

Mem:

Bob Rossi

COPY

October 1, 1992
Bob Rossi, O.S.C.

Funcheon

Fr. Bob Sell, chancellor of the Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana, called on Sept. 29 to update me on developments about ex-Crosier Father Jerry Funcheon. (Bob's telephone numbers are

Jerry was at the moment with his mother but will be reporting to St. Michael's, a treatment center of the Paraclete Fathers in St. Louis on Oct 5. This was Jerry's choice, with which his Bishop concurred. Jerry is expected to me in treatment at least 5 months.

In a conversation with the Bishop, Jerry indicated that there may be around 50 victims with whom he engaged in mutual masturbation or improper touch which these young men were between the ages of 10 and 16. Bob Sell indicated that Jerry was having a hard time seeing improper touch as sexual abuse.

I asked Bob whether he had pursued the complaint received by the Order in Minnesota via the anonymous call on the hot line to the radio station. He spoke with Jerry about that in the light of the above information. Bob said that he was going to insist that Jerry write me a letter, personally informing me of his situation at this time. (I later spoke with Kevin Hughes about how I should pursue that complaint with Jerry. He agreed that it is best to leave it now in the hands of the Diocese of Lafayette with their assurance that it is being dealt with.)

Evaluating psychologist Tom Drummond (New Life Center, The Plains, Virginia) reported that Jerry's celibate lifestyle in the last ten years should not be discounted as an indication of some sexual healing and growth already. But the need for therapy at this time remains imperative.

Bob Sell asked whether he could personally review the Crosier file on Jerry or at least be sent copies of documents relative to sexual misconduct. Jerry is aware of this request. Bob said that the information would be for his eyes only and that all such copies would be shredded immediately after his reading them. I agreed to go through Jerry's file and make copies of pertinent documents.

Bob also asked about the Statute of Limitations in Minnesota. Since I could not answer his question, I referred him to Fr. Kevin McDonough of the Archdiocese of St. Paul from whom he was seeking advice about handling Jerry's alleged sexual misconduct.

I again affirmed the Crosier Order's desire to be as helpful to the Diocese of Lafayette as possible. I gave Bob the Kevin Hughes' name and telephone number. He gave me the name, address and telephone numbers of his diocese's counsel: John Bodel, 801 Life Bldg., Lafayette, IN 47902;

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