

Jemez Springs, New Mexico 87025 (505) 829-3586

RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

TO: The Professional Staff of Foundation House Servants of the

Foundation House Servants of the Paraclete Jemez Springs, NM 87025 505-829-3586.

I hereby authorize you to provide

PELOTTE ONALD

with a complete report of your evaluation concerning myself; your diagnosis, prognosis and recommendations. The recipients of this material are also duly notified that once these documents have been read, THEY ARE TO BE DESTROYED OR RETURNED TO FR. LIAM HOARE, s.P. WHO WILL SEE TO THEIR DISPOSAL. This policy is mandated by present legal advisement and for the protection of the individual, Bishop/Superior, Diocese/Community, and our own Program.

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PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERVIEW AND EVALUATION

REVEREND JAMES BURNS	D.O.B JUNE 15, 1933
Referred by:	Very Rev. Liam Hoare, s.P., M.A.
Referral Question:	Psychological Evaluation and Testing
Sources of Evaluation:	Interview; Personal History Sheet; Shipley Scales; Myers-Briggs Type Indicator; Edwards Personal Preference Schedule; Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory; Incomplete Sentences Blank; and, Measures of Psychosocial Development.
Place of Evaluation:	Foundation House Servants of the Paraclete Jemez Springs, New Mexico 87025
Date of Evaluation:	MARCH 7, 1990

Father Burns was referred for psychological evaluation, following a call that came in September, about a now grown man who claims that there was some sexual contact between himself and Father Burns when he (the grown man) was a teenager.

In general, Father Burns sees very much the necessity for dealing with his sexuality. He reports that he has been plagued by concerns about his sexuality, and that this has been primarily a secret throughout his life. In fact, as Father Burns talks about his sexuality and his sexual experiences, it is clear that, in this regard, Father Burns has led a most tortured life. He is extremely hard on himself concerning any sexual acting-out that has gone on and apparently has an extremely difficult time forgiving himself. Father Burns reports that he very much believes in the concept of forgiveness and has little trouble forgiving other people. However, he has had a great deal of difficulty in applying this concept to himself.

Father Burns reported some very real hesitation about coming for the evaluation. He is building a house in the parish where he has been working and is very much afraid of the possibility of being unable to return to that parish. He also expressed some concerns about the stigma attached to coming to the Program. He further mentioned difficulties he could imagine both talking in a group about his sexuality as well as talking to a therapist about personal matters. Father Burns was very open about his concerns about coming for the evaluation, did not seem to be saying these things in a defensive manner, and, in general, did not seem to take a defensive attitude toward the evaluation procedure. He seemed to be merely expressing his fears and concerns.

It is Father Burns' understanding that the call from the young man was made to the Bishop stating essentially that the sexual activity from the past was currently bothering the young man and that he needed something done about that. Father Burns is unclear as to exactly what that means. Father Burns reports that the young man had been sexually active prior to Father Burns' involvement with him. Father Burns seemed to be stating that he was not responsible for introducing this person into the arena of sexuality, and that, to some extent, the sexual acting-out was at the instigation of the young man. However, Father Burns was far from absolving himself of responsibility for his involvement, and in fact expressing a tremendous amount of guilt and shame concerning this.

In describing his sexual behavior, it was clear that nurturance played a certain role in the sexual acting-out. There was a sense of taking care of the boy in the sexual involvement. He saw the boy as someone who was hurting and the intimacy and closeness derived from a feeling of wanting to help out the boy and be close to him.

During the evaluation, we spent a good portion of the time talking specifically about sexual experiences. It was my distinct impression that Father Burns was being most open and honest in describing his sexual experiences. In general, he seemed to take responsibility for his actions, and expressed very real concerns about his behavior.

Father Burns described his sexuality as being "a mangled mystery to me." This seems to very well describe how Father Burns feels about his sexuality and how he has dealt with it over the years. It is very clear that he has tortured himself with guilt as well as questions and concerns about his sexuality. Father Burns reports a vague recollection of something, perhaps, going on when he was in the age range of five to seven. He feels that there was some sexual involvement perhaps with a child older than himself. This, however, is not a clear memory to him. He reports that he dated in high school and that there was some kissing and minimal petting. However, he was already seriously considering the seminary and seemed not that terribly interested in the sexual activities with women at that time.

In the seminary, he reports, "I probably was in love with some seminarians." He reports that this was not a sexual type of love and that there was no sexual acting-out. However, he can imagine that "I may not have been adverse to some sexual activity," even though that did not go on. He reports that one seminarian did make sexual overtures toward him and that he punched that seminarian in the face. He reports that he went on to get beat up by that person so that he would not talk about it.

Father Burns reports one sexual experience with a woman many years ago. However, his sexual feelings have by and large been confusing and unclear to him. He reports feeling attracted to the notion of having a family and that at some level he would still like that kind of thing. In general, however, he has found himself to be fairly scared of women. He tends to put up a wall around himself to prevent his getting too close to women.

Father Burns tends to characterize himself as being bisexual. He is not certain whether a lack of experimentation is the reason that his sexual object choice is not clear to him. He describes some anger at the Church for not helping him deal better with sexual material, as well as their general stance of not dealing particularly well with that. At the same time, however, he does not seem to be putting off responsibility for his sexual confusion completely on the Church. He describes himself as putting women on a pedestal. He reports that he sees teenagers as being more approachable, and that this may in part explain the reason for his involvement with the teenager. He reports no sexual experiences with adult males.

What is exceptionally clear is that Father Burns has truly struggled with the issue of sexuality throughout his life. He seemed to be taking the opportunity of the evaluation to really look at his sexual thoughts, feelings, and behaviors as an opportunity to get a number of questions answered. I was most impressed by the honesty with which he both looked inside himself and expressed himself. It seems that he has been very much afraid to ask these questions of himself and even moreso of sharing these concerns with someone else. He sees the very real probability of his being referred for a program here, and sees this as a real opportunity to answer the questions that have truly tortured him over the years.

Father Burns was raised in Connecticut, and is the second oldest of seven children. There were two children born prior to his oldest brother, both of whom died in infancy. His father was a WPA worker, a factory worker, as well as a musician on the side. His mother stayed home to raise the children, until many of the children got older, at which time she began to work outside the home.

Father Burns reports having had rheumatic fever at approximately the age of seven or eight. He spent five months at home because of this disease and a certain portion of his childhood was restricted in terms of activities after that. He reports some heart problems as a result of that and some concerns about his heart as well. He describes his father as a "sweet, passive sort of man." He reports that his father taught him well about responsibility and that there was a real closeness and gentleness about his father. His mother, on the hand, was a much more determined, driven, and volatile sort of person. She tended to be "the boss" in the family and was very much the disciplinarian. He reports that her discipline could become quite physical at times. However, he does not doubt the love that his mother felt for the children and indicated no particular resentments toward her.

When Father Burns was in high school, his parents separated. His mother had met someone at work and the two of them went off together for five years. A child was born, his younger sister, of that union. After that period of separation, his parents reunited and stayed together for nearly fifty years total. While they were separated, Father Burns stayed with his father. Some of the children moved with their mother to New Mexico. Father Burns started in the seminary in the East. However, he caught pneumonia and it was recommended that he spend some time in the Southwest. At that time he went to live with his mother and ultimately entered the seminary in Santa Fe.

In general, Father Burns describes his childhood as a positive one. He reports that it was a good house to grow up in and despite some very real problems within the family, both monitary and communicative, that his parents loved each other, as well as the children. He, particularly, was close to his mother, especially in her later years. He would spend considerable time with her when she was older and alone. When she died, she left her house to him and this has been a source of very real animosity within his Two of his sisters fought the will and a court battle family. ensued. Father Burns reports this as being an extremely painful event in his life, which is still difficult for him to think about. Some of the separation between himself and one sister in particular still exists to a very real degree. "Most of my life I felt the strong obligation to my mom and dad." This seems to describe him and his sense of responsibility very well.

Father Burns reports that he thought about the priesthood from a very early age. His father was fine with that; his mother had some problems with it. His mother was a Lutheran and did not convert to Catholicism until after Father Burns' ordination. In fact, some of her family had some fairly strong anti-Catholic feelings and this was a source of a certain amount of conflict.

Father Burns reports no problems with alcohol, either among his parents or with himself. He reports some health problems some years back concerning his heart. Ten years ago, he experienced a certain amount of angina and that was a very real concern to him. He describes himself as currently having a weight problem, but in general describes himself as being in good health.

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In general, he summed himself up in terms of his relationships with other people as being "a nice guy with empathy for people and a dedicated worker... That's what I am supposed to be." It is easy to see that in his relationships with other people that is likely very much how he is perceived.

TEST RESULTS:

The **Shipley** is a screening instrument which assesses cognitive abilities in both abstraction and vocabulary. On this test, Father Burns scored in the superior range. There were no indications whatsoever of any problems in dealing with abstract concepts.

The results of the <u>Myers-Briggs Type Indicator</u> were somewhat equivocal. On some of the scales, Father Burns' scores indicated a certain amount of confusion. In general, the implication of this is some very real questions for Father Burns about his own identity and, in general, who he is. The overall pattern that emerged was of an extroverted feeling type (ENFJ).

ENFJ's radiate sympathy and fellowship. They are very concerned with the people around them and place a very high value on harmonious human contacts. They are often described as friendly, tactful, sympathetic, persevering and conscientious. They tend to be people who are very much affected by the approval of others and they are very much sensitive to indifference. They derive much of their pleasure from the feelings of warmth and harmony in their relationships with others. In general, they tend to see the good qualities of other people focusing on those to the exclusion of negative qualities.

ENFJ's tend to be very good at seeing and appreciating value in other people's opinions. Even when there are conflicts, they tend to believe in harmony and the possibility of it being established as ways of resolving those conflicts. They tend to be very good at having foresight. They are able to see the possibilities in what is going on and are often able to use their intuition most effectively. They tend to be people who are very good at expressing themselves and are very comfortable in speaking to audiences.

In general, they do best in jobs that deal with other people and in situations where cooperation is called for. The ministry is a place where ENFJ's are often found.

The above description likely describes Father Burns very well in his dealings within the parish. What it tends to exclude is some of his feelings about himself. It is likely that he can be a great deal more negative when he begins the process of introspection. However, in his interpersonal relationships, it is likely that he is quite successful and well appreciated. The <u>Edwards Personal Preference Schedule</u> is a percentile ranking of 16 areas of manifest needs, as reported by the testee. On this test, the highest need areas for Father Burns were for affiliation and succorance.

A person with a high need for affiliation tends to generally prefer to do things with other people rather than by himself. Such a person tends to form strong attachments, tends to keep up with those relationships very well and places a high value on them. Such a person is likely to try to make as many friends as possible, enjoying sharing things with other people, and in general likes to work in groups.

A person with a high need for succorance is someone who has a strong desire to seek the help of other people when things become difficult. Such a person is greatly influenced by the encouragement of other people and places a high value on being treated in a sympathetic and understanding fashion. In general, such a person has a high need for affection from other people and does much better when he is feeling that kind of support.

The lowest need area for Father Burns was for achievement. A person with a low need for achievement is someone who does not place particular value on being seen as a recognized authority. Accomplishments are not things that are generally savored by such a person, and it is not likely that he would be driven hard by any need to achieve.

In general, the above description seems to describe Father Burns relatively well. It also seems congruent with the description of the ENFJ. It seems likely that Father Burns values his relationships with other people to a very high degree and is quite dependent on the support and encouragement of other people. It is also likely that concrete achievements are not nearly as important to Father Burns.

Although the personality type described both by the <u>Myers-Briggs</u> <u>Type Indicator</u> and the <u>Edwards Personal Preference Schedule</u> would indicate a person who would likely turn to other people in times of stress, it is clear that concerning the issue of sexuality this is not something that Father Burns has done. This would further demonstrate how difficult things have been for Father Burns in trying to deal with his sexuality. He has not felt free to utilize his strongest personality characteristics in dealing with this most difficult issue.

The <u>Measures of Psychosocial Development (MPD)</u> is a self-report inventory which assesses adult personality development. It delineates particular conflict areas which are normally experienced in adult development, specifying those which are particularly well worked out as well as those which are in need of further attention. On this test, Father Burns seemed to indicate conflict areas in virtually every possible area. It is clear that Father Burns has a very negative opinion of himself, his overall development, and sees himself in a most unfavorable light when he looks inward. In terms of internal accomplishments, he seems to possess very little pride. This does not mean to imply that he is oblivious to his adjustment to the world or any positive accomplishments. However, in evaluating himself, simply for himself, he tends to be most negative in that evaluation.

The <u>Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI)</u> is a lengthy true/false test which gives results in both validity and clinical scales. The results of the validity scales indicate that Father Burns took a relatively open and honest approach to this test. Many people coming for evaluation under Father Burns' circumstances would tend to be much more defensive in their approach to this test. It is clearly to Father Burns's credit that he did not take this attitude toward the test.

The clinical scales indicated a high degree of conflict in Father Burns' life. People with this overall pattern of responding tend, to a significant degree, to be sexually preoccupied. Many people with this pattern have very real fears concerning homosexuality. Such people tend to be strongly ambivalent with a high capacity for agitation and restlessness. Such a person can often be fairly short tempered. Depression also plays a major role in the make-up of such a person. In general, the depression is often experienced episodically, rather than at a constant level. Hypochondriacal concerns are often also present in such a personality pattern. It is also quite likely that Father Burns experiences anxiety to a very high degree and can, at times, be fairly overwhelmed by anxiety.

In general, this was a personality pattern of someone who is in a tremendous amount of turmoil with some very strong negative feelings. It is also a pattern which likely has persisted for quite a number of years at least at an internal level. It seems, as opposed to some of the other tests, that this test tended to be tapping the introspective portion of Father Burns' personality. The pattern that emerged is likely what Father Burns sees when he looks inside himself. The results on some of the other tests seemed to exemplify what other people see when looking at Father Burns from the outside.

The <u>Incomplete Sentences Test</u> tends to tap the most conscious concerns that a person is in touch with. In general, Father Burns seemed to indicate very strong feelings of unworthiness, specifically concerning his sexual acting-out. There was a very real sense of both fear and depression concerning his sexuality. Father Burns expressed on this test some concerns about the effect of his sexual behavior on his soul.

Summary and Recommendations

Father Burns has engaged in some behavior which has been a source of tremendous shame and guilt for him. He has likely struggled with sexual feelings since adolescence, sexual feelings that were both unacceptable to him as well as difficult to make sense out of. Those sexual feelings did lead to some behavior, on a limited basis, that has turned the questions and concerns into some fairly tortuous periods in Father Burns' life. By and large, he has not shared these concerns with other people, has not sought answers to the myriad of questions which have plagued him over the years, and as a result, has seen very negative things when he has looked inward. He has been unable to forgive himself or believe in higher forgiveness, and this has been a very real source of pain as well.

Father Burns' approach to the evaluation seemed most encouraging. He came in with a very open attitude, expressed his fears about the evaluation very frankly and, despite them, sought answers to the questions that he has been struggling with for years. I would see him as an excellent candidate for one of the programs at Jemez Springs. He is more than ripe to benefit from the opportunities to receive answers to some of these questions and to share some of these feelings with people who understand, empathize, identify, and share. He expressed a very real concern about being able to talk about some of these things in groups. However, I have no doubt that, despite his fears in this regard, he will force himself to do it and benefit greatly from it.

I would see the programs at Jemez Springs as offering the very real opportunity for Father Burns to attain a very real sense of peace, considerable clarity about the general issue of sexuality, and the ability to look within himself without experiencing the tremendous pain that has, in the past, accompanied that experience.

If I can be of any assistance in reference to the above evaluation, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Clinical Psychologist



ADULT HEALTH CARE SPECIALISTS

8312 Kaseman Court, N.E., Albuguerque, New Mexico 87110, (505) 296-5411

COMPREHENSIVE EXAM

NAME: Burns, James Matthew DATE: 03-06-90 PSR: 51612

This is a 56-year-old male, Paraclete.

PROBLEMS:

1. Overweight. He has gained a little bit of weight every year over the last several years. He is having some problems adhering to a strict diet.

PAST HISTORY:

<u>Surgery</u>: None. <u>Injuries</u>: None. <u>Allergies</u>: Penicillin. <u>Immunizations</u>: None. <u>Hospitalizations</u>: None. <u>Childhood Illnesses</u>: Rheumatic fever at age 7.

HABITS:

<u>Diet</u>: Fairly good, but eats a little bit too much at night.
<u>Smoking</u>: Quit smoking in 1979. Was a one-and-a-half pack per day smoker.
<u>Drinking</u>: Averages one drink per day.
<u>Exercise</u>: Very little to nothing.

Mcdications: None regularly.

S CIAL HISTORY:

H. is a Catholic priest from Winslow, Arizona.

FAMILY HISTORY:

Mother: Deceased in her 70s from CVA.

Father: Deceased in his 70s. Had rheumatoid arthritis.

<u>Siblings</u>: Four sisters and two brothers. One sister with kidney problems and rheumatoid arthritis. One brother is an alcoholic.

SYSTEMS REVIEW:

<u>General</u>: Weight is up at least five pounds in the last year. He has occasional dizziness after standing up fast.

HEENT: Wears glasses. He has had keratotomy for nearsightedness. Has noticed a slight decrease in his hearing. He gets spring hay fever and takes overthe-counter medications.

	ns, James Matthew 06-90
Respiratory:	He thinks he might have sleep apnea, since he wakes up tired and he has pretty bad snoring, but that is the only evidence thereof.
<u>Cardiac</u> :	Used to take Digitalis. He had a treadmill about ten years ago, and that probably was normal.
<u>GI</u> :	He has a history of a possible hiatal hernia. He gets indigestion if he eats too late at night.
<u>GU</u> : Orthopedics:	Nocturia times one or two. Has had a little bit of problems with his knees and elbows.
<u>Skin</u> : <u>Sexual</u> : <u>NP</u> :	He has many skin tags. Denies sexual difficulties. Denies emotional problems or difficulties.
DUUGTOIT DUINT	
PHYSICAL EXAMI WT: 259	BP: 140/90 HT: 68"
<u>General</u> :	He is overweight, but in no distress.
Head:	No deformity of the head.
<u>Eyes</u> :	Eyes are round and equal, react to light. EOM normal. Fundi are benign.
Ears:	Tympanic membranes clear, hearing grossly normal.
Nose:	Nasal septum is clear and intact.
Mouth:	Pharynx is clear, tongue protruded in the midline. Palate normal.
Neck:	Neck is supple, thyroid is not enlarged. Carotid pulses full and equal, no bruits.
Chest:	Lungs are clear.
Heart:	Regular rhythm. There are no murmurs or
Abdomen:	gallop. No masses or viscera palpable, nontender,
	positive bowel sounds.
Extremities:	No edema, adequate peripheral pulses, no calf tenderness.
Orthopedics:	No significant abnormality of bones or joints.
<u>Skin</u> :	He has probably more than forty skin tags located around his neck, both axillae, and a large one in the left groin.
<u>Neurologic Exa</u>	
<u>S.O.B.</u> :	Negative for occult blood.
Rectal Exam:	Negative. Prostate smooth, nontender.
Lab Tests:	Cholesterol is elevated 266; triglycerides 189; blood sugar borderline at 119. One of the liver enzymes, SGPT, is mildly elevated at 68, probably with no clinical significance. Drug screen is negative. EKG and x-ray are unremarkable.

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Burns, James Matthew NAME: 03-06-90 DATE:

ASSESSMENT/PLAN:

- The patient has a weight problem with a recent weight gain and elevation of cholesterol and triglycerides. With diet and exercise, this should all improve. No other significant 1. findings.
- Numerous skin tags. 2.

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ADULT HEALTH CARE SPECIALISTS

8312 Kaseman Court, N.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110, (505) 296-5411

CHEST X-RAY REPORT

NAME: <u>BURNS</u>, James (Paraclete)

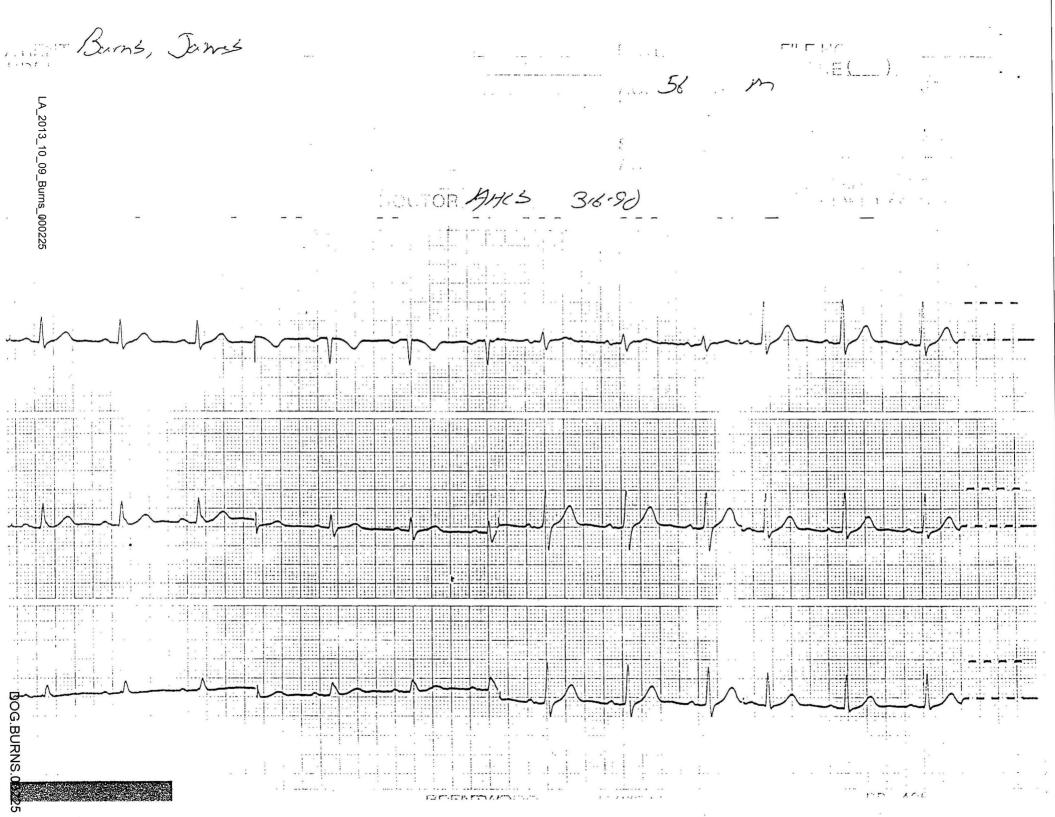
AGE: <u>56</u>

DATE: 03-05-90

NUMBER: <u>32367</u>

Heart is normal in size and shape. Lung fields are probably clear. There is a diffuse interstitial prominence, probably due to significant obesity, but this could not be distinguished specifically from intrinsic lung disease. Bony structures are intact.

IMPRESSION: Diffuse interstitial prominence, probably related to obesity rather than primary lung disease. No other significant findings or previous films for comparison.



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	CR: ATININE 1-1.5 :/dL BUN/CREAT. RATIO 6.0-20	URIC ACID M 3.0-9.0 F 2.2-7 7 mg/dL	SODIUM 135-147 meq/L	POTASSIUM 3.5-5.3 meg/L	CHLORIDE 96-109 meq/L	CO, 22-32 meg/L	ELECTROLYTE BALANCE 11-21 meg/L	CALCIUM 8.5-10.8 mg/dL	PHOSPHORUS 2.5-4.5 mg/dL
HIGH 19 119	.2 15.8	7.7	136 &	4.3	105 (kan)	215 No	10.3	9.4 0	2 Ve
ALK. PHOS. 25-140 U/L U/L AKT (SGOT) Up to 40 U/L	AL: SGPT) LDH 1 > 45 Up to 240 1 U/L	GGTP M up to 65 F up to 45 U/L	TOTAL BILIRUBIN Up to 1.2 mg/dL	TOTAL PROTEIN 6.0-8.5 g/dL	ALBUMIN 3.5-5.5 g/dL	GLOBUUN 2.0-3.5 g/dL	A/G RATIO 1.0-2.8	CHOLESTEROL <200 mg/dl Soc Reverse	TRIGUYCERIDE 30-150 mg/dL
97 39 7. (7.)	GH 175 68	42	0.9	6.9	. 4.2 死心惊惊	2.7	1.6	HIGH	
IRON CPK 7 35-180 M 30-250 µg/dL F 30-170 U/L	MAGNESIUM DIGOXIN 1.3-2.1 0.8-2.0 meq/L ng/mL	DILANTIN 10-20 "g/mL	HB, Ag (HAA) neg	T3 UPTAKE 25-35 %	ROID T4 (RIA) 5-12 #0/dL	17 (FTI) 1.2-4.2	TSH .4-6.1 "U/mL	T3(RIA) 52-171 ng/dL	HOL CHOLESTEROL M 30-75 F 40-90 mg/d
181 8 14	八字 , 1994	· 5.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	27 1885 (1999)	10.8	2.9	ANTE.	145	4.3
WBC RBC 4.0-11.0 M 3.9-6.1 x10'/mm' F 3.9-5.5 x10'/mm' x10'/mm'	HGB HCT M 12.0-19.0 M 38-56 F 11.5-17.0 F 35-51 g/dL %	MCV 82-102	MCH 28-32 P0	MCHC 30-35 %	ABO BLOOD GROUP	Rh TYPE	ANTIBODY SCREEN	RUBELLA >1.2 immune	SYPHILIS SEROLOGY (RPR) non-reactive
			ar staar		NZZE	1965 - 588			
DIFFERENTIAL NEUT. LYMPH 45-75 18-46 %	MONO EOS 0-11 0-6 %	BASO 0-2 %	PLATELET COUNT 140-450 x10 ² /mm ³	SED RATE M 0-12 F 0-15 mm/hr	PREGNANCY	ANA neg	RHEUMATOID FACTOR neg	ASO <200 units	CRP neg
	vellensus vuo en				- 医水疗		14		1 ² 201
	P GRAVITY pH .003-1.030 5.0-8.0	PROTEIN	GLUCOSE	KETONES neg	BLOOD reg		BILIRUBIN neg	NITRITE neg	
				1					the second

RESULT RESULT NAME

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UNITS

MG/DL

NORMALS

0-130

185 HIGH LDL CHOL/HDL 6.2 FERRITIN 398 FERRITIN REFERENCE RANGE: MALES=20-450 NG/ML

NG/ML FEMALES (45 YRS=7-200 NG/ML FEMALES >45 YRS=10-350 NG/ML

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Barton Hilling	4 4
	ilth Care Specialists, P.C. alysis Report
Patient BUrns	
Sugar Protein_	tt PH (a
Micro :copic:	
WBC	BIL!
RBC	KET
EPITH	Blood
Crystals	Sp. Gr
Leukocytes	Bacteria
Culture Pending 3 (6- 90) Date	Casts KO Signature

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Adult Health Care Specialists, P.C. HEMATOLOGY REPORT 61HC Jurns James Name: 🗠

Specimen: Venous Capillary

TEST	RESULT	NORMAL VALUES
WBC	7.0	M F 7.8 ± 3
HGB	14.7	M 16.0 ± 2 F 14.0 ± 2
нст	463	M 47. ± 5 F 42 ± 5
PLT	210	M F 130 - 400
Segs	61	M F 45 - 75
Lymph	39	M F 28 [±] 13
		NS
		INITIAL

Rev. James Burns Diocese of Gallup Referred by Most Rev. Donald Pelotte, SSS, Coadjutor Bishop of Gallup Director's Interview Villa Louis Martin March 6, 1990

Father Burns indicated he had come to Jemez Springs for evaluation because of involvement, about 20 years ago, with youth in an inappropriate way and because of ministerial stress. Father Burns was honest in speaking about his involvement with youth. His lack of defensiveness, sense of responsibility for what he had done, and cautiousness regarding a repetition of such behavior lend credence to his affirmation that this has not happened in the recent past. He does, however, have questions and unresolved feelings about his previous behavior. This plus the concerns that have been raised recently by one of the youth who was formerly involved with him make it advisable for him to enter a therapy/renewal program. He also appears to be moderately "burned out" by his years of work in ministry, and this alone would be good reason for coming to a program such as the one at VLM. He is well motivated for such a program and undoubtedly he himself and his future ministry would benefit from such an experience.

I had suggested to Father Burns the possibility of entering the program after April first. He asked if it would be possible to come after Confirmation is conferred on the youth of his parish later in April. Provided there are no complications due to the report that was given by the young man to the chancery recently, there would be no difficulty, on the part of VLM, to his entrance into the program on the first of May.

I would like to thank the Diocese of Gallup for this opportunity to be of some assistance to Father Burns, and likewise thank Fr. Burns for his openness and cooperation with the evaluation process.

Preter Lechur, J. P.

Peter Lechner, s.P., Ph.D. Director: Villa Louis Martin

SPIRITUALITY INTERVIEW FOR:

REV. JAMES BURNS

INTERVIEWER:

DATE:

MARCH 8, 1990

Jim was very cordial, open, and articulate. His comments showed a high degree of self-awareness and objectivity. The week here has been very emotionally charged for him, much of what he shared brought him to tears.

Jim is a very talented and dedicated priest. He is not only a creative, compassionate, and effective pastor, but also a leader among his fellow priests in many different official capacities. Jim is a man of deep faith and courage who is being haunted by sins of his past, which he has tried to bury, but which he now knows he must face. He is haunted by a sort of Calvinistic sense that, no matter what he does, he is going to go to hell, and by the fact, while he can effectively mediate God's forgiving embrace for others, he cannot experience it himself. For as long as he has been a priest, Jim has experienced his parish as his family, and has drawn his primary personal and spiritual support from that relationship. This disposition intensifies Jim's remorse, since he feels that, through his past actions, he has betrayed his family and broken some important personal relationships with boys whom he looked on as his sons. He is also concerned about how his past actions may adversely affect the Diocese.

Jim's reaction to his problems of well over ten years ago was to throw all his energy into his work. This reenforced his workaholism and impacted negatively on his spiritual life by reducing any formal prayer to a bare minimum. He has, however, continued to pray informally and to meet now and then with a priest with whom he can speak heart to heart. The on-going tension between his inner conflict and his outer workaholism has been further compounded for Jim by the fact that his Bishop does not consider him to be "one of his priests" and has been unable to affirm and support Jim in a personal and pastoral way. The net result is that Jim is clearly burned out and has been for several years.

Jim was drawn to the priesthood as a very young man by the example of a good priest who had a special gift of making people feel good about themselves. That struck him as a more meaningful lifework than any other occupations he had seen. He wanted to enter a minor seminary, but his mother, who was not a Catholic at the time, forbade that. His experience of dating in his high school years only reenforced his vocation. He was attracted to the priesthood, not as a career, but as a religious lifestyle. Jim was prepared for priesthood by the Benedictines and enjoyed the choral office as a form of prayer in the seminary, but has never found the solitary reading of the breviary to be spiritually nourishing or meaningful.

Jim is at a time in his life when the psychological and spiritual resources of our programs in Jemez Springs can be of great help to him. Despite the stigma which is still associated with coming here in his Diocese, Jim wants to come. Based on his experience this week, he is drawn more to Foundation House than he is to Villa Louis Martin. Unless it is judged to be imperative that he come before July or stay beyond a five month period, I think his personal preference for the Foundation House program should be Spiritually, Jim's time with us will give him the honored. opportunity to reestablish a meaningful practice of personal prayer; move toward an integration of the sexual and spiritual dimensions of his life; meditatively explore the mystery of God's love and healing forgiveness; and get him the rest and distance which will allow him to see his life, ministry, and relationship with authority in prayerful perspective. The timing seems, not only to be right, but also to be providential.

SPIRITUALITY PROFILE/

By: Very Rev. Wm. (Liam) Hoare, s.P., M.A.

On the Spirituality Profile, Father James Burns scored <u>moderately</u> <u>high</u> in the category of <u>Searching</u>.

People who score high on this scale seem to be seeking a more personal contact with God, one which is based on experience and is more emotionally satisfying than what they currently have. High scorers are groping for an appropriate context within which their personal encounter with the Divine can occur. Traditional ways do not seem to be working for them. They express dissatisfaction with formal worship, scripture and meditation as a means whereby God makes His presence known to them. Nor do they seem to find Him in the less formally religious context of people, daily events or nature.

Although they value emotions and experience in a spiritual context, their appreciation of them appears rather vague and unspecific. At this stage it is probably more notional than real, based more on a dissatisfaction with their current spiritual practices than on actual experience with a new orientation. They nevertheless display an awareness of and openness to a richer dimension of religious experience than they currently possess.

Their spiritual challenge appears to be to open themselves more fully to the realities of their own emotional life and to move away from a merely intellectual to a real appreciation of the value of feelings and experience in their spirituality. To accomplish this they may have to develop an openness with other people (on a horizontal plane) before they can achieve it with God (on a vertical plane).

SPIRITUALITY PROFILE/

By: Very Rev. Wm. (Liam) Hoare, s.P., M.A.

On the Spirituality Profile, Father James Burns, scored <u>high</u> in the category of <u>Relational Aridity</u>.

People who place high on this scale express considerable personal unhappiness. They are concerned about their level of self-esteem and do not seem to be receiving the kind of affirmation they need either from friends and associates or from their work. Their mistrust of others makes it difficult to get close enough to people to receive validation and, as a result, they probably often feel depressed and lonely. They may doubt their own judgment and be fearful of both mental and physical illness. They also doubt their ability to have an impact on others, which reinforces their loneliness.

They do not feel properly trained for the work they are performing and therefore do not enjoy what they do, nor do they receive the kind of feedback from others that would make them feel competent and effective.

High scorers would benefit from a supportive environment provided by friends and associates rather than living and working in isolation. Steps should also be taken to provide them with proper training and to match them with rewarding work. They would probably also benefit greatly from the opportunity to discuss some of the above-mentioned issues with someone versed in the helping skills. Their spiritual task is to break their isolation and take the risk of sharing with others their hopes as well as their fears and resentments. **Psychiatric Interview For:**

Rev. James Burns

Interviewer:

Date:

March 8, 1990

Father Burns is a fifty-six year old priest from the Diocese of Gallup, N.M. He says there are three major problems.

- 1) He had been involved sexually for approximately ten years with adolescent males. He claims that the last such involvement was ten years ago.
- 2) He said there are allegations in the parish that he misused parish funds to remodel his own house. He claims he has been exonerated of that charge.
- 3) People have complained that he was withdrawing from the parish. He talked a bit about being somewhat burned out and over-compensating for his sexual misadventures with workaholism.

Father Burns said that sexually he would be involved approximately three or four times with each of the ten adolescent males. It almost always involved masturbation or mutual masturbation. There was no kissing and there were no appendages which went into orifices.

He claimed to have had one sexual experience with a same-age woman about fifteen years ago. He claimed that she seduced him and that she is still in his life, and that he doesn't know how to politely get rid of her. He described the experience as "very frightening." "I performed the act." He claimed that he did it to "stop her aggression."

In terms of sexual development, he developed an awareness of sexuality sometime around ten to thirteen years of age. He claims that he thought he was in love with some girls in school. He said that he dated in high school, but there was not anything overlly sexual. He remembers once fondling a girl. He claims that was exciting but he was afraid that he would get slapped in the face. He claimed that one time he went out with "the school mattress" (a promiscuous female). He said that they had parked the car and were hugging and kissing. He said a policeman came over to the car "and that ended that. It was enough of a scare." In the college seminary, he remembered having some romantic feelings for some of the other seminarians. He said there were good and bad elements in the seminary. The bad elements were involved with homosexual relationships with one another. He considered himself one of the good elements. He remembers during the seminary that "a kid in the movie" started feeling his leg. He claims that he slugged him. He said, "He was bigger than me."

He said the sexual involvement with the adolescent males started about four years after ordination. He remembered in his first parish that two kids told him that they had been sexually involved with the last priest. He became sexually involved with them. He talked about getting in trouble in a reform school with another boy and described the boy as fifteen or sixteen years old. "No peach fuzz or anything else."

Five years later, he was threatened with being arrested for this. He claimed the Bishop knew, but not a lot was done. About ten years ago, he was in bed with a kid in a motel room and the kid objected to him touching his penis. He said the Bishop also knew about this and transferred him to another parish, but he had no real treatment.

He claims he masturbates now with fantasies of both males and females. He is not attracted to effeminate boys or very masculine boys. At the end of the session, he started crying saying that he is here for himself, because he needs it. He said he owes it to the Diocese and the Church also. He said, with tears in his eyes, "I have worked like a slave, but I will probably go to Hell anyway."

I do not see any diagnosable psychiatric disorder in him, with the exception of "Androphilic Ephebophilia" (sexual attraction to adolescent males). He definitely would be a very good candidate for one of the programs in Jemez Springs. I found him to be easy to work with.



DIOCESE OF GALLUP

711 SOUTH PUERCO DRIVE

P. O. Box 1338 . Gallup, New Mexico 87301 . Telephone (505) 863-4406

March 27, 1990

Very Rev. Liam J. Hoare, s.P. Servants of the Paraclete Jemez Springs, NM 87025

Dear Father Hoare:

Thank you for your letter of March 16, and the detailed report of Fr. Jim Burns holistic evaluation. On March 23, Fr. Burns and I met in Gallup and we both felt positive about the reports and our meeting.

Following phone conversations this morning with Fr. Burns and Fr. Peter Lechner, s.P. I can report that Jim will be arriving at Jemez Springs on Sunday, May 6, to begin the Villa Louis Martin Program on May 7.

On May 1, all the priests of the Diocese of Gallup will be gathering for a Convocation at our Retreat House. Since Jim is the moderator of our Presbyteral Council and plays a significant role in the life of the diocese I wanted him to be a part of this historic meeting. It will be followed by a Presbyteral Council meeting on May 2. Fr. Lechner explained that waiting for another week for him to arrive at Jemez Spring would not present a problem. I am happy about that and I know Jim is overjoyed as he really wanted to be a part of this priest-assembly. Additionally, the fraternal support he will receive there from his brother-priests will be extremely important.

In conclusion, how can I really thank you enough for this second scholarship you are willing to give to the Diocese. In assuming leadership of the Diocese of Gallup just a week ago, I became acutely aware of how difficult the financial situation is at present. This will help us tremendously. We will be happy to provide Fr. Burns' personal spending money and health insurance.

I have told you how determined I am to get the best possible care for all our priests. I am grateful to you and to the entire staff for helping me make this possible. I look forward to meeting you all.

Fraternally in Christ,

Most Rev. Donald E. Pelotte, SSS Bishop of Gallup

cc: Rev. Peter Lechner, s.P. Rev. James Burns