

July 31, 1985


4841 Southside Drive + Louisville, Ky. 40214

Most Rev. Archbishops,

After our meeting yesterday Fr. Dan filled me in on his meeting with Dr. O'Connor. He apparently told Dan not to leave. He told him he needed to get a good spiritual director and work on his relationship with this woman.

Fr. Dan, however, last night made it pretty clear to me that he felt he needed a leave and wanted "to call time out" for a while - to take a leave in other words.

He put so many things before me about when he is with priesthood. He said he is just going through the motions with Mass + sacraments, hasn't been praying.

He says that he feels like he is using the priesthood for security - 3 meals, a bed + a pay-check. His own statement was that he doesn't do anything other than what is necessary. He even commented on the fact that he doesn't even get up on Tues + Thurs. mornings for common morning prayers with the staff. He is involved with sports + even less of that lately. Immediately goes over to the home of  as

happened last evening after his talk to me + the 8th grade ball game here.

**S-2** [redacted] mother's name is [redacted] and since he goes over there often it could be that she is the [redacted] that he is infatuated with. However the evening I spoke to him about **S-2** [redacted] when he exploded, he made it clear to me it was not that "fat woman" **S-2** [redacted]'s mother that he was interested in. I told him I wasn't referring to her but **S-2** [redacted]. Now I'm thinking that she is the woman, the [redacted], he speaks of to you. She is divorced, [redacted] years of age, unemployed I think, on A.D.C., has [redacted] children - [redacted] girls - [redacted] + [redacted] boys [redacted]. He has her mother with her + a [redacted] [redacted] non-Catholic.

He said that he was upset with me the day he moved in here because he told me about his involvements with some High school boys at St Rita and I made no comment about it. He said that he felt like he super reacted the night I spoke with him about **S-2** [redacted] because I was going back to his past problem. He did say that when I mentioned **S-2** [redacted]

he listened to me and watched & watches his  
association with **S-2**. Once again saying  
that he had or has nothing to do with **S-2**  
in that way, since he doesn't want to get  
himself involved in another such problem.  
So, it may be that he is going over there  
only because of **[REDACTED]**

I do know that he doesn't + can't  
operate as a priest + he knows it to. I do  
feel like he wants "time out" but now  
he doesn't know for sure altho he has  
given every indication that he wants a  
leave, needs it and has done so many  
things to indicate a firm decision to leave -  
mentioning from the pulpit that he needs to  
settle a few things in his life, he's been packing  
for a few weeks, he has told the staff + given  
me the indication he needs + wants it.

# St. John Vianney

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I feel like if he stays here + continues as he is he will be causing scandal eventually + ruin his reputation as a priest + may hurt his chances of ever coming back, because of this relationship.

A many other things have distracted me from ever mentioning his drinking. I do think he drinks often + much even early day. He even told me that, when he was visiting one of his sisters recently, he + she were drinking too much, and that he must watch this because his doctor told him that he is a prime candidate for alcoholism.

Sorry to have bored you so long + much, but I want to do all I can for him + what is best for him.

Wanted to get this to you before he came to see you. Please excuse grammar, spelling, & the like.

CLARK.DOC 0138

Sincerely + In Christ  
Jim Fichtefeld