

Mem:

Bob Rossi

COPY

October 1, 1992  
Bob Rossi, O.S.C.

Funcheon

Fr. Bob Sell, chancellor of the Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana, called on Sept. 29 to update me on developments about ex-Crosier Father Jerry Funcheon. (Bob's telephone numbers are 317-742-0275 [office] and 317-742-3286 [residence]).

Jerry was at the moment with his mother but will be reporting to St. Michael's, a treatment center of the Paraclete Fathers in St. Louis on Oct 5. This was Jerry's choice, with which his Bishop concurred. Jerry is expected to me in treatment at least 5 months.

In a conversation with the Bishop, Jerry indicated that there may be around 50 victims with whom he engaged in mutual masturbation or improper touch which these young men were between the ages of 10 and 16. Bob Sell indicated that Jerry was having a hard time seeing improper touch as sexual abuse.

I asked Bob whether he had pursued the complaint received by the Order in Minnesota via the anonymous call on the hot line to the radio station. He spoke with Jerry about that in the light of the above information. Bob said that he was going to insist that Jerry write me a letter, personally informing me of his situation at this time. (I later spoke with Kevin Hughes about how I should pursue that complaint with Jerry. He agreed that it is best to leave it now in the hands of the Diocese of Lafayette with their assurance that it is being dealt with.)

Evaluating psychologist Tom Drummond (New Life Center, The Plains, Virginia) reported that Jerry's celibate lifestyle in the last ten years should not be discounted as an indication of some sexual healing and growth already. But the need for therapy at this time remains imperative.

Bob Sell asked whether he could personally review the Crosier file on Jerry or at least be sent copies of documents relative to sexual misconduct. Jerry is aware of this request. Bob said that the information would be for his eyes only and that all such copies would be shredded immediately after his reading them. I agreed to go through Jerry's file and make copies of pertinent documents.

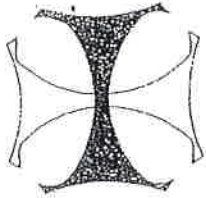
Bob also asked about the Statute of Limitations in Minnesota. Since I could not answer his question, I referred him to Fr. Kevin McDonough of the Archdiocese of St. Paul from whom he was seeking advice about handling Jerry's alleged sexual misconduct.

I again affirmed the Crosier Order's desire to be as helpful to the Diocese of Lafayette as possible. I gave Bob the Kevin Hughes' name and telephone number. He gave me the name, address and telephone numbers of his diocese's counsel: John Bodel, 801 Life Bldg., Lafayette, IN 47902; telephone 317-423-1561 (office) and 317-463-5270 (home).

Bob Rossi

C-GF00650

COPY



## Crosier Fathers and Brothers Province

3204 East 43rd Street • Minneapolis, MN 55406

Phone (612) 722-2223  
FAX (612) 722-4027

December 9, 1992

Rev. Robert Sell  
Bishop's Office  
P.O. Box 260  
Lafayette, IN 47902

Dear Bob,

My apologies for the long delay in getting this report off to you. Your request for a review of Fr. Jerry Funcheon's file got lost in a shuffle. I am glad that you called and that I now have the opportunity to provide you with the information you requested.

I have reviewed Fr. Jerry's file all the way back to his novitiate. There is little of note with respect to his current difficulties. In his theology years, his Magister commented often that he liked kids, could attract them and was a good disciplinarian with them. The only comment in his earliest evaluations that might merit attention, especially in hindsight, is a remark from an evaluation in 1965 by his Magister when he was a fourth year theologian: "Almost his sole interest is young boys."

The following is a statement prepared by Fr. Steve Henrich, O.S.C., acting provincial while Provincial Dan Davidson was out of the country. It concerns an incident while Fr. Jerry was stationed in Honolulu, Hawaii between 1982 and 1984.

"Jim Vedro called me to say that he had been contacted by the Principal of Damien High School. What follows has been taken care of, but feel that you need to know. Jerry took some students (4) on an outing. One of the students talked to his father about Jerry's behavior and the father went to the Principal of the School. The student indicated that after swimming in the ocean they went to take a shower and Jerry washed them. He told them that they would be spanked later (he was reported to have said that they would have to take down their pants), that he was going to torture them by rubbing his beard on their stomachs (sic.) and suggested that they go skinny-dipping later in the evening. The principal met with all the boys separately (sic.) and the stories agreed. The principal and vice-principal met with Jerry. He was very shocked by what was said. Jerry is going to meet with the parents of each of the students that he took on the outing. The

Principal has decided that there was nothing sexual going on but that the behavior was inappropriate. As of now, no disciplinary action is planned with Jerry.

The Principal knew Jim and found out from Jerry that you were out of the country so he contacted him. I asked Jim to stay in touch with the Principal and keep me informed which he did. No one else knows of this matter."

In September 1984 Fr. Jerry established a counseling relationship with Brian Robinson, Ph.D., 582 Lighthouse, Suite 6, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. This seems to be the most thorough-going and extensive counseling Fr. Jerry received while he was a Crosier.


The next incident that came to the attention of the Order on July 21, 1992, was through Fr. Kevin McDonough of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. He reported that a local TV station, KSTP, received a call on a "hot-line" with a complaint of sexual misconduct against a "Fr. Jerry." Given the sparse data on the call, it seems likely that the "Fr. Jerry" referred to was Fr. Funcheon. The caller reported an incident at St. Odilia Parish in Shoreview, MN, sometime in the 1970's. However, there was no way to follow-up on that call since there is no permanent record of it.

In Fr. Jerry's file there is much evidence of "butterflying" between ministries while he was with us and, especially later in his time with us, of growing discomfort between him and the Order. I am sorry that there is nothing else of substance or relevance to the issue that caused your inquiry.

I am enclosing the most up-to-date *Curriculum Vitae* that we have for Fr. Jerry.

If I can be any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call on me. My best to you as you handle this difficult business.

Sincerely yours in the Holy Cross,



V. Rev. Robert J. Rossi, O.S.C.  
Provincial

enc.

cc: Provincial File

C-GF00052

AMERICAN VICARIATE  
CROSIER FATHERS

NAME ..... Fuhcheon, Gerald .....

..... Fourth-year theologian .....

Year of Studies or Status in Order

From ..... July ....., 19 64 To ..... February ....., 19 65 .....

## OBSERVANCE OF DISCIPLINE:

Fairly good.

## CHARACTER TRAITS:

Almost his sole interest is young boys. Not much of a student. Rather quiet with men of his own age. Often wants his way.

## MENTALITY (Talents, Studies, Application; Qualifications as laybrother):

Studies mostly for exams, I'm told.

## PHYSICAL DATA:

Keeps himself fit.

## REMARKS (Signs of fitness or unfitness for community life; notable aptitudes, etc.):

In accordance with our Constitutions (cf. No. 343) this report is submitted.

Place ..... Crosier House of Studies .....

Superior or Rector

Date ..... February 4, 1965 .....

J. Fichtner

Master or Prefect

*Use reverse side for additional remarks.*



# DAMIEN

CONDUCTED BY THE CONGREGATION OF CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
1401 HOUGHTAILING STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817 • (808) 841-0198

To Whom It May Concern:

As vice principal and head of the Brothers Community I have known Father Jerry Funcheon here at Damien High School for the past two years.

Jerry is a multi-talented individual who has worked with us in many ways. He has taught religion, physical education and driver's education. To each of his classes he has brought organization, enthusiasm and concern for his students. He also uses many different instructional methods to meet the various needs of his students. He has also served as freshmen counselor and is very willing to help out at extra-curricular events in the school.

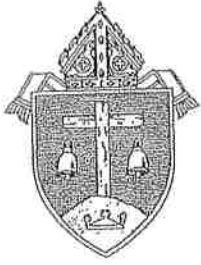
He also provides for the liturgical and spiritual needs of the community and the school. As campus minister he had set up an admirable program that provides masses, reconciliation and retreat days for all the students in the school. He has single-handedly organized and run most of these events and has worked well with the faculty in organizing other religious events.

Father Jerry is a dedicated, competent and professional educator and minister. His various abilities and cooperation make him an asset on any staff. I would strongly recommend him for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Br. Richard L. Stanich  
Assistant Principal

C-GF00197



*Jerry Funcheon*

**DIOCESE of MONTEREY**

PASTORAL OFFICE — 580 Fremont Street

P.O. Box 2048

Monterey, California 93942

Telephone (408) 373-4345

June 11, 1984

The Very Reverend Daniel R. Davidson, OSC  
Crosier Provincialate  
711 Lincoln Avenue  
Saint Paul, Mn. 55105.

Dear Fr. Davidson:

Bishop Shubsda has asked me to respond to your letter of June 5th, 1984, regarding the Reverend Gerald Funcheon, OSC.

Thank you for your permission to allow Fr. Funcheon to accept the post as Chaplain at Palma High School in Salinas. Your evaluation of his ministry is very encouraging.

I am happy to extend the faculties of the Diocese to Fr. Funcheon effective August 15th, 1984. These faculties will continue in existence for as long as Fr. Funcheon maintains his assignment as Chaplain at Palma High School.

God's blessings on your work.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

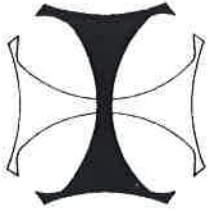
*Tod D Brown*

Reverend Msgr. Tod D. Brown  
Vicar General/Chancellor

TDB:LMW

CC: Father Gerald Funcheon  
Bro. Michael Segvich

C-GF00181



# **Crosier Fathers and Brothers Province**

**3204 East 43rd Street • Minneapolis, MN 55406 • Phone (612) 722-2223**

## **OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL**

July 24, 1985

Most Reverend John R. Roach, D.D.  
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-2197

Dear Archbishop Roach:

On behalf of Daniel R. Davidson, OSC, Provincial, who is out of the country, I wish to submit to you Father Gerald Funcheon, OSC, for appointment as associate pastor of St. Stephen's Parish, Anoka, effective August 11, 1985. I also request that you grant him faculties in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

Fr. Funcheon was born in Lafayette, Indiana, and was ordained in 1965. He has served as a minor seminary teacher, an Air Force Chaplain in both the United States and Europe, and is presently serving as chaplain in the United States Air National Guard of North Dakota. He has taught in Christian Brother high schools in both Honolulu, Hawaii, and Salinas, California.

Fr. Funcheon is a priest in good standing in our Order and in the Church.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

Sincerely yours in the Holy Cross,

*James A. Vedro, OSC*  
James A. Vedro, OSC  
Acting Provincial

jm

**Canons Regular of the Order of the Holy Cross**

ARCH-009729

8/5/03

Msgr. Sell called regarding status of:

Fr. Gerald Funcheon

(three allegations of sexual misconduct while he served at St. Odilia's ( [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] year old parishioner being the latest).

Fr. Gerald Funcheon does not have public ministry. He is living w/ Servants of Paraclete at John Vianney Renewal Center in St. Louis, MO. He continues to remain in that therapeutic/supervised setting. He only returned to them in last 6 months. He was there in 1992, but due to an administrative change while working on their staff (supervised setting as overseer of one of their residence settings), he was told by the new director that his services were no longer needed. At that time he left St. Louis and lived in New Port Richey, FL, where the bishop's office had full knowledge of his background. There he lived as lay person. He had restricted faculties and was permitted private daily mass in his residence. He was annually visited by their bishop in FL and kept regular contact w/ their office while in FL. As a result of protocol of Dallas - June 2002, Bishop Higi spoke to Jerry about considering going back to St. Michael Community, which he did. From Fr. Peter Lechner's (head of St. Michael's Community) perspective, Jerry is not an official staff member, however, teaches an exercise class 3 times a week. He's more of a resident in a therapeutic program. The program is to ensure his integrity.

**Any questions call at: 800.942.2397**