

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL BISHOP  
BROCKTON REGION

C O N F I D E N T I A L

December 7, 1984

Most Reverend Bernard F. Law, D. D.  
Archbishop of Boston  
2101 Commonwealth Avenue  
Brighton, MA 02135

Dear Archbishop Law:

I write regarding Reverend Robert Meffan, ordained in 1953, who visited me today at your request.

We spoke at some length about his present circumstances and apostolate. He indicates that he counsels many, is visited by about 25 penitents monthly, gives weekly pastoral care at a Braintree Nursing Home, and helps weekends at a local parish.

Today, he told me that he also has a "mission" confided to him by God which he is bound to keep secret. He indicated he had told no other priest about this before today. He hinted that it is related to DeMontfort Devotion, but was unwilling to be questioned further. This "mission" makes it impossible for him to accept any regular assignment from you. He is saddened by this fact, but feels he is compelled to fulfill this "mission" and any assignment other than his current apostolate is incompatible with it.

I recommend that you allow him to continue his present apostolate for one year with the provision that he would arrange for two appointments during this year with either Bishop Hughes (Vicar for Spiritual Enrichment of Priests) or Bishop D'Arcy. I talked with Bishop D'Arcy who will be agreeable to accept this assignment, but judges that Father Meffan would be completely unacceptable as an associate in the Office of Spiritual Development Programs because of his lack of balance.

I told Father Meffan today that either you or I would write or call him. If you wish, I will draw up a proposed draft of a letter for you to review; and, if you wish, I will arrange with Bishop Hughes and/or Bishop D'Arcy about the possibility of Father Meffan's visiting with them occasionally.

I hope this is helpful.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

+ *Dan Hart*

+Daniel A. Hart

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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