

**The following is a translation of the letter, from its original Latin, to English, provided by AP.**

Most Excellent Bishop

Having received your letter of September 13 of this year, regarding the matter of the removal from all priestly burdens pertaining to Rev Stephen Miller Kiesle in your diocese, it is my duty to share with you the following: This court, although it regards the arguments presented in favour of removal in this case to be of grave significance, nevertheless deems it necessary to consider the good of the Universal Church together with that of the petitioner, and it is also unable to make light of the detriment that granting the dispensation can provoke with the community of Christ's faithful, particularly regarding the young age of the petitioner.

It is necessary for this Congregation to submit incidents of this sort to very careful consideration, which necessitates a longer period of time.

In the meantime your Excellency must not fail to provide the petitioner with as much paternal care as possible and in addition to explain to same the rationale of this court, which is accustomed to proceed keeping the common good especially before its eyes.

Let me take this occasion to convey sentiments of the highest regard always to you.

Your most Reverend Excellency  
Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger



SACRA CONGREGATIO  
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

00193 Romae, die 6 novembris 1985  
Piazza del S. Uffizio, 11

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BISHOP'S OFFICE

PROT. N. 469/818.

(In responsione fiat mentio huius numeri)

Excellentissime Domine,

Acceptis Tuis litteris diei 13 septembris h.a., circa causam dispensationis ab omnibus oneribus sacerdotalibus quae attinet ad Rev. Stephanum MILLER KIESLE, istius dioecesis, officii mei est Tecum communicare quae sequuntur.

Hoc Dicasterium, etsi gravis momenti aestimet argumenta adducta pro dispensatione in casu postulata, attamen necessarium censet considerare una cum oratoris etiam Ecclesiae Universalis bonum, et ideo parvi facere nequit detrimenta, quae dispensationis concessio in christifidelium communitate provocare potest, attenta juvenili praesertim oratoris aetate.

Oportet proinde hanc Congregationem subjicere huiusmodi casus accuratiori examini, quod longius temporis spatium necessario requiret.

Interim Excellentia Tua ne omittat oratorem paterna qua pollet cura sequi, eidem insuper apte patefaciendo rationem agendi, huius Dicasterii, quod procedere solet habito prae oculis praepriis bono communi.

Hanc occasionem nactus, impensus aestimationis meae sensus Tibi obtestor, permanens

Excellentiae Tuae Rev.mae  
add.mus

*Joseph Card. Nakinger*

Exc.mo ac Rev.mo Domino  
Dno Ioanni S. CUMMINS  
Ordinario

QUERCOPOLITAN.

RCBO-KIE 0187