

Note: We have used 'Jane' to redact the name of Avery's relative, and 'Frank' to redact her husband's name.



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

Office of: Secretary for Clergy

TO: Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua
FROM: Reverend William J. Lynn *WJL*
DATE: March 2, 1993
RE: Reverend Edward V. Avery (1970)

CONFIDENTIAL

The following is provided for your information.

On Wednesday, February 24, 1993, I met with [redacted] Jane and Frank [redacted] at their request. [redacted] Jane [redacted] is [redacted] a relative of Father Edward V. Avery. Attached is a copy of my memorandum to file concerning this meeting.

After I met with them, I called St. John Vianney Hospital and spoke with the Administrator, Mr. Louis Horvath. I explained to him the family's concerns. He assured me that, in accord with their normal procedures, the doctors and therapists working with Father Avery would be offering to the family an opportunity to meet with them.

No. 0551 - 00262



Note: We have used 'Jane' to redact the name of Avery's relative, and 'Frank' to redact her husband's name.

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

TO: FILE
FROM: Reverend William J. Lynn *WJL*
ITEM: Meeting with [REDACTED] Jane and Frank
RE: Reverend Edward V. Avery (1970)
DATE: March 1, 1993

On February 24, 1993, I met with [REDACTED] Jane and Frank [REDACTED] at their request. [REDACTED] Jane [REDACTED] is [REDACTED] a relation [REDACTED] of Reverend Edward V. Avery.

[REDACTED] Jane [REDACTED] stated that she and her entire family are upset about the treatment the Archdiocese has given to [REDACTED] Avery [REDACTED]. She stated that Father Avery had shared with the family that accusations of sexual misconduct had been made against him and that he had been evaluated at Saint John Vianney Hospital. It was also evident that he had shared the results of the evaluation with them.

[REDACTED] Jane [REDACTED] stated that she had friends who knew well renowned psychologists who allegedly said that the diagnosis by the Anodos Center was not accurate nor reliable. She stated that family is very upset that Father Avery is in the hospital now. She stated that she was upset that we would have acted on allegations made by someone who the family considers of questionable character. She was very agitated and upset and shouting a good bit of the time.

Rather than trying to give answers to every point [REDACTED] Jane [REDACTED] was making, I explained to them the process followed by the Archdiocese in these situations. I told them when allegations are made, the priest is informed of the allegations and is given the opportunity to respond. I stated that it is normally prudent, for the priests' own protection and for the protection of the Church, to have a multi-disciplinary assessment done. I explained that after such an evaluation is completed, the Archdiocese acts on the results of the evaluation and not necessarily on what anyone else has said or alleged to have happened. I also explained that Father Avery is still undergoing evaluation. I would not discuss the results of the evaluation in order to protect Father Avery's confidentiality. She understood that I could not discuss the evaluation.

No. 0551 - 00263



Jane stated that she felt the actions of the Archdiocese had been radical in handling Avery. She went on to enumerate the many good works Father Avery has accomplished. She did this several times. I told her that Father Avery's performance as a priest was not under question.

Jane did state that she was on several committees and boards in the Archdiocese. She mentioned Saint Edmond's Home several times. She stated her family was friends with people who have given large donations to the Archdiocese. She made some veiled threats about leaving the Archdiocese, exposing this whole thing, and telling her friends not to donate to the Archdiocese. She said she would go to the newspaper if she had to. I believe these things were said more out of emotional upsetment.

Jane did keep speaking to me about bi-polar disorders and stating that this was not Avery's problem. I told her I was not a professional in psychological matters but as with any hospital, I was sure the doctors working with Avery would speak with the family if Father Avery permitted them to. She did seem to be pleased if that could happen.

Jane told me that she wanted me to sit down with Cardinal Bevilacqua and tell him that their family would like Father Avery to complete the evaluation in about two weeks or a short period of time and return to his parish and work on an out-patient basis if necessary. She stated that she did not think Father Avery's name should be disgraced nor the families names because of the things he is accused of. She stated she was upset that there had been rumors that Father Avery was in the hospital. I told her I did not believe anyone knew the circumstances as to what led Father Avery to be in the hospital.

I told them I would contact the hospital to see if there was a possibility of their meeting with the doctors at St. John Vianney who were caring for Father Avery. They seemed satisfied with this but Jane did reiterate that she wanted me to meet with Cardinal Bevilacqua as I stated earlier in this memorandum.

When leaving, Jane apologized for being so emotional. She stated she was not angry with me but rather just the fact of the entire situation.

No. 0551 - 00264

