

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

BOX 2015

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

November 5, 2002

Father Michael Bik, OSB
Saint John's Abbey

Dear Father Michael:

The past months of intensive media reporting have had a brutal impact on this entire community. However, as someone who has had an allegation of sexual abuse in the past, you, along with other monks, have been singled out by the media for especially negative treatment.

Now that we have gone through the Star-Tribune article and the settlements, I think that we can and we must attend to the emotional and spiritual needs of the entire community, as a group and as individuals. And this needs to be done in a systematic manner. So I am asking Prior Ray Pedrizetti to act as a vicar for all those monks who have had allegations made against them. I write this letter so that you know that when Prior Ray asks to see you and discuss your situation, he is doing so at my request.

I am very grateful to you for your steadfastness and patience during this difficult and heart-rending time. I can only imagine the range of emotions that you have felt during this time. Be assured that we as a community and I as abbot want to attend to healing and reconciliation.

Sincerely in Christ,



Abbot John Klassen, OSB

cc: Prior Raymond Pedrizetti, OSB

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