

PLANNING/DISCHARGE MEETING

Reverend Jim Burns
Villa Louis Martin
November 06, 1990

PRESENT:

Most Reverend Donald Pelotte, S.S.S., D.D.

Reverend James Burns

Reverend Peter Lechner, s.P., Director

Reverend Richard Drabik, M.I.C., Spiritual Director

Reverend Clyde Landry, Co-Director of Aftercare

Reverend Neil Saller, T.O.R., Director of Aftercare

Father Burns began the meeting by giving a general summary of his background and the reasons why he came to Villa Louis Martin, as well as a summary of what he has accomplished in the program. He stated that there was a twofold reason for entering the program. First, he was accused of acting out, many years ago, with a young man.

He then went on to say that he had felt for a long time that he was beyond hope as far as forgiveness and salvation were concerned. He felt that he had violated his priestly commitment to celibacy, and because of that he was unable to be forgiven. Therefore, he turned all his attention to his work and became a workaholic. He said that he worked hard for his people but ended up being an empty shell. He finally realized that he had little or nothing to give to his people because internally he was an empty shell and had no spiritual resources. He also mentioned that, because of his early seminary training in the era in which he was brought up, he had built a wall against relationships with women. He mentioned that the training at the seminary concerning sexuality was absent.

During his time in the program, he began to learn about the unconditional forgiveness of God. He began to develop a strong spiritual life. He worked on his sexuality and has come to terms with his sexuality; however, he still is unsure of his sexual orientation. While here, he learned how to handle intimacy and develop good, solid, adult relationships. He also found out that he is a person and his identification is not only with priesthood, as Father Burns, but he has also found that he needs time for Jim Burns. As a consequence of that, he has begun to develop outside interests and hobbies, and is determined to continue taking time for himself in the future.

He then discussed the assignment to the parish of St. Rose of Lima in Blanco, New Mexico. At first, he felt that there were a number of problems connected with this assignment, specifically the remote area in which it is located, and the large debt which the parish is saddled with. However, upon reflection and consultation with staff, he has

come to realize that the remote area would offer him time for other activities such as hobbies, fishing, etc.

Concerning the debt of the parish, it originally frightened him, but he came to realize that he cannot own that debt--it is not his. He intends to work with priests in the area and to join an organization for priests who are in one-man parishes. He also plans to work on exercise and diet, which he has not done so far because of the amount of work done in other problem areas. He mentioned the fact that because of the remoteness of the locality, he would need a TV dish in order to receive television broadcasts.

He mentioned then that his plans concerning aftercare included seeing Father Richard Drabik, his spiritual director, at least once a month, and continuing in individual therapy with a therapist in Farmington. He feels that he has gained a great deal of help through the VLM program, and is determined to follow through with the gains already made.

██████████ Father Burns' focal therapist, commented on his summary and said that it was a good summary of what has happened to him here. ██████████ main concern is that Father Burns continue in a balanced lifestyle. She is afraid that there is a temptation for him to isolate himself and then to work too much. She feels that he has done very good work here, and she suggests that he set up a therapy recommendation as quickly as possible.

Father Richard Drabik commented that Father Burns has worked very hard, especially in the area of spiritual development. Father Richard addressed the problem of Father Burns living in a parish alone, since the recommendation of the staff had been that he live with others. However, after Father Burns consulted with the staff and reflected upon this assignment, it then became Father Burns decision to accept the assignment. Father Richard also warned against the temptation not to follow through on therapy and spiritual direction, and urged a strong commitment to the above-stated therapeutic program. Father Richard also mentioned that Father Burns is a man of deep convictions and sense of responsibility, and that he has accomplished much spiritual gain.

██████████ then commented that Father Burns has done very well in the therapeutic process of psychodrama. She feels that he was an asset to the group and was very intuitive with the role-playing. She did say that in certain family dynamics there were some intense scenes, and Father Burns became somewhat frightened and uncomfortable and she feels that this would need further exploration in therapy. ██████████ pointed out that there is underlying anger toward authority and she feels this also should be addressed further. She feels that Father Burns will be able to realize any danger signals concerning workaholism or taking the parish debt personally upon his own shoulders, so that he would be able to avoid those danger areas. She was struck by his complete change from having been told to take the assignment, to owning the decision to accept it himself. She made one other comment that he did extremely good work in the sexuality group because of his honesty and directness.

Father Neil Saller commented that Father Burns seems to be a community person, from observations in his interactions with the men in the program. He also commented that he is well-liked and appreciated by the men, and stated that he found Father Burns to be a very pleasant and friendly asset to the community at VLM.

Father Clyde Landry also commented that Father Burns is well-respected by the men in the community here. Father Landry mentioned that he is touched by Father Burns' commitment to ministry and to the diocese. He sees a deep love for the people to whom Father Burns ministers. Father Landry said his task in the next two years would be to help, to question, and to guide Father Burns in the aftercare program.

At this point, Bishop Pelotte offered his observations, the first of which was his unawareness of the staff's concern about the assignment to Blanco. The Bishop's purpose in assigning Father Burns to the parish in Blanco was in order to give Father Burns a good parish and a respectable assignment. The Bishop agrees that the parish debt is not Father Burns' personal responsibility, and the Bishop is willing to tell the people of the parish that the debt is theirs and that it is their responsibility. In giving this assignment to Father Burns, the Bishop bypassed the normal procedures of the diocese, which call for an announcement and application for those who wish to apply. The Bishop said that this upset some of the priests in the diocese, who assumed that Father Burns would be an associate, after having been in the treatment program. Bishop Pelotte shares the concerns which were brought forth by the staff. First of all, the debt is not personal, and therefore should not be seen as a burden by Father Burns. Secondly, the concern about isolation was addressed by the Bishop, in that, there are more priests in that particular county and area than in any other area of the diocese, so that Father Burns can reach out to these priests for companionship and support. Thirdly, in the concern about spirituality, the Bishop mentioned that, in the former parish, some people remarked that Father Burns had been spiritually bankrupt, and so it is vitally important that he be able to nourish the people of Blanco spiritually. The Bishop said that the people of Blanco need to be loved, nurtured and fed, and this will be Father Burns' responsibility. The Bishop also commented that the church needs a new style of management, a more collaborative one, rather than the practice of the past, where the pastor merely laid down the law. And the Bishop hopes that Father Burns will be able to develop a more collaborative style of leadership in dealing with the people of the parish. The Bishop also agreed to a trial period of six months or so, at which time the assignment will be reevaluated, and if all is not going well for Father Burns or the parish, then another assignment will be considered. Bishop Pelotte suggested a particular therapist in Farmington, a [REDACTED] in whom he has a great deal of confidence, and hopes that an initial appointment with this therapist will be in place before Father Burns leaves Jemez Springs. [REDACTED] will contact and cooperate with [REDACTED]

Father Peter Lechner strongly urged that a definite appointment be set up with the therapist before Father Burns leaves the program. Father Peter's reason is that Father Burns will need someone with whom to confer immediately, in the event that other

accusations should surface, or that the criticism of this assignment by other priests should present a problem. It will always be of vital importance for Father Burns to be able to speak with and to have confidence in a support person as soon as any difficulty should present itself. Father Peter's reasons for immediate contact with a therapist center around possible legal problems in the future, as well as handling any criticism that might be a problem from the clergy. Father Peter also feels that to be in touch every week with a therapist will help to continue to integrate all the work accomplished here. The transition period will pose its own problems, and this also will call for the help and support of a therapist.

██████████ mentioned two areas which Father Burns will continue to work with ██████████
██████████ chronic self-devaluation and negative ruminations, which ██████████ feels
can very well improve in future therapy.

Father Peter mentioned that, after Father Burns leaves here, he should have two weeks of real vacation separate from the time needed to move his belongings from one place to the other.

The meeting ended with Father Burns thanking Bishop Pelotte and the staff for all that has been done for him.

Reverend Neil R. Saller, T.O.R., J.U.L.
Director of Aftercare
Villa Louis Martin

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1991

Memo

From

BROTHER DUANE,
O.F.M.

To +DEP

January 10, 1991

SUBJECT: Visitation of Fr. Jim Burns

Fr. Clyde Landry called to let you know that he will be leaving for Blanco and a visit with Jim Burns on Tues., 1/15/91. He wanted to know if there is any information he should keep in mind prior to his visit with Jim.

You can call his home number, Friday evening and over the weekend, if you wish to talk with Landry. The number is: [REDACTED].

I told Fr. Landry that you would be home sometime on Friday afternoon and would probably give him a jingle.

dt



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

Report of Aftercare Visit for

Rev. Jim Burns

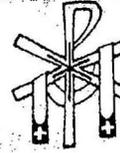
January 15-16, 1991

As part of the Aftercare Recommendations for Rev. Jim Burns of the Diocese of Gallup, following the therapeutic program of Villa Louis Martin, a personal visit was arranged with Fr. Jim on January 15-16, 1991. Jim was most welcoming for the visit and I appreciated his hospitality. Jim arrived at his new assignment early in December and has spent the last month adjusting to the parish and parishioners. After being in his former assignment for a number of years, I can understand how this would be a difficult time for Jim.

I arrived at St. Rose near noon time and Jim was just completing a funeral service in the Church. Jim invited me to join him at lunch with the family of the deceased and I was happy to do so. It afforded me the opportunity to interact with some of the parishioners and thus get a better feeling for the parish and how Jim is adjusting to his assignment. I found the parishioners to be most friendly and welcoming. I also was happy to observe that most of the people present were very appreciative to have Jim as their pastor and many took the trouble to tell me so. I was only introduced as a priest-friend of Jim's and yet they all felt it was important that I know how much they like their new pastor. Also, in speaking with Jim about the funeral and the dinner I could not help but notice his sensitivity to the people of the parish. Jim told me of a few people who felt very alienated from the church as a result of events in the past and how he has managed to approach some of them on an informal basis. He has also begun to get out a little and have dinner with a few families in the parish. All this seems to be happening in a well-balanced and healthy manner.



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I think it would be very important to note here that Jim is still "moving into" the parish. Much of his possessions are still in boxes; he is learning the physical needs of the plant; he is getting to know parishioners; he is catching up on administrative work that has been put off for a while; he is getting his offices in order. It doesn't take one very long to see that much has been done and much needs to be done. Jim assures me that he is working at his own pace knowing full well that much work will be there even after he is gone. Also, I think it is important to note that for a new pastor it takes several months for relationships to develop and to get a handle on how things have been done in the past. Jim mentioned that the Parish Council has been most supportive. He has also been able to organize a finance board to watch over and manage the parish monies.

Personally, Jim has been doing well so far. When we discussed the aftercare directives from Villa Louis Martin, Jim said that because of the holidays, his moving, and taking care of some immediate needs on the parish he has not been able to meet with the therapist in Farmington as yet. Jim said he called him once prior to Christmas, but he (the therapist) was not in at the time and didn't return the call. Jim also explained that Richard Drabik, spiritual director, had scheduled two trips to Blanco but had to cancel both times because of the weather. Also the group of priests in the area had a get-together planned but again the weather forced cancellation. I do not doubt Jim's good intentions but I urged him strongly to take care of these recommendations as soon as possible since the staff of VLM believes they are the minimum for Jim's good health and well-being.

Jim and I spoke at great length about this important recommendations and how necessary it was for him to take some action. While he has been busy and much has happened in his life over the past month, I pointed out that it was now time for action. Jim is very quick to take care of the needs of the parish and parishioners and he is also aware that he could easily fall again into the pattern of working without time for himself or neglect to take up any interests outside of the church parish.

We spoke of what a typical day in his ministry might look like and again Jim spoke of numerous parish activities. Much to his credit, he also stated that he really likes to set his own pace and take time to relax in the evenings, watch TV, and cook dinner. I told Jim I didn't think anyone would have any problem with that but there is still no one to honestly talk to and check out his feelings with. Jim agreed with the observation and I think he understood the need to have this kind of person in his life. I must add here that Jim was certainly not afraid to address these issues with me and admit that something needed to happen. There was certainly no hesitation and a wonderful attitude of honesty on Jim's part. Jim seems to be very willing to take the necessary steps to meet the requirements of the aftercare recommendations.

To my knowledge, Jim is planning to return to Villa Louis Martin for his follow-up workshop in April of this year. At that time it is our hope that Jim will have implemented the aftercare recommendations of the staff. I must note here that the staff of VLM takes these recommendations very seriously and would have concern about Jim's continued well-being if they are not implemented by the time of his followup-week.

Bishop Pelotte, should you have any questions concerning my visit, please feel free to contact me. When you have finished reading this report, please send it back to us. This procedure has been recommended by our legal counsel and also reflects our concern for the men who come to us, and their dioceses.

Rev. Clyde B. Landry
Aftercare - Villa Louis Martin
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

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

Aftercare - Villa Louis Martin

March 26, 1991

Most Reverend Donald Pelotte, S.S.S., D.D.
Diocese of Gallup
PO Box 1338
Gallup, NM 87301

Dear Bishop Pelotte,

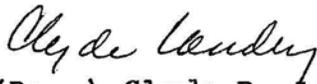
Greetings during this Easter Season and I hope this note finds you well. The reason I am writing, Bishop Pelotte, is to let you know that it is time for Fr. Jim Burns to return to Villa Louis Martin for the six-month Followup Workshop.

Jim is scheduled to come to VLM on April 22-26 for the workshop week and we are looking forward to his return. For each man that returns, we ask that a summary be sent by the man himself expressing the highlights of his time away from VLM. Also we ask that each man's therapist and spiritual director send in reports of their progress whenever possible. This information helps us to provide the best possible followup for the former resident.

In addition to the above information, I would like to ask you, bishop, to give any input you would like at this time. If you have noticed anything that we should address with Jim or if you have any other observations that would be helpful to the staff we would appreciate hearing from you.

Following the workshop week, we will be sending a report on to you containing our observations of how Jim is doing. Please be assured of our prayers and support during this holy season.

Sincerely in the Lord,


(Rev.) Clyde B. Landry
Aftercare - Villa Louis Martin



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

Aftercare - Villa Louis Martin

May 1, 1991

Most Rev. Donald E. Pelotte, S.S.S., Ph.D.
Bishop of Gallup
PO Box 1317
Gallup, NM 87305

Dear Bishop Pelotte:

Enclosed you will find the Therapeutic Reports for Rev. Jim Burns during the Followup Week of April 22, 1991. We were very happy to see Jim again and to be updated on his progress. Happily Jim has been doing very well in Blanco and the attached reports certainly give evidence to this. Bishop, I think you can be proud of Jim and what he has been able to accomplish since his departure from VLM. He is truly dedicated to the process whereby he will stay healthy and serve the diocese as a good priest.

During the followup week, I interviewed Jim and spent some time discussing his aftercare program. Jim has seen a therapist in Farmington several times and is resolved to do so on a more regular basis during the summer months. He also keeps in touch with VLM and former residents. I can only encourage Jim to continue in his aftercare program. The VLM Staff concurs in this assessment and would recommend continued therapy as well as spiritual direction with someone whom he can be honest and open with. We would also recommend Jim continue to be faithful in taking the time off he needs for relaxation and recreation. We consider these recommendations to be very important for Jim and caution him to make every effort to fulfill them.

While here, Jim spoke of his present assignment as pastor in Blanco and how very life giving that assignment has been for him. He speaks of the people with great love and admiration and I have a feeling they do the same about Jim. He reflected peace and joy in his priesthood and what has been happening to him in terms of his feelings. Jim is truly a gift to the diocese and the



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priesthood. If I had to offer any personal suggestions to Jim, I would only encourage him to stay on that road that leads to health and happiness with people in his life that he can talk to and can give him some objective feedback.

Bishop Pelotte, once again I want to thank you for the opportunity to work with Fr. Jim Burns and the Diocese of Gallup. We wish you God's Blessings in your ministry and if we can be of service to you and the diocese in the future, please do not hesitate to call on us. Should you have any questions concerning this report, please feel free to contact me or any member of the VLM Staff. When you have finished reading this report, please send it back to us. This procedure has been recommended by our legal counsel and also reflects our concern for the men who come to us, and their diocese.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Clyde B Landry
(Rev.) Clyde B. Landry
Aftercare - Villa Louis Martin

May 00, 1991

Most Rev. Donald E. Pelotte, S.S.S., Ph.D.
Bishop of Gallup
P.O. Box 1317
Gallup, New Mexico 87305

Dear Bishop Pelotte:

The following is the Aftercare Report for Father Jim Burns for the period of April 22-26, 1991, at Villa Louis Martin.

PSYCHODRAMA 04/23/91 [REDACTED] The Aftercare Psychodrama session was designed to assist the men in honing in on their particular challenges since leaving VLM. Each man proposed a question to a fantasy panel of experts. The men appeared to have fun with the exercise and they brought up a lot of humor into the work.

Jim was the most dominant energy in this particular group. His humor seemed to be enjoyed by the other men. He was particularly entertaining in his character portrayals today. While assisting his peers with their challenges by sharing his thoughts and opinions, he did it with humor and in the characterization of the different people of his historical significance. Jim has obviously made an excellent adjustment to his parish assignment, and now feels that what has transpired has been very good for him. He speaks of being grateful for his experience at VLM. His life seems rich and it appears that Jim has done much to follow the suggestions and practice the things he learned at VLM. It also seems that Jim is making a special effort to take time for himself and to do things to meet his needs, other than work.

ART THERAPY 04/24/91 [REDACTED] Aftercare

Jim appears to be happy and content with his assignment and living conditions. He seems to be able to relate to the people of his parish and he seems to have presented himself and his style of leadership in a manner that was palatable to the parishioners.

My previous concern that Jim would quickly return to a workaholic mode is dispelled. He seems to be taking time for himself in a healthy manner. He has interests and hobbies and he seems to be socializing with fellow priests and finding it enjoyable.

Jim is cautious about his assignment and would prefer to keep the six-month contract open, but at the present time he seems to be looking forward to remaining in the parish and taking a day at a time.

I did not hear one negative comment from Jim nor did I hear him allude to possible problems, and for Jim this is growth, for he had a tendency to dwell on the negative, to the detriment of his own happiness.

GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY 04/25/91 [REDACTED] This last group session for the aftercare men focused mostly on one other person. Jim's dealing with that person was to give him a lot of advice and tell him fairly directly what Jim thought would be the best thing for him to do. This is someone whom Jim knows well because they were in the same group while they were in the program before. I was a little surprised about the clarity with which Jim gave his advice and made his suggestions, and the firm conviction he has that this was really the right thing for this man to do. I had not worked with Jim before, so I don't know if this is something pretty typical of his communication style or if he was doing it more for the benefit of this other person, who has been vacillating for many years now on this same question for himself.

For himself, Jim seems happy and content. He is obviously a man with a strong and fairly dominant personality, which was evident just in the brief time that I saw him today. He was sincerely trying to be helpful, and that came through in the suggestions that he was making.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION 04/25/91 (Rev. Richard J. Drabik, MIC): Jim has continued his life of prayer, particularly getting involved with the parishioners on the rosary, having time for his own adoration, reading of Scripture and preparing for Scripture sessions. He is finding a bit of a struggle with the divine office, and we talked about praying for the grace and really letting the Holy Spirit move him in this regard. All in all, I see a continued development of positive attitude towards his priesthood, towards hearing the people of God and really being in touch with that old principle . . . the voice of the people is the voice of God. He has had a few struggling moments with responding to the needs of the greater church in the diocese, and has some strong sense of feelings of things that appear to be taking the church for granted or taking advantage of the greater church, but he has come to a determination that he will lift this more in prayer than the tendency of making observations or getting frustrated. There are resolutions to share with the Bishop and to really let the Bishop know his continuing care and support. I am very encouraged by the positive and down-to-earth and committed attitude of Jim. He is a priests' priest and a very definite grace for the church and the priesthood.

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FOLLOWUP SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 22-26/1991

REV. JIM BURNS

FH ROOM B-2

22 MONDAY:

6:45 PM INTRODUCTORY SESSION-REV. CLYDE LANDRY -
(VLM GROUP ROOM)

23 TUESDAY:

1:00-3:00 PM PSYCHODRAMA SESSION- [REDACTED]
(VLM GROUP ROOM)
7:15-8:15 PM GROUP DISCUSSION ON REENTRY WITH AFTERCARE
- PETER & CLYDE & VLM MEN (GROUP ROOM)
8:15 PM GET-TOGETHER PARTY WITH AFTERCARE

24 WEDNESDAY:

9:00-11:00 AM ART THERAPY - [REDACTED]
(FH GROUP ROOM)

25 THURSDAY:

8:00-9:00 AM PSYCHOTHERAPY SESSION- [REDACTED]
(VLM ROOM 005 IN HALLWAY BY CHAPEL)

26 FRIDAY:

9:30 AM PROCESSESSING THE WEEK & CLOSING LITURGY -
CLYDE LANDRY
(VLM CONFERENCE ROOM OFF THE KITCHEN)

INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS:

REV. JIM BURNS:

23 TUES: 6:30- 7:15 P.M. - [REDACTED] - HILLHOUSE NW RM
24 WEDS: 1:00- 1:30 P.M. - PETER LECHNER, S.P. - VLM OFFICE 400
24 WEDS: 2:00- 2:30 P.M. - CLYDE LANDRY - HILLHOUSE NORTHEAST RM
25 THUR: 3:00- 3:45 P.M. - [REDACTED] - HILLHOUSE SOUTH RM

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25 THUR: 3:00- 3:45 P.M. - [REDACTED] - HILLHOUSE SOUTH RM

Burns, James (1991)

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DIOCESE OF GALLUP

711 SOUTH PUERCO DRIVE

P. O. Box 1338 • Gallup, New Mexico 87305 • Telephone (505) 863-4406

June 21, 1991

COPY

1991

Rev. Clyde B. Landry
Aftercare-Villa Louis Martin
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

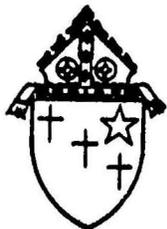
Dear Father Landry:

What a treat it is to receive some good news once in awhile! As you are well aware this is not always the case. Only to say how pleased I am to receive such a positive report about Jim Burns. It has become obvious to me also from seeing him here and there how well he is doing. Your reports help to affirm that.

As required I am returning the confidential document to you. Please thank the rest of the staff for all they have done to help this priest work through some difficult issues that had been burdening him for years. May the Lord continue to bless you and the others in the important and critical ministry that is yours.

Fraternally in Christ,

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



DIOCESE OF GALLUP

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COPY

March 30, 1991

Rev. Clyde B. Landry
Servants of the Paraclete
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

Dear Clyde:

Just a brief note to thank you for your March 26, letter informing me about Father Jim Burns' upcoming after-care workshop. Since this is Holy Week and on Monday I leave for a bishop's meeting in San Diego I hasten to answer your letter, even if only briefly.

As you remember I installed Fr. Burns as pastor not long after he assumed leadership of the parish. I have found him in good form and back to his old self while there. He certainly has been able to get things moving already inspite of the many obstacles they face. But the people were without doubt very excited and positive about him and his leadership. I think our placement of him there was the best possible approach. He is challenged but does not allow it to appear overwhelming.

A few days after the installation we had a priests in-service day here in Gallup. Jim did not come as he reported he was ill. I was concerned that perhaps he didn't appear as he was finding it difficult to face his brother-priests as a group for the first time. I'm not sure what was involved here and I didn't have the opportunity to follow up on it. Nonetheless, he did come to the Chrism Mass dinner and Eucharist on Monday and was in his normally good and enjoyable form. I see alot of growth in him and I hope what one sees from the outside truly reflects how he feels within. I hope to have more time in the future to sit and chat with him so that I can be sure things are moving along in a postive way. He is a good man and I will do anything I can to affirm and support him. And thank you for all that you have done. A blessed Easter to you!

Fraternally in Christ,

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



DIOCESE OF GALLUP

711 SOUTH PUERCO DRIVE

P.O. Box 1338 • Gallup, New Mexico 87305 • Telephone (505) 863-4406

COPY

January 31, 1991

Rev. Peter Lechner, s.P.
Director: Villa Louis Martin
Servants of the Paraclete
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

Dear Father Peter:

I have reviewed Father Clyde Landry's report of his aftercare visit with Jim Burns in Blanco. Earlier today I called Clyde to thank him for this fine summary.

On Sunday I shall be going to Blanco to install Jim as Pastor. I shall spend time reviewing this report with him and will share our concern about his immediate need to see [REDACTED] as soon as possible.

The priests in the area are saying very positive things about him. He has settled in, is in a positive frame of mind and already has the love and admiration of the parishioners. I shall affirm all of this on Sunday.

Thank you and all for your on-going support of Father Burns. I very much appreciate his priesthood and am most grateful to you for the ways in which you have helped to strengthen it.

Fraternally in Christ

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



DIOCESE OF GALLUP

711 SOUTH PUERCO DRIVE

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January 31, 1991

Rev. Peter Lechner, s.P.
Director: Villa Louis Martin
Servants of the Paraclete
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

Dear Father Peter:

I have reviewed Father Clyde Landry's report of his aftercare visit with Jim Burns in Blanco. Earlier today I called Clyde to thank him for this fine summary.

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Fraternally in Christ,

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

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October 26, 1992

Rev. Peter Lechner, s.P., Ph.D.
Program Director
Servants of the Paraclete
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

Dear Fr. Lechner:

Your letter of October 17, and the provisional draft of the summary of the meeting on October 13, reached me on the 21st. Thank you for this. I have read the report very carefully and am extremely pleased at the fine job Fr. Drabik did in recording our meeting. I think it is clear and accurately covers our discussion. There is only one minor omission on Pg. 4. Apparently one word has been omitted. I have indicated this in my draft.

During this past week I was on retreat with Jim Burns. I think he's still very pleased with the arrangement we have proposed. This doesn't make the matter any easier for him but I believe he is willing to cope with it. I have not heard from [REDACTED] since our meeting. All things being equal they should be in process in implementing our recommendation.

Before you left on the 13th, you made mention of the billing for [REDACTED] [REDACTED] evaluation. Since then I have received notification that this evaluation was paid for by the Servants of the Paraclete. Needless to say I am extremely grateful for this. I'm not certain who was behind this but please extend to everyone my heartfelt gratitude. Thank you for all that you do for us and for all the priests of our country.

Fraternally in Christ,

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



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

Most Reverend Donald E. Pelotte, S.S.S., Ph.D.
Bishop of Gallup
P.O. Box 1317
Gallup, NM 87305

October 17, 1992

Dear Bishop Pelotte,

Enclosed is a provisional draft of the summary of the meeting held with Fr. Burns and [REDACTED] on the 13th of October. After you have read this, please let me know whether there are any changes or corrections you feel need to be made. I am sending copies to the therapists and Frs. Burns and [REDACTED] and asking them likewise for any corrections they feel need to be made.

When you have read this, and made appropriate notes, please return the enclosed to me. I ask this because much of the material in the summary is related to therapy and should, I believe, be treated with the same confidentiality as notes from therapy sessions. If you think it would be a good idea for a statement to be made regarding the essential recommendations and structure of the "supportive relationship" please let me know.

As always I would ask that the contents of the summary not be disclosed to a third party without the express permission of the priests concerned, in this case, Fathers Burns and Mahlmann.

I would like to acknowledge the good spirit and cooperation that prevailed at the meeting. It was, I feel, a very constructive and worthwhile meeting.

Sincerely yours,
Peter Lechner
Peter Lechner, s.P.

copies \Rev. James Burns
[REDACTED]



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COPY

January 30, 1992

Rev. James Burns
St. Rose Parish
P.O. Box 417
Blanco, NM 87412

Dear Father Burns:

Father Larry O'Keefe has informed me about your recent election by your brother-priests as dean of the San Juan Valley Vicariate. **Congratulations!** With this letter I wish to confirm that election and appoint you Vicar-Forane for a period of three (3) years effective February 1, 1992.

During the last two years the presbyteral council has continued to do very effective work for the life of the Diocese and especially for their brothers in this presbyterate. Jim, I look forward to your collaboration with us on their behalf. Our next meeting is at 10:00 AM on February 11, 1992. See you then.

Fraternally in Christ,

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

XC: Fr. Lawrence O'Keefe
File Copy