

MEMORANDUM

To: Rev. William F. Murphy
From: Sister Rita V. McCarthy, CSJ
Date: August 14, 1997
Re:

REDACTED

met with me at the Chancery to officially report incidents of sexual abuse at St. Anthony's Parish in Somerville by two priests. As far as he can recall this happened over a period of one year, off and on, during the time frame of 1967 to 1969. was nine or ten years old at the time.

The custom at the time was to call the priests Father and the first name. told me he remembers the two priests as Father John and Father Joe. The older priest had a decided Italian accent.

The pattern was that the older priest took up to his room in the rectory. could describe to me in detail that room. He closed his eyes and told me everything that was in that room. The priest would undress him and perform oral sex. s first orgasm was with a priest. At this young age had the mixed feelings of pleasure from the physical act and shame. He suffered great confusion as to whether these actions were right or wrong because a priest was involved whom perceived as one who did good things. Adding to this confusion were the actions of a younger priest, also at St. Anthony's. On Saturdays this priest took into a room that had photo equipment. He would take pictures of naked.

Because of his feelings of shame and guilt, never told anybody about these acts of abuse. He was one of a large family whose father worked hard to support them. was too ashamed to tell anyone and kept the secret to himself.

Over the year: has had to grapple with his sexual orientation. He has been involved in both homosexual and heterosexual relationships. In high school he had a girl friend named . The relationship ceased because he went into the Army at age 17. Throughout the years he has suffered from depression. He drank Vodka and smoked pot. Through a substance abuse program he was diagnosed as PTSD. He has now been clean, free of substance abuse, for over a year.

Recently he was arrested for lewd and licentious behavior. Supposedly he propositioned a young police officer at the Harold Park State Forest. told me that this is one time it was not true. He has never had sexual acts with young men. It has always been with older men.) Although believes this is a case of false arrest, he does say that this has gotten him to face, finally, the child abuse and its impact on his life.

REDACTED

said he realized this time when he was arrested that he has been "stuffing it" - yet it kept "rearing its ugly head". He couldn't stand the feelings, so he would drink. Then he wouldn't like himself for drinking. It became a vicious circle.

The recent arrest has become for an opportunity to rid himself of all the pain and denial. He wants to be happy and to be back in the Church.

is doubly motivated because of his six-year relationship with who has two grown-up children by a previous marriage. She is ten years older than he. She has been very supportive of Her daughter has a little boy who calls "Grand Dan". Her wants to be worthy of this affection.

was referred to us by Fr. Joseph Robinson of the Bedford Veterans Administration. Father is readily available to support in any way he can. Father's telephone number is (617) 687-2581. has a court-mandated therapist, Barbara Bowlus, Ph.D. She is located at RTT Associates, P.C., 254 North Broadway Suite 108B, Salem, NH, 03079. also has legal representation, Thomas J. Terrisi, 420 Common Street, Lawrence, MA (508) 682-9696.

is now ready for help because of all the support he is receiving. He finally told his parents. His father said he wished had told him when it was happening. His siblings also know, and they are all supportive.

is the middle child of seven children. His father was a truck driver and spent a lot of time involved with the Teamsters Union.

I told to have his therapist send the counseling bills to me. He agreed to sign a waiver which I will send. expressed great relief when he was leaving. He is determined to make it this time. He gave me permission to talk with Fr. Robinson, his lawyer and his therapist. I shall also send him a permission form for these contacts. His pretrial date is September 16, 1997. We will keep in touch.

Employed as a shop steward at a textile mill
Salary is \$11 per hour