

## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

14 1 PENGA 631-8

VICAR FOR PRIESTS 800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO:

CARDINAL BERNARDIN

FROM:

REV. RAY GOEDERT (

DATE:

JUNE 24, 1991

RE:

REV. ROBERT MAYER

1. I am enclosing the revised drafts of:

A. The statement for you to make in confronting Bob on July 1;

B. The letter to be read at the weekend Masses if Bob cooperates (i.e. resigns and agrees to go for treatment)

C. The letter to be read at the weekend Masses if Bob refused to resign or to go for treatment.

I am also attaching the following:

A. A copy of the two Canons (1041 and 1044) upon which your decision to withdraw his faculties is based:

B. A copy of the agreement Bob signed on 6/2/87 giving the canonical mandate to avoid all unsupervised contact with persons under the age of 21.

- 3. As it stands now, the meeting with Bob will be on  $\underline{\text{Monday}}$ ,  $\underline{\text{July 1}}$  at  $\underline{\text{4:30 p.m}}$ . He will be asked to resign effective immediately. If he refuses to resign, he should be informed that the canonical process for his removal will begin immediately.
- 4. Bob should be directed to remove all of his belongings within the next 24 or 48 hours, whichever you think is more reasonable, and take up his residence either at his cottage, at Little Flower, or at any rectory approved by you. Bob Banzen is a classmate and close friend, so Bob Mayer might very well choose St. John Brebeuf.
- 5. Bob should be informed that he leading to get the plane ticket.

  On Wednesday, July 10. The Vicar for Priests will arrange to get the plane ticket.
- 6. With regard to a replacement, the Personnel Board will initiate its process immediately if Bob resigns; otherwise, as soon as the parish is declared vacant. In the meantime, a retired pastor would be named administrator. We agreed that would be our first choice. I think it is important that you call personally to make the request. (I spoke to gave him the background).
- 7. With regard to the confrontation itself on July 1, I would suggest that the following elements be included:
  - A. The meeting would begin with a clear statement from yourself of the decision that has already been made namely, that Bob has violated the trust you put in him and that you are now



asking for his resignation.

B. Only after you have completed your statement would Bob be given the opportunity to respond. However, you should make it clear to him that this is not a fact finding session and that even if Bob denies the present charge, you nevertheless are convinced that he has violated the mandate, that he has acted quite inappropriately, that his conduct has been such that you believe that he is laboring under a psychic defect so serious that you judge him incapable of rightly carrying out the pastoral ministry (Canons 1041 and 1044), and for this reason his faculties are removed and he may not exercise any Sacred Orders whatever.

C. Bob should be told that a decision will eventually be made, as to whether or not he will be allowed to return to ministry in any capacity.

- D. Bob should be told that if he cooperates (i.e. resigns and agrees to enter treatment), a more benign statement will be read at all the weekend Masses, a statement that will simply say that Bob has decided to resign the parish for personal reasons, etc. However, if Bob refuses to cooperate, a more severe statement will be read giving the nature of the charge against him, etc.
- 8. With regard to the statement to the parishioners, we agreed it should be:

A. In the form of a letter from you to the people

- B. Read by Bishop Jakubowski at all the Masses the weekend of July 6-7.
- 9. A major concern remains what will be the fallout, especially in connection with the case and with those at St. Edna who brought the law suit against Bob some ten years ago?

I honestly have no answer. The fallout could very well be serious, and I think the only thing we can do is to tell the truth - namely, that until this incident, we were never able to substantiate any of the allegations made against him.