO adequate records to account for notes receivable and payable.
- Records and substantiating documentation verifying collateral is seriously deficient.

4. The role of a committee or a member of a committee with proper fiduciary responsibility DOES NOT make business deals, specific investment arrangements, and involvement with the persons with whom the business is transacted AND at the same time be responsible for reporting and supervising its own actions.
  - A. A Pension Plan Committee with a proper fiduciary role:
    1. Decide and articulate the investment objectives for the funds.
    2. Decide and articulate their social concern objectives, if any, for the funds.
    3. Select an investment manager who will best execute the objectives of the fund.
    4. Monitor, supervise and hold accountable the investment manager to execute the objectives of the fund.
    5. Communicate in a clear, concise and timely manner to all participants in the fund.
  
5. The investment integrity of the Priest Pension Plan as it presently exists -- How can it be determined?
  - A. Four essential criteria:
    1. Preservation of capital - Diversification
    2. Risk - Reward
    3. Earn income
    4. Liquidity
  
  - B. Facts about the investment integrity of the Priest Pension Plan.
    1. Of the net assets of the Pension Plan investments c.70% are invested in real estate type speculations.

- a. Most of this                      is involved with one man and his credit worthiness since he is principal as an individual or principal in a corporation which has been given most of this money.
- b. Substantiating proof and records of the collateral or of options to purchase real estate which collateralizes much of the Pension Fund's money that was loaned out is not existent for verification.
- c. A brief review, utilizing information to which the public has access, uncovered some of the following financial information about the type of individuals who are the people collateralizing the                      worth of real estate assets that the Pension Plan carries as "value." These are some of the facts about the type of individuals to whom the Priest Pension money was entrusted to:
- one is verifiably "bankrupt." He had filed and has been granted bankrupt status.
  - two are involved in past highly speculative real estate ventures that collapsed under much suspicion.
  - one has three attorneys with collection proceedings against him. Another has at least one collection proceeding against him.
  - one owes money to his Country Club.
  - one has a specific \$40 collection against him.
  - one has been described by a local banker as "owing money all over town."



--one had his Mercedes repossessed.

(It must be underscored that these are the men to whom of the Priest Pension Fund money is entrusted, and who are guaranteeing payment, and who are supplying collateral for their borrowing of the Priest Pension Fund assets).

2. As of December 31, 1985 the corporate stocks which were owned by the Priest Pension Fund cost the Fund and were worth less than what they were bought for at This was in a calendar year when most portfolios of this type were up over 30%. Much of the stocks are highly speculative and inappropriate investment securities for such a fund.
3. In light of the above, I find that the statement as found in the March 15, 1985 report to members of the Priest Retirement Plan from the Retirement Board totally incomprehensible and dangerously misleading --

" VI Investments

The Retirement Board's basic investment strategy is diversification. Investment vehicles are relatively safe, that is, safety is usually proportionate to risk. In the more recent years, because we have accumulated a sizeable fund, safety has become more and more a priority. The board feels that the safest route today is diversification--insurance, government bonds, stocks, real estate, and interest bearing notes with at least a four to one collateral ratio."

RT

I would like an explanation as to how the above statement could possibly be made in light of the fact that (1) c.70% of the total assets of the Fund have been utilized in highly speculative real estate investemnts, (2) Over half of the corporate securities are in highly speculative-high risk securities, (3) and, based on the credit worthiness of some of those real estate deals and wanting a four to one collateral ratio. To use the concept of diversification to describe the present investment posture of the Priest Pension Plan is an absurd manipulation of common sense.

4. Finally, I have reviewed many of the reports that were sent to the members of the Priests Retirement Plan by the Retirement Board. Whoever is the individual responsible for presenting those reports, I must say that in my entire experiece in investment advisory and consultative service I have NEVER experienced a more preposterous obfuscation of financial facts.

RT

+

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

June 23, 1986

The Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary's Church  
Madelia, MN

Dear Father Taylor,

Prayerful greetings!

Thank you for your telephone call of Saturday morning. The Atlanta situation sounds hopeful. Now does seem to be the time to "divest", under the proper terms, of course.

I'm writing to report that the \_\_\_\_\_ has asked for full retirement for health reasons. He hasn't been able to leave the rectory for more than short periods of time for the past six months. He has problems with circulation, overweight, emphysema, and related ailments. He needs oxygen almost continuously. I've visited with him several times in recent months and he finally agreed that he needs a place like \_\_\_\_\_ where he can receive the care he must have if his present condition is to improve. Although he is only 65, I have no doubt but what he qualifies for the full monthly benefit.

I have accepted his resignation as pastor and granted his request to resign effective June 30, 1986. May I ask you to have his name added to the list for the monthly check?

I know that the Board will have to approve this full retirement status for we can bring that up at the next meeting.

This letter gives me the opportunity to thank you again for your splendid work with the Bureau while carrying on more than a full load of pastoral work and/or teaching. I hope the \_\_\_\_\_ payment arrived on June 21st as previously agreed and that the new schedule for repayment will more than answer the second guessers.

With kindest personal greetings and a request for your prayers, I remain,

Fraternally in Christ,  
*James J. Wallen*  
Bishop of Winona

RT000133

Feb. 9, 1987

Rochester, MN

Dear Father,

Thank you for acknowledging that a problem has been mentioned in the press of late. We were at the 8:45 mass yesterday when you shared your feelings of anger and humiliation. We too are feeling angry and humiliated. Not just because this has happened involving \_\_\_\_\_, but because the Bishop seems to have ignored the problem and moved to an unsuspecting parish each time he was "caught". The damage done in a case like this seems irreparable, not only for

RT

but for the Church.

My concern is this: several members of the parish had heard Fr. Taylor was moved from for the same reason <sup>to</sup> an unsuspecting parish?!? If this is true something needs to be done, but what?

Two non-Catholic friends commented on this incident + celibacy. I see two totally separate issues. Perversion is a sickness +/or the work of the devil that occurs in non-celibate as well.

My inclination was to write to the Bishop, but I felt it futile if he has been handling these situations as the press indicates.

Thank you for the great job you're doing in reaching the people.

Sincerely,

P.S. Enclosed -

drawing for  
you. She'll be 5 next week.

RT000229

AUG 28 1987

# saint mary's school

223 FIRST STREET NORTHEAST / MADELIA, MINNESOTA 56062 / 642-3324

August 27, 1987

Bishop John Vlazny  
Dear Bishop Vlazny,

Thank you for spending that hour on August 13 with the Winona Diocesan Principals at St. Mary College. I really enjoyed and appreciated that hour. I was the one sitting on your left.

Little did I realize that I would be writing to you this soon. On August 20 I learned from the cardiologist that I will immediately need open heart surgery for a valve replacement. The valve is really bad-I have what is called Stenosis of the Aortal valve which causes increased pressure in the left ventricle.

After I asked for a Leave of Absence, Father has been most helpful and understanding. He has been very busy planning what can be done in this short time before school opens and with Faculty Workshops beginning today. He is so very good at planning and arranging.

The plan is: The Fifth grade teacher will take on the title of assistant principal while Father Taylor is acting principal; a half time teacher is taking Eleanor's place in the forenoon so she can have time in the Office; and then a few other minor changes were made.

Father himself will take care of the finances, personnel, budget, building, and Hot Lunch. All this has made extra work for Father because of calling extra meetings with School Board, Trustees, Eleanor, and myself. I cannot speak highly enough of Father Taylor.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work with him since I came to Madelia in June of 1985. Never before, as principal, had I worked with a Pastor with so many gifts. His deep spirituality, his concern for every person, and his expertise as educator are truly a blessing, a challenge, and an inspiration to me. St. Mary's Parish is richly blessed by God to have his leadership.

He already has three Parishes with no time to "spare" and now I am causing this extra work. We cannot afford to let him "get worn out". He is so wonderful.

I know you are busy, also. As Sister Pat Gehling said at Winona that day, "They might lock your door from the outside" because of the work waiting for you. What are the possibilities of giving him a call today and see how he is managing? Don't just let him say he is managing--we cannot afford to lose a good priest from the Winona Diocese, and especially in Madelia, because of over work.

Thank you for reading this. I do ask to be remembered in your prayers for successful surgery. You are remembered in my prayers.  
*In Christ.*

BT00500

AUG 28 1987

August 27, 1987

Bishop John Vlazny  
Dear Bishop Vlazny,

Thank you for spending that hour on August 13 with the Winona Diocesan Principals at St. Mary College. I really enjoyed and appreciated that hour. I was the one sitting on your left.

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Thank you for reading this. I do ask to be remembered in your prayers for successful surgery. You are remembered in my prayers. *In Christ,*

RT000230

RT

October 22, 1987

Reverend Robert Taylor  
Church of Saint Mary  
212 First Street, N.E.  
Madelia, Minnesota 56062

Dear Bob,

Thank you very much for agreeing to meet with our subcommittee of the Priests' Retirement Board. I understand that you preferred to meet with me privately, but were unable to come before the meeting with the subcommittee. I do appreciate your cooperation in this endeavor.

Certainly I would be more than pleased to speak with you about any concerns you wish to share. The work of the Priests' Retirement Board is something very new to me, and I really do need the assistance of those who have been serving on the Board this past year.

They were very helpful in our August get-together in Rochester, and I value their assistance. You are our vital link with the past, and we need to review the few concerns that were raised at the August Board meeting.

Bob, I appreciate all the work you have been doing out in Madelia. Your school principal, expressed her admiration and appreciation for you when we met at the gathering of principals here in August. Subsequently, I learned, you took over her responsibilities while she recovered from surgery. Thank you for your hard work and generosity.

Best wishes to you and the people you serve. I promise my prayerful support in the months and years ahead. God bless.

Your Brother in the Lord,

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV/krs

RT000134



October 22, 1987

Reverend Robert Taylor  
Church of Saint Mary  
212 First Street, N.E.  
Madelia, Minnesota 56062

Dear Bob,

Thank you very much for agreeing to meet with our subcommittee of the Priests' Retirement Board. I understand that you preferred to meet with me privately, but were unable to come before the meeting with the subcommittee. I do appreciate your cooperation in this endeavor.

Certainly I would be more than pleased to speak with you about any concerns you wish to share. The work of the Priests' Retirement Board is something very new to me, and I really do need the assistance of those who have been serving on the Board this past year. Brother Louis DeThomasis and Mr. John Broadwater were very helpful in our August get-together in Rochester, and I value their assistance. You are our vital link with the past, and we need to review the few concerns that were raised at the August Board meeting.

Bob, I appreciate all the work you have been doing out in Madelia. Sister Ruth Gulden, your school principal, expressed her admiration and appreciation for you when we met at the gathering of principals here in August. Subsequently, I learned, you took over her responsibilities while she recovered from surgery. Thank you for your hard work and generosity.

Best wishes to you and the people you serve. I promise my prayerful support in the months and years ahead. God bless.

Your Brother in the Lord,

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV/krs

RT000464

September 9, 1987

Sister Ruth Gulden  
Saint Mary's School  
223 First Street Northeast  
Madelia, Minnesota 56062

Dear Sister Ruth,

It was good to hear from you recently, but I regret that you will be slowed down for awhile. My own mother had open heart surgery last year and she seems to be recovering well. I assure you of a special place in my prayers at this time.

You certainly came up with an efficient plan for the time of your absence. I too am grateful to Father Taylor for taking on the added responsibilities, and I shall do my best to see that he does not over extend himself. Naturally I was happy to learn about the wonderful spirit in the parish during this time when you have served as school principal. We are all looking forward to your complete recovery and speedy return.

Sister Ruth, please keep me in your prayers. I am grateful for your service to the school community of Madelia, and I assure you of my continuing prayerful support. God bless.

Your Brother in the Lord,

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV/krs

RT000501

RT

September 9, 1987

Dear

It was good to hear from you recently, but I regret that you will be slowed down for awhile. My own mother had open heart surgery last year and she seems to be recovering well. I assure you of a special place in my prayers at this time.

You certainly came up with an efficient plan for the time of your absence. I too am grateful to Father Taylor for taking on the added responsibilities, and I shall do my best to see that he does not over extend himself. Naturally I was happy to learn about the wonderful spirit in the parish during this time when you have served as school principal. We are all looking forward to your complete recovery and speedy return.

please keep me in your prayers. I am grateful for your service to the school community of Madelia, and I assure you of my continuing prayerful support. God bless.

Your Brother in the Lord,

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV/krs

RT000231

APR 13 1988

RT

4/11/88

Bishop John Vlazny  
Diocese of Winona  
55 East Sanborn  
Winona, MN 55987

Dear Bishop Vlazny:

Dolores Curran's article The Church as employer reminded me that I still had one more left over copy of a letter from the disaster which I need to deliver. Had been waiting for an indication that it might be taken seriously this time--from the victim's point of view.

As a product of 12 years of Catholic education I some how had the impression that the Church was big enough to heal injustice within itself if only the right person was contacted. In over 100 pages sent to church officials through out the diocese, I never had the impression that the victim's plight was seriously considered as people moved to cover their legal and financial extremities.

At any rate the damage has been done--4 years have passed--people involved have moved--have changed occupations--have changed vocations--have generally survived this unfortunate event which is now history...no sense stirring up bad feelings again--or asking how people manage to survive...or if they survived....

But I just keep thinking that maybe some time, some where there will be this one right person...

RT000232

# The Church as employer

By Dolores Curran

They say bad news comes in threes: a car breaks down, the washer croaks, and your child says, "I don't feel well."

On a larger scale, I examine my church. A young dynamic father of three who is committed to his role as youth director in the diocese is told that not only will he not get a wage increment but that he must accept a cutback to \$13,000 a year. He sadly resigns and accepts a post at the YWCA for \$19,000. "I have to think of my family," he says.

A sister who is offered a diocesan position in lay ministry training moves with eager expectations to a new area only to discover three months later that her program is being discontinued because of "diocesan shortfall." No other explanation. "Sorry, Sister. Budget, you understand."

A Director of Religious Education with more degrees than most parish staffs is told, "We're reorganizing. You can apply for a new job but..."

Nobody seems to care that she is midway through a program involving nearly 200 adults or that she invested time and money in obtaining her latest degree because her former pastor put a high value on the program she was to direct.

I happened to know these three personally but they are by no means isolated cases. We in America have the most educated and involved laity actively working in our church than in any other country. But our church treats us as if we are disposable.

Salaries are a disgrace when we consider that we ask parents of several children to work sixty hours a week for under \$12,000 a year. Not only do these professionals give up financial security but also evenings and weekends away from their families. Most of their work, on the parish level, at least, assumes that they will be available when parishioners are and that means weekends and evenings.

As I travel I meet many of these wounded. They are talented, committed, and hard-working. They could work in other institutions but they care deeply about their church and the needs of their people. They give of themselves in ways the rest of us never would.

**But our church can be a lousy employer. It treats lay employees as if they were volunteers which, given their salaries, they are. A new bishop or pastor comes in, reorganizes, and fires.**

As I travel I meet many of these wounded. They are talented, committed, and hard-working. They could work in other institutions but they care deeply about their church and the needs of their people. They give of themselves in ways the rest of us never would.

**But our church can be a lousy employer. It treats lay employees as if they were volunteers which, given their salaries, they are. A new bishop or pastor comes in, reorganizes, and fires. Never mind the fallout.**

For a church that speaks so eloquently on justice in the larger world, we have a mote when it comes to our own corporate practices. Due process is rare. In each of the above cases, a basic morality was ignored.

Does the dynamic youth minister have a right to a reasonable salary? Does the relocated nun have a right to assume her new position will be supported for more than three months? Does the parish DRE have a right to inherit her last pastor's promises?

The answer is yes to all but they have no rights in our church. If we are to remain trustworthy and accountable to our people, we have to become credible and caring employers.

Laities who have risen in the hierarchical structure are often given the task of reorganizing — a church word for cutting staff — or firing other laity. "That keeps the clergy and bishop pure," one former diocesan employee told me. "I was instructed to cut the chancery staff by five employees. It was the worst thing I've had to do. Then, when it was done, they told me I was being cut."

The anger and disillusionment that church employment practices engenders is a blot on all of us. If we are to remain believable as Christians who inherit the fruits and giftedness of our ministers, we must speak out when they are treated unjustly. Otherwise, we are part of the injustice.

As I travel I meet many of these wounded. They are talented, committed, and hard-working. They could work in other institutions but they care deeply about their church and the needs of their people. They give of themselves in ways the rest of us never would.

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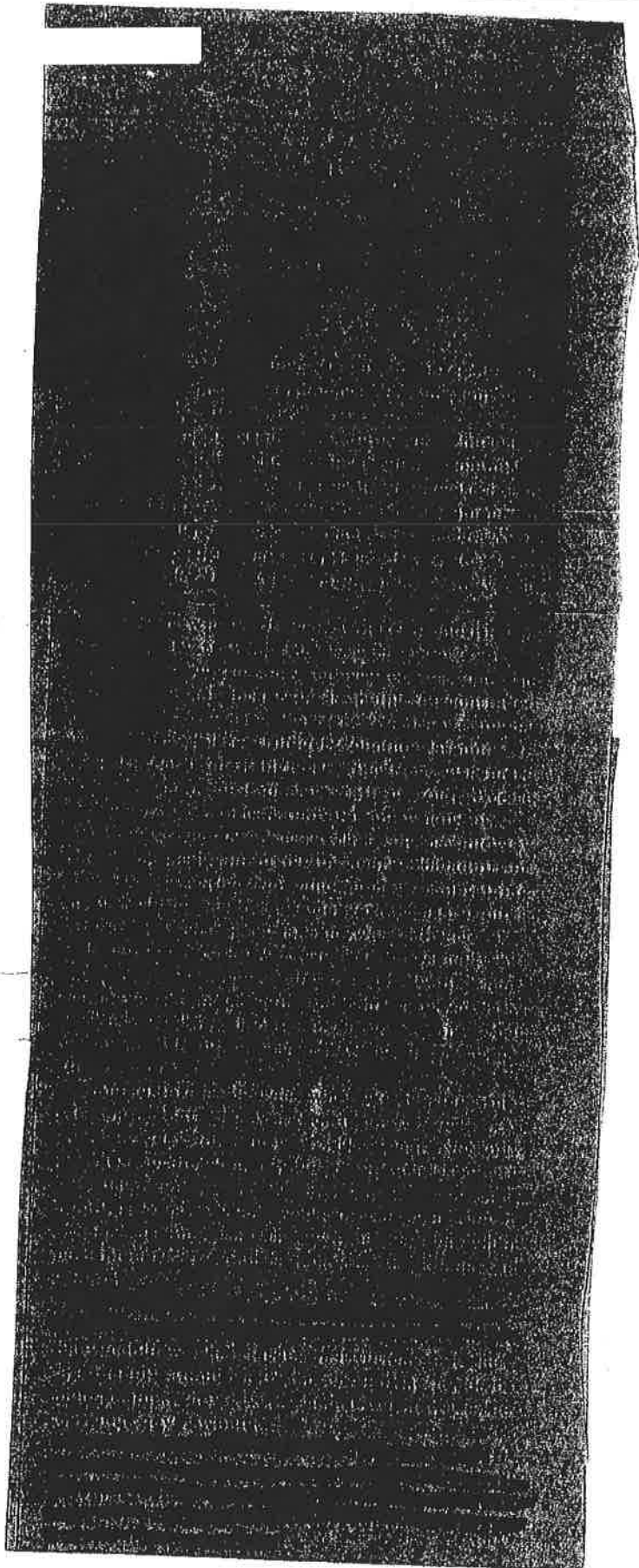
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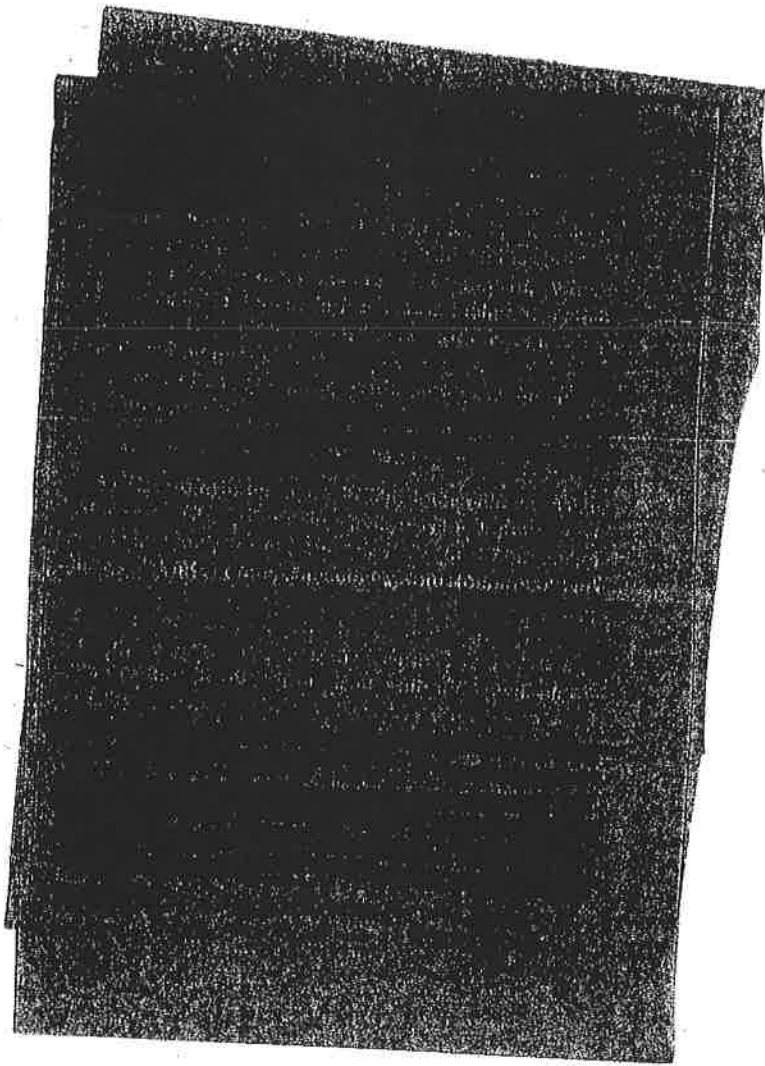
RT



RT000233



RT



RT000234

RT

April 22, 1988

Dear

This past week I received your letter of April 11 as well as a copy of a letter that you wrote to Bishop Watters on October 11, 1984. I was unacquainted with your previous correspondence, and I would appreciate an opportunity to pursue the matter with Father Taylor and Bishop Watters. I shall await your approval to use your letters as a basis for my discussions with them.

Be assured of my best wishes for many blessings during this Easter season as we celebrate the return of spring here in southern Minnesota. You have the support of my prayers, and I ask that you return this favor.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV/krs

RT000235

4/23/88

Bishop John Vlazny  
Diocese of Winona  
55 East Sanborn  
Winona, MN 55987

Dear Bishop Vlazny:

Thank you for the concern you showed in answering my letter of April 11. You may use my letters as well as the entire file in your discussions and/or correspondence with anyone you choose. Bishop Watters may have a nearly complete set of correspondence from me as well as from the many others who were involved. Archbishop Roach should have a more or less complete set. I sent two complete sets to Rome and delivered one complete set to Fr. Hargesheimer at St. Pius X.

As with many of these kinds of upheavals, the people involved may have been angry or hurt as well as isolated from their community by the events as well as the lack of opportunity for frank discussions. I would welcome the opportunity for such dialogue. My own perspective has matured and become less angry. I am sure that the perspectives of (Rochester), Father Al Gotmer (Rochester), Sister Joan Blank (Winona), and others could add much to the church's ability to respond to these and future problems.

I thank you once more and believe that our prayers will be reflected in our work for justice.

Sincerely,

RT

APR 26 1988

4/23/88

Bishop John Vlazny  
Diocese of Winona  
55 East Sanborn  
Winona, MN 55987

Dear Bishop Vlazny:

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                  and others could add much to the church's ability to respond to these and future problems.

I thank you once more and believe that our prayers will be reflected in our work for justice.

Sincerely,

RT000236

RT

July 14, 1988

Dear

Please excuse my delay in responding to a letter I received from you at the end of April. I would appreciate an opportunity to talk to you about the contents of your letter.

During the next two weeks I shall be away, but I would appreciate your calling and making arrangements to see me sometime in early August. I would welcome the opportunity to visit.

May the Lord bless you and give you His peace. You are in my prayers.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV/krs

RT000237

Osborne

6 August 88

Dear Bishop Wagner,

My sincere prayer is that you will consider this matter seriously.

The priest, Father Taylor, is in need of your prayers and help. We simply can't go on like this.

We need a spiritual leader with at least a little humility, (Ambrose, not to gossip) allow people to be involved and not put down. Another thing, a priest shouldn't be so selfish and arrogant to think only he is right. He should listen and not feel only he can make the decisions.

St. Mary's needs help.

Since spirituality is our life - we are leaving St. Mary's as is our family and others. Sometimes these people never come back.

Sincerely in Christ,

6 August 88

Dear Bishop Vlazny,

My sincere prayer is that you will consider this matter seriously.

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Sincerely in Christ,

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

August 15, 1988

Dear

Thank you very much for your letter of concern about your Pastor, Father Taylor. I plan to look into the matter, but you could assist me greatly if you would allow me to share the concerns you expressed in your letter with Father Taylor. If St. Mary's does need help, I will need your assistance to provide that help.

Thank you very much for your expression of concern. I promise to keep you in my prayers and I ask you to stay with St. Mary's at this time. A parish is bigger than any one person. God bless. I look forward to hearing from you..

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV/jmb

RT000503



RT

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

August 15, 1988

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Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV/jmb

RT000239

RECEIVED NOV 26 1988

Give thanks to God always and for everything

in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Eph 5:20)

Nov. 23, 1988

Dear Bishop Uziy,

Happy Thanksgiving!

I have enclosed the "watered-down" version of the Pastoral Plan for Hispanics. I hope it will serve as a guide for your deans.

I haven't been able to get any information on where abouts. A possibility might be to contact the seminary and ask for home address or phone number. His father would certainly know where is. I think his surname is God-buck and I'll continue to pray for God's guidance



Sma

RT

---

*in to ...tter.*

*Sincerely,*

RECEIVED DEC 20 1988

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY SEMINARY

Saint Mary's College  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987



RT

*Bishop Vlady —*

*Address:*

RT000242

bc: Father Mahon

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

December 21, 1988

Dear

Recently I visited with Sister Anna Louise Kemen who had worked among the Hispanic people of Madelia, where you recently resided in the parish house. In the course of our conversation, Sister Anna Louise expressed some concerns that you had shared with her which resulted from your time there with the pastor, Father Robert Taylor.

Now that you are somewhat removed from the scene, perhaps you would not mind sharing with me exactly what it was that troubled you at your time in the parish house. Your input would be very helpful to me in trying to deal with the situation. I wish I could have spoken with you before you left the area.

If you could drop me a line, that would be fine. If you would prefer to speak with me on the phone, please do so. If I am not available, please speak with the Vicar General, Father Gerald Mahon, here at the Pastoral Center. Our number is 507-454-4643. We are usually here between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm Central Standard Time. If you cannot reach us, please leave a number where one of us could reach you.

Thank you very much for whatever cooperation and assistance you can give me. I hope that the New Year will be bright for you and that you will enjoy your stay in the Navy. I have a good friend who serves as a naval chaplain in the San Diego area. He is Father David Ball. If you have difficulty reaching me, you might ask him to give some assistance. Thanks.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

The Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV:wb

RT000505

RT

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

December 21, 1988

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Now that you are somewhat removed from the scene, perhaps you would not mind sharing with me exactly what it was that troubled you at your time in the parish house. Your input would be very helpful to me in trying to deal with the situation. I wish I could have spoken with you before you left the area.

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Thank you very much for whatever cooperation and assistance you can give me. I hope that the New Year will be bright for you and that you will enjoy your stay. I have a good friend who serves as a \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ He is \_\_\_\_\_ If you have difficulty reaching me, you might ask him to give some assistance. Thanks.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

The Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV:wb

RT000243

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

Dear Bishop John G. Vlazny,

Thank you very much for being interested in my stay in Madelia. I found the people there to be very loving, and I enjoyed working with the Hispanics immensely. The children and their parents took to my care very well. I also enjoyed working with Sister Anna Louise Kemen. It was apparent that the people there love her and respect her. I am only sorry that my work with them was so short. I believe that God is calling me to ministry and to the ministry for the Hispanic people in particular. My best friend in the seminary was from \_\_\_\_\_ will be ordained this next month.

When I received the invitation to go to Madelia, I was on my way to California to visit with the Missionaries of Charity and I had a retreat planned out for Christmas in Italy. Father Taylor had received my name from my former seminary and I was one of his last hopes. He had been doing some interviewing and most of the choices were unavailable. I took his offer to work in Madelia only because I need the experience and because I thought that it would be rewarding to work with the Hispanic people who were in need of food, social services, Church, and love. I did not have much time to decide. Father Taylor explained that if I was to take the job that I would have to get back to Minnesota as soon as possible because they were behind in their programs. I left immediately after my brother's wedding.

I do not have alot to say about living with Father Taylor. I can only tell you my expectations. I told him that I was willing to try whatever ministerial task that the parish was ready to assume with in its budget. I want<sup>ed</sup> to have time to pray and live like I thought that parish priests live or like what I was told was necessary to support priestly life. I can not say that I did not have time to pray, condition myself through the YMCA, or go to mass, but I found these interests of mine to be difficult to do continuously in Madelia. Father said that I had a car for my use and then he made it apparent that it was mostly for parish use. I learned to follow the flow of the parish and its understandings about cost and use of its property. But what Father intended and what became reality were the same only with quite a little perseverance on my part. I had to continually remind him about our verbal contract. He never put anything in writing. I guess that I can only say that I found his style of management to be a little free flowing. He did get all of his tasks accomplished and the people in the parish seemed to be pleased with his services, so I am not a good judge there. I met some Hispanic families that were in the parish for some time, and they were a little concerned that father wanted them to be

RT000507

enrolled in Saint Mary's school. I did not know the policy on who is to enroll, nor did I know the cost of enrollment. I think that Father Taylor wanted the people in the church to send the children to the school because there was no CCD for grade school children from the public school. The CCD program in Madelia started in the junior high school.

I was in charge of RCIA, and I think that we were developing a good program and experience for those who wanted to come back to the Church and for those who wanted to become Catholic. As time went on, the class went from about ten candidates down to about four. The last weekend that I stayed there for RCIA, no one came to the meeting. We were making progress in the time that I was there. It took a few weeks for the people to feel free to express their feelings. I think that when father invited them into RCIA that they were expecting instruction. I think that they acted as they should have reacted for a new program. I expected a little more participation because the parish had just finished Renew, but I did not know nor was I involved in the selection process. These people were lined up for RCIA before I arrived on the scene.

In regards to living with Father Taylor, I was probably assuming too much from a rural parish with only one priest for three parishes. I have lived in large rectories before with at least two priests. I was hoping to have prayer like twice a day, father was able to do it with me in the morning and that was fine. I was not too concerned about eating together because I know that he had a busy schedule. Father Taylor does well under pressure. He always finished a task on time. I would not follow his style of management because I like to get my tasks done about a day before they are due, if possible, and I then try to check them over if there is time. But I know that ministry is full of wonderful surprises and that each person has their own style of dealing with them. Father Taylor seemed to work well with his staff and had their respect. I like the way that he was able to make people feel like the ship was not up even if we were up to our chin in paperwork. In sum, Father Taylor was easy to work with and he gave me a lot of room to be creative. In terms of meeting the expectations that I had when I interviewed with him over the phone, I would not have taken the assignment under the verbal scenario that he presented had I had more time to see the living arrangement. I sold my car and the verbal agreement included a car. I think that it was proper for the parish car to be used for only parish use, but father should have stated that over the phone. I do not feel bad about losing my trip to Italy because I made up the money to cover the cost and it was great to experience the Hispanic ministry for even a brief amount of time. I could live modestly because I like to live simply, but I felt guilty about receiving the ample salary that I had with the little work that was available. Winter was setting in and all of the new families coming into Madelia were settled in so I was mostly involved in follow up ministry and the continued practice of Spanish. The RCIA came to a stand still, and I felt that it was going to creep along because of the fact that the timing was bad for a rural farm community and they did not like their free time used up on Sunday. I can not judge this reasoning, I found it to be their way and I could only show interest to them for RCIA. I could not nor should I tell them their priorities.



Currently, I am busy completing . I have signed on with the to serve in a capacity that fits with my abilities and interests. I am enjoying the I have not seen anything except the , but I am told that the area is very large and spread out. I am trying to use my ministerial skills in coordination with the chaplain's office here at the Naval Training Center.

I am a , and I try to be flexible in any given situation. The men in my company are about ten years younger than me, but I am getting along quite fine within my company. The company is using my past ministerial experience to help him to create community within the company. I do this harmony building by leading the prayers and by being the . I also serve the chaplains by helping the coordination of the liturgies. I help to set up each mass, and I train the readers to proclaim the gospel readings for each Sunday. The chaplains here believe that I should try to become a . I am now seeking this out because I have always wanted to be a chaplain, but I was waiting for it to be recognized that I have the capabilities to do the task. Father John Quinn is helping me to apply.

I will give you more information if you require it, and I will be of service to you or to the Church in Winona in any way that I can. I would greatly appreciate it if you could help me in any way to be received in to the San Diego Diocese. I am receiving plenty of help from Father Quinn in regards to who to meet and to apply through, but I would like to talk to Father Ball at his convenience to get a better idea of what this area is like and to get an understanding of the needs of the people living in the area. If you could help in any way in this discernment process, I would greatly honored. Please keep me in your prayers.

Sincerely Yours,

RT000509

RECEIVED JAN 3 1989

RT

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

Dear Bishop John G. Vlazny,

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RT000244

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RT000245

RT

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Sincerely Yours,

RT000246

FILE COPY

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

January 23, 1989

Dear

Thank you very much for your recent letter. I appreciated hearing from you and I am grateful for your willingness to review your experiences at Madelia with me.

, at the end of your letter you indicated that you would be willing to give me more information if I were to require it. I would like to reach you by telephone so that we might clarify some matters that were brought to my attention. Please do me the favor of sending me a telephone number at which you can be reached. Please feel free to call me at the Diocesan Pastoral Center in Winona (507-454-4643) with a message. Please reverse the charges.

God bless you in your new life with the                      You will  
be in my prayers.

Your brother in the Lord,

The Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV:wb

RT000506

RT

FILE COPY

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

January 23, 1989

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God bless you in your new life with  
be in my prayers.

You will

Your brother in the Lord,

The Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV:wb

RT000247

June, 1958

RECEIVED JUN 7 1958

Pastor's Ology.

I & my husband are writing an article to our Ology, Father Taylor. We have never complained about a priest before, but our pastor's school has gone downhill since he came, as we are concerned. When he first came, we liked him, but after he was here a while things changed.

He started making remarks about people that went to him for counseling. Then he was confidential. The word of confidence was the good word for counseling, & has now left the church. He has made nasty remarks about couples that have had marriage counseling.

He has also called the altar boys names, some examples his abusing God and young boys. Some of the parents will wonder their boys be altar boys now while Father Taylor is here. We know the father of one of the altar boys he called a name, no longer goes to church, the father is a  
 He also blame him for feeling that way. We think a priest doing that is reprehensible. In the 6<sup>th</sup> grade class Father was sneering, so the kids had to get after him!

He has also called some of the married in the parish names, like bitch, slut, gossip monger. It is hard to believe a priest can be this, but this is all true, so if you know.

... and no more in my own name. Her new story!  
Every wedding subject. ... and up fighting  
with him, he dictated to the ... how to ...  
labeled, even tells them when to ...  
do the same for ...  
to the ...  
was not married so his sisters ...  
care of the arrangements. They are ...  
town. One sister told us, ...  
Prison. They were very angry at ...  
things. And a game ...  
is his way. Some ...

Father Taylor doesn't keep himself clean. The  
altar boys complain about his ...  
do other people. It is ...  
funeral. I wish there was something wrong with  
man's his age ...

Some of the ...  
out of town, ...  
of ...  
We are ...  
a good school ...  
you ...  
went to ...  
Father should have ...  
around ...  
must ...  
also other incidents ...  
questioned. We ...  
What ...  
Church ...  
hand ...  
is ...



We want this letter to remain confidential.

RT

We have grand children, most of them school age. This is the fourth semester going to our school, so we are very concerned. We do not want Father Taylor taking over our school & their families. The families are upset enough. We wanted you to know what was going on here. Maybe this won't do any good, but some of us feel very frustrated & almost abandoned. No one really cares about our opinion or our school.

Thank you for listening to us.

Sincerely,

RT

FILE COPY

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

June 8, 1989

Dear

This week I received your letter in which you reviewed several concerns of yours about parish life at St. Mary's in Madelia. I can understand your request for confidentiality concerning your letter and complaint, but, unless I am able to share the letter with Fr. Taylor, the information will not be very helpful.

If you should reconsider your decision about confidentiality, I would be most grateful. But if you cannot, I understand. I shall do what I can with my limited resources to learn more about the situation.

All of you are very much in my prayers. I enjoyed my visit to St. Mary's for Confirmation this spring. Your parish has a wonderful reputation in the Diocese of Winona. I pray that your good name will be enhanced and preserved. God bless.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

*John D. Blasing*

Bishop of Winona

JGV:jm

RT000251

RECEIVED JUN 19 1959

RT

June 14, 1959

Bishop Vlazny,

We received your letter & thank you  
for answering. The last two letters had to  
be confidential, as would be the  
many problems found, in our families &  
our grand children. It is a small town  
& small parish & will very much affect  
us

We understand your position on this  
matter too. We will all make it through  
this, because we have a strong parish, &  
very dedicated teachers in our school.  
Our young parents of the school children are  
also very dedicated to a religious education.  
As for us we are convinced we will  
survive it no matter. Hopefully things will  
improve, Thank you

Sincerely,

RT000252

RT

FILE MEMORANDUM

To: File  
From: Bishop John Vlazny  
Date: July 17, 1989  
Re: Father Robert Taylor

I met with Father Taylor on June 28 at St. Francis Church. We reviewed his transfer from St. Pius, Rochester, to Madelia five years ago. We also discussed some of the troubles that are currently besetting him in Madelia these days. Parishioners have heard rumors about his transfer five years ago and also some questions have arisen about appropriate behaviors within the rectory at present.

At the meeting Father Taylor insisted that he did visit with 1984. Eventually I learned that he had one appointment, but no report was sent to Bishop Watters about that visit.

I spoke with him via telephone on July 14 and asked him to go to a psychological evaluation. Depending upon the evaluation, a report of which will be sent to me, he may return to for consultation.

Concerns about homosexual companions in his life as well as his personal great need to control matters, as in the Priests' Retirement Board, make this situation problematic. Bob may need help. He works very, very hard and may be overextending himself to compensate for other matters.

see Bob and I will meet with him again.

RT000253



DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

RECEIVED  
JUN 20 1989

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

June 19, 1989

Rev. Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary's Church  
212 First Street, N.E.  
Madelia, Minnesota 56062

Dear Bob,

Thank you for requesting a Bishop's Medal for . I shall arrange to have one sent to you that you will be able to present to her at a Sunday mass or a special parish gathering. Please convey my personal sentiments of appreciation to for her generous service to the church these many years. The article in the newspaper was certainly impressive.

Bob, I was hoping to see you at the Workshops, but I did not notice your presence until Wednesday morning, when it was too late. Please do me the favor of calling my office and arranging for an appointment soon. If it is too difficult for you to come to Winona, perhaps we can arrange to meet in Rochester someday when I will be heading that way.

Your brother in the Lord,

*+ John G. Vlazny*

The Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV:jm

RT000465

RT

FILE COPY

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4613

September 21, 1989

Reverend Peter Lechner, S.P.  
Director  
Villa Louis Martin  
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

Re: Reverend Robert H. Taylor  
St. Mary Church  
212 First Street N.W.  
Madelia, MN 56062  
(507)642-8305

Dear Father Lechner,

It is with a sense of deep respect and appreciation that I refer one of our diocesan priests, Father Robert Taylor, to your care at Villa Louis Martin. Father Taylor presently serves as pastor of three parishes in the diocese, one of which has a school. He has been a priest of the diocese for over thirty years and was born June 13, 1930.

Father Taylor comes from a small town here in southern Minnesota and served for many years as a college teacher at our Catholic college in Winona, St. Mary's, before full-time pastoral ministry the past seven years.

Since my arrival in the Diocese of Winona two years ago, several times I have been called upon to deal with complaints and concerns that were raised as a result of Father Taylor's ministry.

First of all, there was a huge controversy in our presbyterate concerning the Priests' Retirement Fund which Father Taylor had managed for many years. Essentially, the priests perceived Father Taylor's involvement as a tremendous asset because his reports indicated that investments were reaping marvelous returns. In fact, the returns were

RT000259

RT

Reverend Peter Lechner, S.P.  
September 21, 1989  
Page 2

no greater than what one could have achieved by keeping the money in a traditional 5% savings account. Some still wonder what he actually did with the funds because so many of the investments were of a rather risky nature. We still are having trouble collecting from some of the creditors in the area of real estate investments that he made. One individual claims that the diocese owes him money because of promises Father Taylor made about further payments if investments went well. My predecessor knew nothing of these promises. It probably has more to say with the type of individual with whom Father Taylor worked than with what he may actually have said.

Father Taylor has been assigned to the three parishes in central Minnesota for over four years now. He began with two parishes and picked up a third one. He is bright and capable, but winds up being unappreciated by many people in the parish. He has a way of talking down to people and he uses vulgar language in the presence of youngsters. This is probably a carryover from his college ministry days. A cloud of sexual innuendo seems to follow him in recent years. Some parishioners of his present church have become curious about his untimely transfer into their midst from a large parish in Rochester. Truthfully, my predecessor transferred him to remove him from a problematic situation where his associate pastor, who has subsequently left the priesthood, was accusing him of inappropriate homosexual involvements with young men in the rectory.

This past year a member of Father's staff reported that a young ex-seminarian lived with Father Taylor for six weeks and eventually left because he sensed that Father Taylor might act inappropriately with him. Father Taylor says the young man himself was a homosexual and denies any inappropriate behavior with the young man. Father Taylor denies that he is a homosexual. But there certainly seems to be a concern about boundaries for him with respect to relationships.

This summer I asked that he approach \_\_\_\_\_ licensed consulting psychologist, for a psychological evaluation. \_\_\_\_\_ reported to me that Father Taylor's MacAndrew's Alcoholism Scale Score on the MMPI was 25, above that of the general population and averages at our \_\_\_\_\_ for victims of alcoholism here in Rochester. Father denies any problem with alcohol, indicating to me that he drinks very irregularly.

RT000260



RT

Reverend Peter Lechner, S.P.  
September 21, 1989  
Page 3

The concerns about finance, crude and controlling ways of dealing with people, recurring sexual innuendo, extraordinary involvement in work, the question about the alcoholism scale, and the fears of parishioners all prompt this recommendation. This is certainly an opportunity for some self exploration and personal growth in Father Taylor's life. Father Taylor has agreed to this personal leave, albeit reluctantly. In many ways he views this intervention on my part as "much to do about nothing." But I continue to be concerned about him and am hopeful that you will be able to provide him with a climate and a program that will provide him with new directions and allay some of the continuing concerns that plague his ministry.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

The Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV:wb

RT000261

The Most Rev. John G. Vlazon  
Box 588  
Winona, Mn. 55987

Your Excellency,

I am requesting a personal leave of absence from St Mary's of Madelia, Holy Family of Lake Crystal and St Catherine's of Truman to begin on or about Oct 15, 1989, The exact date at your discretion.

Please advise whether you want me to remove all my personal belongings from the parish residences; should I pack up all my books, furniture etc.

Thank you for your concern.

Obediently in Christ

(Father) Robert H. Taylor

bc: Reverend Gerald Mahon

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

FILE COPY

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4643

September 22, 1989

Reverend Robert Taylor  
St. Mary Church  
212 First Street N.W.  
Madelia, MN 56062

Dear Bob,

My prayers and concern for you are undiminished, but I am extremely grateful for your cooperation in our recent discussions about your personal leave and program of care in the months ahead. I simply would like to confirm in writing some of the matters we discussed in recent days. Father Peter Lechner, S.P., is the director of Villa Louis Martin in Jemez Springs, New Mexico, where you will be going for assessment and care. I have written to him giving my approval of your entry into an appropriate program at the Villa. I remind you to sign your release for Dr. Ollendick so that he may send the evaluation he prepared for me in August to Father Lechner.

You will be expected in Jemez Springs on Monday, October 16. After Father Lechner receives my letter, he will contact you about arrangements for your stay there. He will eventually need information about the way you will arrive, if you will need to be met at the airport.

I am asking you and Father Collins to agree mutually about the announcement of your plans. Father Charles Collins will serve as administrator of the parish in the months ahead. I believe that he would like to be able to tell the people in Leroy and Grand Meadow on the weekend of September 30 - October 1 about his departure on October 16.

You will be free of your responsibilities at Madelia, Lake Crystal and Truman after Sunday, October 15. If you need to leave sooner for whatever reason, please let me know so that appropriate substitution can be provided on that final weekend.

May the Lord continue to bless you in the weeks and months ahead. I pray that this will be a time of very special and amazing grace for you.

Your brother in the Lord,

The Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV:wb

RT000513

RT

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

FILE COPY

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 508  
Tel. 507/454-4613

September 22, 1989

Reverend Robert Taylor  
St. Mary Church  
212 First Street N.W.  
Madelia, MN 56062

Dear Bob,

My prayers and concern for you are undiminished, but I am extremely grateful for your cooperation in our recent discussions about your personal leave and program of care in the months ahead. I simply would like to confirm in writing some of the matters we discussed in recent days. Father Peter Lechner, S.P., is the director of Villa Louis Martin in Jemez Springs, New Mexico, where you will be going for assessment and care. I have written to him giving my approval of your entry into an appropriate program at the Villa. I remind you to sign your release for so that he may send the evaluation he prepared for me in August

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Your brother in the Lord,

The Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV:wb

RT000262

RT



RECEIVED OCT 14 1989

Jemez Springs, New Mexico 87025 (505) 829-3586

September 25, 1989

Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
 Bishop of Winona  
 Office of the Bishop: P.O. Box 588  
 Winona, Minnesota 55987

Dear Bishop Vlazny,

Thank you for your letter of the 21st of September, outlining the issues that have lead to the Reverend Robert Taylor's being referred to Villa Louis Martin for evaluation and treatment. I appreciate your taking the time to write in detail about these matters and your personal concern about Father Taylor. I and the staff here will be happy to do whatever we can to help him in terms of spiritual help and therapy.

We are ready to receive him on Monday the 16th of October; during the rest of the week he will be undergoing evaluation. At the end of the week he can either return to Minnesota to wait the results of the evaluation, or he can stay on and begin the program on the following Monday (October 23rd). Either way will work well with our scheduling; it would be important, of course, that this is clear to Fr. Taylor before he leaves Minnesota.

Respectfully yours,

*Peter Lechner, s.P.*  
 (rev.) Peter Lechner, s.P.  
 Director: Villa Louis Martin

OCT 10

Dear Bishop Vlazny,

*loved today to say that you had  
 had no word yet from me re Fr. Taylor. Apparently my letter -  
 of which this is a copy, had not reached you. While speaking with  
 it was clarified that Fr. Taylor will be staying on after  
 the evaluation, to begin the program. I also phoned Fr. Taylor.*



*Belmonts,  
 Peter Lechner, s.P.*

RT000263

RT

RECEIVED OCT 16 1989

Bishop John G. Vlazny  
Office of the Winona Catholic Diocese  
Winona, Mn. 55987

10-13-89

Dear Bishop Vlazny,

"QUOTED BY REV. CANON GEOFFREY GRAY: People expect their priest to have the skill in sermon composition of Knox, the oratorical power of Churchill, the personal charm of a film star, the tact of royalty, the hide of a hippo, the administrative ability of Lord Nuffield, the wisdom of Socrates and the patience of Job. Some people must often be disappointed." (R.D. Sept. 1989)

With Father Taylor going on a leave of absence, it makes one wonder just what is going on. What has prompted this leave? It also makes me want to show both you and Father Taylor my solid show of support for his pastorate while being here at St. Marys parish. He is a great priest. He has given all of his time for the past five years to serving the needs of the parishes that he serves. I have worked closely with him on various things while serving a three year term on the parish finance committee.

However, more important than the secular business of a parish, is the spiritual business. The spiritual leadership given by Father Taylor is second to none. In my own personal experience he has guided my family through the trials and tribulations associated with the death of my mother in            and my father in            Without exception, anyone under his pastorate that has had a crisis in their families, will tell you that he was there with guidance and support. As far as I am concerned, this is what the priesthood is all about. He has served the needs of his flock very well.

We have had quite an influx of Hispanics in our community. Many of these people came here without clothing, food, shelter or the ability to speak English. Father Taylor has done more for the Hispanics than all of the protestant ministers combined.

RT000264

(we have ten protestant churches in and around our community) Unfortunately, it is this very work (the work of Christ) that has probably brought him the most criticism. I am not proud to admit that we have our share of prejudices towards the Hispanics both in our community and within our church. I am not sure that we, as parishoners, or the Hispanics themselves, appreciate the effort and work put forth by Father Taylor in helping these people both spiritually and domestically. Without a doubt, Father Taylor has done more for the physical well-being of the Spanish Americans than anyone else in town. Under his leadership, we have learned what it is like to listen to scripture in a language other than our own. We have listened to, and sung with, the Hispanics both in English and in Spanish. It has been interesting. It has been good.

Father Taylor is a workaholic. He seems to thrive on being busy all of the time. He has given every day of the past five years to the people that he serves. I do not want him leaving here under adverse conditions or under circumstances that would have him leaving with a bad feeling. He deserves better than that. He is a good person. He is concerned about the education, welfare and spirituality of his parishoners and he works tirelessly for them.

You should be well aware of the fact that it is extremely difficult to keep a Catholic school in operation at this time. We still have our school. Again, it is through the efforts of Father Taylor that we have not only maintained our school but are able to offer quality education. He and a committee are working hard on an endowment program in order to perpetuate this Catholic institution. Not only has the education of our school been important to Father Taylor, but he has always insisted on education for the adults as well and has tried various programs directed towards this goal.

He has had a big job while serving as pastor here. He has done a good job. Please make sure that he is not punished because of a few malcontents.

Sincerely,

P.S. After writing and rereading this letter, a couple of other things came to mind regarding Father Taylor and his pastorate; He did much more than help our family during the illness and death of our parents. Before they became ill, he spent time with them. He became good friends with them. Not only did he spend time with my parents, but he also found time to visit the other shut-ins of our parish. Not an easy task when trying to keep three parishes going.

Another thing that I admired in Father Taylor was his ability to stay away from, and stay out of the various social cliques that seem to be a part of some parishes including my own. It may well be that some people criticize him for this but there are far more of us that admire him because of it.

If he feels that he is right about something, he will stick by his feelings even though it may mean stepping on somebodies toes. No pussyfooting around. I like that in an individual.



RT

DIOCESE OF WINONA  
55 WEST SANBORN  
WINONA, MINNESOTA 55987

FILE COPY

Office of the  
Bishop

PO Box 588  
Tel. 507/454-4613

October 16, 1989

Dear

Please accept this acknowledgement of your recent letter dated October 13, 1989. I was happy that you sent a copy to Father Taylor, because so often our priests are informed about criticisms but not about praise. I am sure that Father Taylor appreciates your support.

Permit me to add my own personal gratitude for all the kind things you had to say about the spiritual leadership of Father Taylor as pastor of your parish. Please keep him in your prayers during this time of a personal leave. As you indicated in your letter, he works very hard and deserves some time for his own needs and well-being.

I hope that the new parish administrator, \_\_\_\_\_, will receive the same cooperation from you as did Father Taylor. God bless.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

The Most Reverend John G. Vlazny  
Bishop of Winona

JGV:wb

RT000267