

Kelley

Archdiocese of Boston
Assistant to the Secretary for Ministerial Personnel

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
MEMORANDUM

TO: Rev. William F. Murphy

FROM: Sister Rita V. McCarthy

GT REDACTION

DATE: November 3, 1997

RE: [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] MA [REDACTED] 32
[REDACTED] 15

Ed: [REDACTED] - yrs.
[REDACTED]

(Re: Rev. Arnold E. Kelley)

[REDACTED] came to see me at the Chancery on Saturday, November 1, at 10:00 a.m. accompanied by his wife [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] works at the [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] and attends [REDACTED] where she hopes to receive an [REDACTED] in May. She seems to have chosen the ideal career for her sensitive nature because she gracefully absented herself from the interview. If we needed her, she said she would be available.

It was [REDACTED] who encouraged [REDACTED] to address the self-doubts that keep nagging at him regarding his feelings about Father Arnold Kelley. Father keeps reappearing in their area at St. Mary Magdalen Parish. Two weeks ago [REDACTED] returned home from Mass with the boys ([REDACTED] and [REDACTED]) very upset. It seems that Father Kelley came upon them outside the church and put his hands on the heads of the boys. This angered [REDACTED], knowing what she did about Father, because she felt that he did not know the boys well enough to do that. She admits that she overreacted, but then she was able to understand better [REDACTED]'s feelings.

[REDACTED] does not attend church. His life-style in the past kept him away. He realizes now that the drugs, alcohol and promiscuous behavior were all attempts to bury his ugly feelings. [REDACTED] has a child [REDACTED] out of wedlock who lives with his biological mother. [REDACTED] sees the boy often.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were married by Father T. Raymond Sullivan (dec.) in St. Mary Magdalen Church. They both expressed great fondness for him. They wish to remain in St. Mary Magdalen's Parish but not if Father Kelley continues there. Their children attend religion classes, and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have concerns. [REDACTED] works for the city of [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] as a [REDACTED] and would like to continue there.

17 After the initial discussion, [REDACTED] nervousness subsided somewhat, and we were able to discuss the specifics of his allegation. [REDACTED] at age 14 or 15, first met Father Kelley at a [REDACTED] program which was held in the basement of St. Rita's Church in Lowell. At first Father would give him (and others) innocent hugs. Eventually the hugs became more aggressive, touching his buttocks and genitals and groping. [REDACTED] said the best way to describe it was "Dirty Dancing". The boys used to joke about Father and

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called him a "fag". [REDACTED] was uncomfortable. He told his parents, but they didn't believe him. So he just buried it and did not talk to anybody else about it. (His mother believes him now.) This behavior by Father went on for most of one year.

[REDACTED] developed a hatred for Father and transferred it to all priests, never going to church, and never becoming an integrated person. However, Father Sullivan renewed his faith in priests, but he still remains alienated. I suggested that counseling might help to free him from all his bad feelings, somewhat like AA helped to free him from alcohol and drugs. He has been sober for over seven years. I gave him Diana Villegas phone number and address and asked him to call her for the possibility of counseling. Her spiritual approach would be ideal for [REDACTED] now since [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are expecting a third child and need to function as a unit.

When [REDACTED] joined us, we chatted for a while. We explained to her what [REDACTED] was considering. They both expressed gratitude. They were unsure of why they had come; they did not want to seem petty but needed to know how to put all this behind them.