

19. EUGENE O'SULLIVAN

It took only three short years, following his ordination on February 2, 1960 in a class of other child molesters including Father Birmingham, Father Lane, and Father Shanley, for the first of many complaints of sexual abuse against a minor to arise against Father O'Sullivan. Specifically, in a June 12, 1963 memo found in the RCAB files, it is documented that Father Shinnick had reported that Father O'Sullivan **"was molesting several boys (altar boys) in parish among whom was his nephew...also [REDACTED] boy, + [REDACTED] boy."** See EO-0015-16 (emphasis added). At that time, Father O'Sullivan was assigned to Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted, in Waltham, Massachusetts. See EO-0466. Father O'Sullivan denied anything serious and said that he was just fooling with the boys and putting his hand in their pockets. See EO-0015-16. This information was sent to Bishop Riley, who advised that they "wait a bit." See EO-0015-16. Father Ed Harrington, Father O'Sullivan's pastor, was called in to the Chancery and reported that the parents of the boys had called him to their homes and had told him about Father O'Sullivan's actions. See EO-0015-16.

The RCAB responded to these allegations by telling Father O'Sullivan to start his three week vacation beginning June 16 to July 6 and then informed Father O'Sullivan that he would be transferred effective July 9, 1963. See EO-

0015-0016. Father O'Sullivan was transferred to St. Ann's Parish, Marshfield, Massachusetts, in July 1963. See EO-0466.

Just over a year after the Father Shinnick complaints, on October 1, 1964, Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] wrote to Cardinal Cushing complaining about Father O'Sullivan's sexual molestation of their 12-year old son [REDACTED], an altar boy, in August 1964. See EO-0002. The allegations were that Father O'Sullivan had reached under James's bathing trunks and had touched him repeatedly in the private area for several minutes, and had told [REDACTED], "not to tell anyone I touched you." See EO-0002. [REDACTED] told his parents that this was not the first time this had happened. See EO-0002.

The letter to the Cardinal indicated that on the day after the abuse, the [REDACTED] complained to Father Finn, Father O'Sullivan's pastor at St. Ann's parish, and Father Finn had told them to return that evening. See EO-0002. Expecting Father Finn to confront Father O'Sullivan that evening, instead Father Finn told the [REDACTED] that he "had rather hoped [they] would not return but would forget the incident." See EO-0002. Father Finn told them "not to discuss the matter with a soul; that he would report the matter to the proper authorities in Boston"; and that the [REDACTED] would be contacted upon their return to Milton. See EO-0002. Six weeks later, having not heard back from anyone, Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] telephoned Father Finn and were shocked to hear that Father Finn had not

reported the matter because he had not received any further complaints. See EO-0002.

The RCAB's response to these charges against Father O'Sullivan was to transfer Father O'Sullivan from St. Ann's to Assumption, in East Boston, in February 1965. See EO-0467. In May 1970, Father O'Sullivan was transferred from East Boston to Arlington's St. Agnes Parish. See EO-0467.

In 1984, Father O'Sullivan pled guilty to a charge of having "unlawful sexual intercourse or unnatural sexual intercourse" with a boy younger than sixteen, in Arlington, Massachusetts. See EO-0181. The abuse allegedly began when the boy, an altar boy, was thirteen years old, and the abuse continued for two years. See The Record (wire services) 7/17/93.

The ■■■■ allegations of rape prompted Father O'Sullivan's resignation letter, of November 1, 1984, to Cardinal Law that referenced, "the recent circumstances which I have discussed with you, Father Banks, and my pastor, Monsignor Linnehan." See EO-0293. Cardinal Law wrote back to Father O'Sullivan on November 9, 1984 saying, "it is my intention to refrain from appointing you to any new position of pastoral responsibility in the Archdiocese until it is evident from professional evaluation and a successfully completed program of rehabilitation that you are able to undertake such responsibilities without possible harm to others or to yourself." See EO-0296.

The following day, on November 10, 1984, Bishop Banks wrote to Dr. Peterson of St. Luke Institute in Maryland asking for a recommendation and report about Father O'Sullivan. See EO-0003. Bishop Banks informed St. Luke's that a couple of years after his ordination, Father O'Sullivan had been involved in incidents with altar boys, that Father O'Sullivan had been transferred, and within a few months was involved in more incidents with altar boys. See EO-0003.

The RCAB files also contain a letter dated November 13, 1984, written by Mr. [REDACTED], one of Father O'Sullivan's 1963 abuse victims, stating that Father O'Sullivan, "has been a sexual deviate for at least (20 years) and the church has known since he was removed from Our Lady's parish in Waltham. I was one of a group of altar boys that was molested by the deviate...Nothing was done. The Diocese made no effort to correct the situation." See EO-0006-0007. In a companion letter of the same date, November 13, 1984, Mr. [REDACTED] wrote to the Middlesex Assistant District Attorney, "[w]hen we advised the Pastor, Father Harrington, of the problem Father O'Sullivan was immediately transferred and was never seen or heard from again. I was under the assumption that the Diocese was taking care of the matter and either rehabilitation or expulsion had occurred. What I see now is a cover up. I am also sure that until the incident in Arlington we were not the last group." See EO-0008-0009.

The RCAB files contain undated notes in Bishop McCormack's handwriting that reference Dr. Phil Quinn, and state that Father O'Sullivan was a "big problem—8 times!" The notes further indicate that Father O'Sullivan had "very little guilt" and was "very bitter." See EO-0005. However, in December 1984, Father O'Sullivan con-celebrated his uncle's funeral Mass with Cardinal Law. See EO-0386.

By letter of January 12, 1985, [REDACTED], the mother of [REDACTED], whose abuse by Father O'Sullivan at St. Agnes' Parish in Arlington had resulted in Father O'Sullivan's guilty plea, wrote to Cardinal Law describing the "anguish, pain and suffering" that Father O'Sullivan's October 1984 abuse of her son had caused. See EO-0010-0012. She documented her disappointment that "no one from the church came or called to offer guidance or assistance...The hardest thing for me to believe is that this has gone on for so many years...when he was exposed for molesting a group of boys at Our Lady's Parish in Waltham, 20 years ago all the church did at that time was transfer him. See EO-0010-0012.

The RCAB's continued protection of predatory priests and primary concern about the media is evident in the June 1985 letter from Bishop Banks permitting Father O'Sullivan to perform the marriage of Father O'Sullivan's niece, "as long as there (was) no great publicity." See EO-0387. By letter of November 5, 1985, Cardinal Law ended Father O'Sullivan's assignment as

Associate Pastor at St. Agnes Parish in Arlington and placed Father O'Sullivan on Sick Leave. See EO-0425. In August 1985, Father O'Sullivan was treated at Southdown, a treatment center in Ontario, Canada, See EO-0381, where he received, according to Bishop Banks a "very favorable report." See EO-0382.

In October 1985, less than a year after Father O'Sullivan pleaded guilty to unlawful intercourse with a child, Cardinal Law transferred Father O'Sullivan to the New Jersey Diocese of Metuchen on a "Lend Lease." See EO-0466. Newark Bishop Theodore McCarrick, who headed the Metuchen Diocese at the time, confirmed in 1993 that he was made aware of Father O'Sullivan's past, but had been assured that there were **no restrictions** on where Father O'Sullivan's ministry could take place. See EO-0181. Bishop McCarrick stated that he had received assurances from both the Archdiocese of Boston and the treatment center, that Father O'Sullivan was rehabilitated and that Father O'Sullivan could reestablish a ministry for Jesus Christ. See EO-0181. In Metuchen, Father O'Sullivan was assigned to a parish that had an elementary school, and later he was involved in ministries that included religious education programs for children and a youth group. See EO-0181. Cardinal Law has denied that he had given any assurances to Bishop McCarrick about Father O'Sullivan. See EO-0184-0185.

In 1993, the Archdiocese learned that the Boston Globe was about to write an article about Father O'Sullivan's transfer to New Jersey. Discussions then ensued at the Chancery as to how to best control the publicity. The Cardinal himself wrote the "talking points" to be made with the Globe; and many of those points were false. In Cardinal Law's handwritten memo of July 16, 1993 to Bishop Hughes, Cardinal Law wrote that he had contacted the Bishop of Metuchen, reviewed the case, and had asked if the Bishop would consider allowing Father O'Sullivan to serve. See EO-0184-0185. Cardinal Law added that Bishop Banks had "held a more extensive interview w. the Bp. (sic)." See EO-0184-185. To the contrary, Bishop Hughes replied (in the margin of the same note) that Bishop Banks said that he had **never** talked to Bishop McCarrick and that Cardinal Law had done the conversing with McCarrick. See EO-0184-185. Further to Cardinal Law's memo, Cardinal Law wrote that his first knowledge of the allegations against Father O'Sullivan was in 1985. To this Bishop Hughes replied (in the margin of the same note), "**Certain? – There were previous reports.**" See EO-0185 (emphasis added).

At Bishop Banks' deposition taken on November 7, 2002, he testified that the pastor in Metuchen had been notified about Father O'Sullivan and to monitor Father O'Sullivan very closely so that there would not be any repetition of what had happened before. See Banks Depo., November 7, 2002, p. 66. Bishop Banks

testified that he had forgotten if he was the one in contact with the Diocesan officials in Metuchen, see Banks Depo., November 7, 2002, p. 67, and he had forgotten if any restrictions were placed on Father O'Sullivan's access to children when Father O'Sullivan was reassigned to Metuchen. See Banks Depo., November 7, 2002, p. 67. Bishop Banks also testified that after Father O'Sullivan's six month treatment at Southdown, it was determined that Father O'Sullivan was not pedophilic or ephebophilic, but that Father O'Sullivan was sexually immature. See Banks Depo., November 7, 2002, p. 67. Bishop Banks also testified that Father O'Sullivan could have been transferred to avoid scandal. See Banks Depo., dated November 8, 2002, p. 216.

At Cardinal Law's deposition taken on June 5, 2002, he testified that Father O'Sullivan was transferred to the Diocese of Metuchen in New Jersey because Father O'Sullivan had family in New Jersey. See Law Depo., June 5, 2002, p. 167. However, Father O'Sullivan testified at his deposition of January 16, 2003, that he did not have any family in New Jersey. See Deposition of Father O'Sullivan ("O'Sullivan Depo."), January 17, 2003, p. 58. Furthermore, Father O'Sullivan testified that Bishop Banks had suggested that Father O'Sullivan go to New Jersey because they had a need for priests. See O'Sullivan Depo., January 17, 2003, p. 57. Cardinal Law testified that he was the person who made the

ultimate decision on assignment of a priest and he made the decision that Father O'Sullivan could function without risk. See Law Depo., June 5, 2002, p. 188.

RCAB records indicate that as of March 16, 1991, Father O'Sullivan was having "serious difficulties in Metuchen...want[s] out." See EO-0018. Bishop McCormack's notes of August 1991, made reference to Father O'Sullivan's "short fuse" and psychological problems. See EO- 0168. Undated notes in Bishop McCormack's handwriting, referenced July 23, 1985 and Bishop McCarrick of Metuchen, New Jersey, who said, "no accusations in Metuchen...why yank him out..." See EO-0004.

Father O'Sullivan returned to Boston in 1992 and was unassigned. The complaints about Father O'Sullivan's prior abuse of children kept coming in to the RCAB:

- In approximately June of 1992, Father O'Sullivan was accused of having committed incest with his brother [REDACTED] son [REDACTED], from 1970 to 1979 beginning when [REDACTED] was nine years old. See EO-0001, 0169. As a defense, Father O'Sullivan, known as "Father Bud" to family members, argued that [REDACTED] was not a blood relative, but rather was the product of an adulterous relationship that [REDACTED], Father O'Sullivan's former sister-in-law, had engaged in during her marriage to his brother [REDACTED]. See EO-0001. Father O'Sullivan further defended

himself by adding that when [REDACTED] was a young teenager, he told Father O'Sullivan that he was gay. Father O'Sullivan reported that [REDACTED] led an active gay life and contracted AIDS in California. See EO-0001. [REDACTED] reported that his older brother, [REDACTED] who had died in 1989, had also been abused by their uncle, Father O'Sullivan, years before [REDACTED]'s abuse. [REDACTED] died in the early 1990's.

- In September of 1992, Sister Catherine Mulkerrin received a call from [REDACTED] who was looking for Father O'Sullivan and wanted to get something out of his system that "happened a long time ago." See EO-0173.
- Demand letters poured in from:
 - [REDACTED] in September 1993 See EO-0024-0025;
 - [REDACTED] in September 1993 See EO-0031-0033;
 - [REDACTED] in March 1994 See EO-0041; and from
 - [REDACTED] in March 1994 See EO-0274.
- In April of 1999, the Boston Police Sexual Assault Unit contacted the RCAB about a complaint by [REDACTED] that Father O'Sullivan had molested him. See EO-0052.

- In February 2002, [REDACTED], the nephew of Monsignor Robert Barry, called Sister Rita to make an allegation of abuse by Father O'Sullivan. See EO-0461.

In 1997, the RCAB placed Father O'Sullivan on senior Priest/Retirement Status See EO-0466. However, in 1999 the mother of a victim saw Father O'Sullivan wearing his priestly collar at Carney Hospital, Dorchester, Massachusetts. See The Boston Globe, article 2/9/02. Father O'Sullivan confirmed this fact at his deposition, and admitted that he used to visit a sick priest at Carney Hospital, wearing his priestly attire. See O'Sullivan Depo., January 17, 2003, p. 95. Father O'Sullivan testified that no restrictions had been placed on Father O'Sullivan wearing priestly attire. See O'Sullivan Depo., January 17, 2003, pp. 95-96. No restrictions had been placed on Father O'Sullivan's access to children. See O'Sullivan Depo., January 17, 2003, pp. 96-97.

20. ANTHONY REBEIRO

Father Anthony Rebeiro was ordained on December 22, 1956. See Rebeiro-001. He served in various assignments throughout the Archdiocese of Boston during the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's. See Rebeiro-001. In 1984, Father Rebeiro was assigned to St. Patrick's Parish in Natick. See Rebeiro-001.