



Archdiocese of Louisville

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May 29, 1991

CLERGY PERSONNEL

TO: Archbishop Kelly

FROM: Reverend Medley

REVEREND DANIEL CLARK

Today I made a follow-up call to Reverend Ted Hodge, Director of Chaplaincy Services at Baptist East Hospital, regarding a discussion we had had in March about the possibility of Father Dan Clark serving as Catholic Chaplain to the hospital there. At that time Reverend Hodge and Reverend Jim Pollard agreed to pursue the acceptability of Dan's appointment to the hospital through their administrative channels.

Reverend Hodge shared with me today that this investigation had turned up some troubling information. He related that in recent months Dan has facilitated certain self-help groups which have met on the hospital premises. The groups were not themselves affiliated with the hospital but merely using their facilities. Someone in charge of this has, however, asked that these groups no longer meet there because Father Dan Clark has been observed with the smell of alcohol on his breath at these meetings. In light of this, Reverend Hodge said that it was impossible to pursue this further through their administration. I assured him that I certainly understood this and would appreciate any further documentation of incidences, dates or times when Dan allegedly arrived at the hospital smelling of alcohol.

As a follow-up to this conversation with Reverend Hodge, I called Father Francis Cusack of the Passionist Monastery and shared with him the concerns that had been raised and asked him if any similar behavior had been observed in the monastery. Father Francis Cusack was surprised by this and shared that there had been some occasions when wine was served at dinner at the monastery and he had observed Dan drink a glass of wine. He noted that there had been no abuse of this and certainly no intoxication.

Obviously this is a matter of grave concern, given the interdependence of addictive behaviors. Though I thanked Father Francis for his help and concern I must admit to being somewhat perplexed by the fact that he showed no more concern than he did that a recovering alcoholic would be sharing in glass of wine.

When Reverend Hodge provides me with further information from the hospital I will certainly pass that along to you and will expect to share this information with the members of the Health Panel when we next meet.

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cc: Very Reverend B. J. Breen