

DRAFT OF MESSAGE TO BE GIVEN BY CARDINAL TO BOB MAYER ON JULY 1, 1991

1. I cannot tell you how hurt and disappointed and angry I am that this meeting today has become a necessity. I feel that you have betrayed me and violated the trust I placed in you. Over the years, you have repeatedly been the subject of allegations of sexual impropriety, and yet you have refused to modify your behavior in such a way that the risk to yourself and to the Church would be eliminated. Your appointment to St. Odilo, as you well know, was approved by me only after I received your solemn assurance that you would no longer engage in the kind of behaviors that caused so much distress for your parishioners and yourself in your previous assignments. I regret to say that I now have reason to believe that you have broken this promise.

2. On June 2, 1987, you signed an agreement which included among other things the following condition for your continuation in ministry:

"A canonical mandate is given to Fr. Mayer to avoid all unsupervised contact with all persons under the age of 21. This applies especially to his private living quarters in the rectory. He is not to have persons under age 21 as guests at his cottage unless other adults are present".

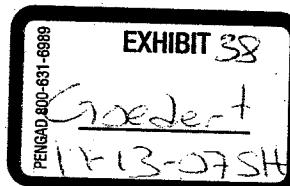
have recently learned
I know that you have violated this mandate on more than one occasion in the short time that you have been at St. Odilo's. Moreover, I also *recently learned* have knowledge of grossly inappropriate behavior on your part towards a young man, involving touches, sexual innuendos and pornographic material. Even if you deny any sexual intent, your judgment in these matters is so obviously impaired that I cannot allow you to continue in this position of trust any longer.

3. I am convinced, Bob, that you are laboring under the kind of psychic defect referred to in Canons 1041 and 1044, and for this reason I am withdrawing your faculties and I forbid you any and all exercise of your Sacred Orders until such time as it is evident that you are capable of resuming effective priestly ministry.

4. You are no longer empowered to act, therefore, as pastor of St. Odilo Parish. Because you have so seriously violated the trust I placed in you, I am asking you today to submit your resignation. If you refuse to do so, I will initiate immediately the canonical process for your removal.

5. Furthermore, I direct you to [REDACTED] on Wednesday, July 10. The Vicar for Priests and I will remain in contact with you [REDACTED] and a determination will eventually be made as to whether or not you will be permitted to return to the active ministry.

6. This decision, Bob, grieves me deeply. I can only hope and pray that you will commit yourself to participate fully [REDACTED] and, with the Lord's help, return to the Archdiocese a much better man and a much better priest.



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