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May 26, 1999

Today I spoke with Bishop Alfred Abramowicz at his residence at St. Blase Parish in Argo, Illinois for about an hour about Father Czeslaw Przybylo. I began by reading the letter of May 5, 1999 from Bishop Kazimierz Gorny of Rzeszow to Bishop Joseph Imesch and Bishop Imesch's reply of May 17, 1999. Bishop A. Said Bishop Gorny would not know Father C.

Bishop A. Then told me he knew of one only incident. On August 14, 1968, the vigil of the Assumption, a 17 year old young man told Bp. A. That Fr. C. Had sodomized him. Bp. A. Confronted FR. C., who did not deny it. Bp. A. Told me: "It's, so sickening -- on the vigil of the Feast of Our Lady!" He was on the verge of tears.

Within that week, the older brother of the 17 year old sent him back to Poland. The kid was not the sharpest and the older brother did not believe him and said he imagined it. Bp. A. believed it -- because Fr. C. Did not deny it.

"Despite that incident, I kept him but watched him like a hawk. I was consecrated in June -- this happened in August." Bp. A. And I discussed the mentality at that time. This was considered a sinful action for which confession and repentance was needed. He did not tell anyone -- not Cardinal Cody, nor anyone at the Chancery. Bp. A. continued: "I feared it might happen again. He was in charge of the altar boys. He had friends who outwardly had the characteristics of homosexuality, which I didn't like. At times he would stay out all night and come home at 6:00 a.m. Some mothers would complain he'd keep kids out until late at night. He would take them out caroling in the Christmas season and keep them out until 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. -- to which I objected. Chester had ██████████ They would go caroling from home to home and ██████████ Basically, that's why I told you to steer clear of him."

"When he went to Madison, ██████████ came to ask me about him. I didn't tell Cody or the Chancellor at the time (1968)."

"To take him in today!! I'm sure someone would come forward."

I observed: "We'd be opening ourselves to terrific problems that we don't need!" With which Bp. A. agreed.

Bp. A. Was not asked a thing about him. "I think it was ██████████ Bp. A.'s successor at Five Holy Martyrs) who asked Chester to leave. Chester had terrible fights with the Sister who was a sacristan. Ed ██████████ did not need that. Neither did I!"

"I see nothing to do but to do nothing" (for Bishop Imesch). Bishop Gorny should be told that in our opinion Chester would not pass the ██████████"

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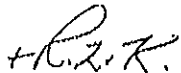
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"He (Chester) is a super Polish patriot. His mother can't speak Polish! He picked it up from his grandparents. Poor Chester has a sister with [REDACTED] She was [REDACTED] He comes from a very devout family."

Bp. A. Could not remember the name of the victim. He just remembers that within a week, he went back to Poland, sent back by his older brother, with whom he was staying. The older brother was embarrassed that his kid brother was talking about a priest. I said: "So he didn't believe the kid, but you did?" He replied, "I don't know whether he believed him or not but he was embarrassed because he was talking about a priest. I believed it because Chester did not deny it when I confronted him."

After we finished talking, I asked Bp. A. For his blessing and gave him mine. He was most gracious. He was dressed but lying in bed as we spoke, occasionally wincing in pain. At one point, I could not understand him, so he got up and went into another room to get his false teeth.

He warmly asked me to give Joe his best regards. I told him [REDACTED] was downstairs waiting for me and asked he would like to greet him -- or rather not. He graciously said to bring him upstairs, so I did and, we very briefly visited, then left.



Bishop Roger L. Kaffer