

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS CHURCH  
3720 ST. MARTIN AVENUE  
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45221

May, 29, 1986

Greetings from Cheviot,

Our 75th anniversary for the parish is going well and I'm enjoying my time here, as I'm now entering into my 3rd year at St. Martin's. and I work together quite well, as we balance each other. He is strong on keeping the physical parish in great shape, saving money, encouraging the Bingo workers, taking care of the elderly, and being a great, loving grandfather to the small children. I work with the teenagers, young adults, Christ Renews His Parish, the outreach to the poor, worship commission, etc. A few tensions at times between theology, but generally we work together well - even when I loose out because Fr. & Fr. tend to agree on most things (like anointing a person, even if they have been dead for a couple hours; which I have a problem with) or his determination to have an "information/convert class, while I would like to have a Catechuminate Program. But overall things are well, but I do think that it is good for me to be here to put some balance with the spiritual & renewal versus emphasis on temporal things. I might add that Archbishop is working out fairly well. He is a very kind person, though his homilies are really bad at times. They are interesting with his many stories, but his theology that God is finally getting even with the Russians (nuclear accident) and even the Mexicans (earthquake last year) is a bit hard to accept. He has turned some people off, but I guess that is to be expected (His homily about AIDS being God's wrath or his homily talking people how stupid they were to put their money in the Savings & Loans, which folded last year or the many Russian stories). I'm willing to vent the Archbishop out for special occasions, but none of my classmates are interested. I guess I'll get time off in purgatory in the next life.

This purpose of this personal letter is from a conversation I had this evening. I am preparing a couple for marriage and we had our third meeting. I knew the man, when I was at St. Ann's as a deacon and he is trustworthy. We talked about religion and the Sacraments. In encouraging couples to attend the Sacrament of Confession/Reconciliation I tell them not to be embarrassed and to especially seek forgiveness from any sins of the past before they enter into marriage. I told and that priests isn't hollar anymore and that "I've heard about everything" and that the

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heard this before. One of my closest friends grew up in Little Flower parish and he confided in me that when he was growing up (I think he meant in high school a few years ago) Fr. \_\_\_\_\_ would take him up to his bedroom in the rectory, get him to start drinking, and then come on to him really strong." \_\_\_\_\_ said that his friend has never shared this with anyone else and that his friend (who I guess is now in his early 20's, since \_\_\_\_\_ is 20) is "messed up" about this. I didn't want to pry, especially with \_\_\_\_\_ fiancee sitting in the room, so I said that I'm sure that Fr. \_\_\_\_\_ is getting counselling about this and if \_\_\_\_\_ friend would want to talk about this - that I or another person would be willing to help him sort things out. I didn't want to get any deeper, if \_\_\_\_\_ friend had been touched or sexually abused - or if they were just advancements on Fr. \_\_\_\_\_ part.

I remember reading about the problems and financial expenditures in the Louisiana case of the priest caught sexually molesting boys. Perhaps you are already aware of Fr. \_\_\_\_\_ and a need he has for counselling, but this is a serious matter that needs to be considered, in case you were not aware of problems on Fr. \_\_\_\_\_ part. In regard to \_\_\_\_\_ friend - what if anything would you want me to say or do? \_\_\_\_\_ said that his friend has kept all this inside himself and has only shared it with him so far. Also, that his friend is "messed up" about this. I asked \_\_\_\_\_ if he meant that his friend was angry, but \_\_\_\_\_ said no, but more confused and just "messed up". As you may know, the term "messed up" is a catch all phrase by young adults that can mean almost anything. \_\_\_\_\_ did say that Fr. \_\_\_\_\_ had his friend up to his bedroom several times, trying to get him drunk, and making passes at him. Perhaps this friend of \_\_\_\_\_ needs counselling. Also, if this young man is finally starting to tell others about this experience, it wouldn't be good for Fr. \_\_\_\_\_, the Church, or the young man for this to be publically talked about by the young man to his other friends, but with counselors. Also, I wonder if there might have been other students or high school age boys, who Fr. \_\_\_\_\_ took up to his bedroom, tried to get them drunk, and made advances upon them. If \_\_\_\_\_ would be open to sharing this, these boys might need counselling. I'm not scheduled to meet with \_\_\_\_\_ and his fiancée until the end of June, but what would you want me to say if \_\_\_\_\_ brings up the subject again? Sorry to add more problems to your already busy life, but let me know what you would like me to say or do.