

MEMORANDUM FROM MSGR. THOMAS CURRY

Date: April 11, 1986

TO: ARCHBISHOP MAHONY

RE: ATTACHED

CONFIDENTIAL

I asked Father Matthew Sprouffske, who is a Carmelite, and his Regional Superior, Father Roger Bonneau, to see me today.

Father Matthew agreed that the substance of the attached letter is correct and he is completely willing to agree to the terms, i.e., that he and Father Bonneau attend a therapy session.

I also gave them Mr. Brandlin's number and asked them to call him regarding the state of the law on this issue and what legal issues they should be aware of.

Father Matthew was very forthcoming, and it was also very positive that this had all taken place 30 years ago, and that there has been absolutely no incident since that time. I spoke privately with Father Bonneau, and neither of us has any reason to disbelieve him.

However, Father Bonneau will make inquiries of previous Superiors and will also make provision for Father Matthew to attend counseling, and he is in agreement that if there is any suspicion whatsoever of another occurrence, he will both contact me and take immediate action.

I would appreciate any other suggestions you might have.

I would suggest that you ask Fr. Sprouffske to place in writing - confidential - his account of the incident, and his testimony that there has been no other similar incidents. In addition, I think we should consider withdrawing Sacchetti's pro tempore pending the satisfactory outcome of the planned therapy sessions - possibly 60-90 days, then we could review the matter.

+ RMA

4-15-86

LAARCH 014265



ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES
1531 WEST NINTH STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90015-1194
(213) 251-3200

COPY

April 16, 1986

Mr. Joseph Brandlin
Brandlin & McAllister
15496 Milldale Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90077

Dear Mr. Brandlin:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter that came to the office recently.

Since Father Sprouffske is a Carmelite, I asked him to come in to see me with his Regional Superior, Father Roger Bonneau, and they did so.

Father Sprouffske agreed that the substance of the letter was true, but that this had all taken place thirty years ago and that there have been absolutely no further instances since that time.

They are both very willing to cooperate with the conditions laid down in the letter, and the therapist has both their phone numbers so as to set up an appointment.

I spoke privately with Father Bonneau, and he is to make inquiries from previous Superiors and also make provision for Father Sprouffske to attend counseling. He has promised that if he finds any evidence of a continuation of this problem he will let me know immediately.

I gave them your number and asked them to contact you for any legal advice that they might need before going to therapy.

Sincerely yours,

(Rev. Msgr.) Thomas J. Curry
Vicar for Clergy

LAARCH 014262



CARMELITE SOUTHWEST COMMISSARIATE
1540 East Glenn Street
Tucson, Arizona 85719
(602) 325-0534

April 28, 1986

Rev. Thomas Curry
Chancery Office
1531 West 9th Street
Los Angeles, CA. 90015

Dear Fr. Curry:

Just a short note as a follow-up to our meeting a couple weeks ago with Fr. Matthew Sprouffske.

Dr. REDACTED phoned me at St. Raphael Rectory on the same day we met, April 11, 1986. We made an appointment to meet at his office in San Mateo at 11 a.m., April 25, 1986. No need to go into any detail here, but it was a rough session. I hope and pray that the woman is on the road to full healing. As it turned out, Dr. REDACTED has his Doctorate in Ministry from Andover-Newton Theological School. According to his brochure, he has "six years of intensive work using regression techniques in therapy. As part of this work he has treated many adult victims of current or past sexual abuse."

I'm sure the session was traumatic for Matt. I'll be sure to keep in contact with him. Dr. REDACTED gave Matt the name of a therapist in the Los Angeles area whose specialty is in working with this specific problem. I'll see that Matt follows up on this. I'm sure he will need some kind of support.

Matt did get in contact with the retired lawyer you told him about. After listening to the story, he told Matt there was no way she could sue him. Too much of a time lapse. As a matter of information, our community will help her financially.

I want to thank you, Tom, for your kindness to Matt in regard to this sensitive issue. Needless to say, he was terribly shook up. He told me how much your kindness and compassion helped him.

May the Lord continue to guide you and bless you in your important ministry.

Ora pro invicem,

Roger Bonneau

Fr. Roger Bonneau,
O. Carm.