

DIOCESE OF CALGARY

CHANCERY
910 - 7A STREET NORTH WEST
CALGARY, ALBERTA
CANADA

May 23, 1968

His Eminence,
Richard Cardinal Cushing, D.D.,
Archbishop of Boston,
2121 Commonwealth Avenue,
Brighton, Mass. 02135

Chancery

Your Eminence:

Father James D. Foley, a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston who has been serving here since April, 1966 has been informed that he can no longer work as a priest in the Diocese of Calgary. When Father Foley came here, Bishop Carroll was informed that Father had a problem. The problem has recurred. Father has been seriously involved with a young married woman (19 years of age) and had been contemplating leaving Calgary with her. There have been other complications with regard to this relationship, and there are indications that he has been involved with others. There has been considerable scandal.

When confronted with these matters, Father had a "breakdown" and spent three weeks in hospital and was treated by a medical doctor and a psychiatrist. The psychiatrist described him as "brittle, insecure and suspicious", and as having "disordered thoughts". On May 8th Father was well enough to leave hospital. On May 12th Father Alex MacLennan, who had been with Father Foley in Boston accompanied him to Boston and has since returned. To our knowledge Father Foley is at his mother's home in Boston at the present time.

We have offered to help Father Foley in whatever way is possible and necessary, but cannot permit him to continue as a priest here. Father, during his stay here has done much good work and has exhibited considerable talent and ability.

Regretting the action we have had to take, I am

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Paul J. O'Byrne

Very Reverend Paul J. O'Byrne
Administrator

Encl. Letter to Father Foley