

AGENDA FOR MEETING WITH PEOPLE OF DIVINE SAVIOR
FRIDAY, NOV. 15, 1991 7:00 P.M.

Prayer - Fr. STEVE TEBES
Introduction by STEVE
All are introduced

1. May we ask something of one another this evening. This is a family meeting; we are members of this family dealing with a confidential personnel matter. We would ask that all of us observe confidentiality about what goes on at this meeting. Is that agreed?

2. As some of you may already know, Fr. Ken Ruge has been removed by the Archdiocese from his assignment as associate pastor of Divine Savior. His removal will come as a shock to you perhaps. However, over the past few years, Fr. Ruge has been struggling with some issues in his personal life.

3. Some years back an accusation of sexual abuse of a young person was brought against him.

As far as we know, there has been no recurrence of this problem.

4. Because of his willingness to cooperate and with the archdiocesan authorities, Fr. Ruge was allowed to remain in parish ministry. Within the past few months,

- and again he has done so with total cooperation. When Fr. Steve Tebes was appointed pastor a short time ago, he did not have knowledge of Fr. Ruge's previous history.

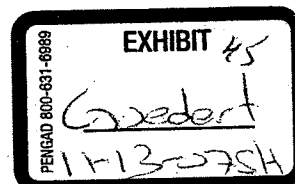
5. But we are at a new moment now.

More-
over, heightened concern in both Church and society has brought the Archdiocese to a new understanding of its policy of placing or retaining such priests in parish ministry. So in order to avoid even the possibility of risks to young people, the Archdiocese has removed Fr. Ruge from parish ministry.

Cardinal Bernardin and Fr. Ruge met recently to discuss what this meant. It was a very moving experience.

He will
not be returning to Divine Savior in the future.

6. We wanted to share this information with this small group from the parish so that you may know the truth. We also want to ask your advice on how we may present this information to the rest of your parish. Before we do that, however, I will answer any questions you may have at this time.



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