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Reverend Paul Finnegan
St. Margaret's, Lowell

March 2, 1990

I met with Father Finnegan to review the assessment he underwent at Southdown in Ontario, Canada. He was pleased to undergo the assessment and found that it was helpful to him - particularly in the area of his compulsivity and his denial.

He has lost thirty pounds since the middle of January when he took a physical in preparation for the assessment. He is scheduled by his doctor to lose thirty to fifty more.

He looks forward to going into therapy. He wondered how long it would last. I told him that the average priest who wants to seek understanding of himself usually goes for about two years. However, this depends on the level of understanding and insight he desires or needs. Paul was a bit surprised. He agreed to pay fifty percent of the therapy and if he finds that difficult, he will contact me and arrange for greater support by the Clergy Fund.

We agreed not to initiate contact with a spiritual director at this time but to put his energy into establishing his contract and relationship with his therapist. I recommended he contact either Drs. Paul Hamburg or James Groves. He agreed to give them permission to contact me if ever they thought that he was a threat to himself or to anyone in pastoral ministry.

He will telephone me after Easter for an appointment.



JBM:mo'l
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