June 24, 194

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FM 0001

The following are copies of confidential reports on Fr. Mathias Faue 0.5.B., written by the Master of Clerics, Rev. Fr. Vitus Bucher 0.5.B.

Sent to Chat Years From 0.503.
St. Shegowy alley
Shewree 9 h. Jane 34, 1949.

February, 1948

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When he misses a common exercise he does not excuse himself but expects the Superior to notice his absence and figure out the reason for the absence. Not too zealous to observe the clericate rules. Easily follows the transgressions others.

suggestion: perhaps he should not apply for solemn vows. The former Master of Clerics should be consulted concerning his observations during the past years. May 6, 1948

Frater Mathias, who was born at Hamel, Minn., on Jan. 26, 1923, reamins somewhat of a mystery to me. He is rather elusive to observation.

Physically Fr. Mathias is handicapped with a natural defect of speech. This defect seems to consist in the fact that his lower jaw naturally protrudes farther than is ordinary, so that his lower teeth come ahead of the upper. His too frequent pipesmoking accentuated this physical appearance. After being urged several times, he seems to have weaned himself somewhat from his pipe and has restricted smoking. A bad case of sinus trouble is also at times a great handicap. Special lessons in speech have been given to him and some progress has been made. There are other physical mannerisms of his which can become rather annoying.

Intellectually Fr. Mathias has some difficulty with the more abstract and speculative subjects. The past semster marks range from B to D-.

His lack of candor inclines him to regard the Master of Clerics merely as a prefect in the presence of whom he thinks he must be on his guard. During my last that with him about a week ago, he said that he thought I mistrust him. Levity, curiosity, failure to face facts, an affected laugh and a certain timidity over-compensated by untimely, excessive boldness are word and phrases which too often might be said of him. He has never come to my room of his own accord, nor has he excused himself for transgressions fo the clericate rules. To the question: how is everything? he answers:

ST. JOHN'S ABBEY COLLEGEVILLE MINNESOTA

all right, I guess. He is regular at monastic and clericate exercises.

As far as I know he is always willing to work. Extra-curricular jobs are occasional prefecting in High School and mainly taking charge 66 the library magazine room.

I await the comments of others.

February, 1949:

Fr. Mathias Faue: now and then makes a change for the better, but soon slips back into his old ways. Never comes of his own accord ot seek how he might better himself. Levity, curiosity, unpolished manners; desk often in disorder. Wants to be pleasant and help. As far as I can judge now, he should not apply for solemn vows again.

(ay 3, 1949;

Under these circumstances one could expect a Cleric to show some personal initiative pointed out that he has not consistently persevered in correcting what I indicated After an unfavorable vote last year Fr. Mathias was given a trial of another year o him, that is, curiosity, levity, unpolished manners and failure to exercise some coming them. Fr. Mathias has not sought corrections from me. I urged him to choose one of the Fathers in whom he could place his confidence. In talking to him lately in trying to discover what his defects are and then manifest special zeal in oversuggested little acts of mortification.

aminations were taken. He said the doctor's verdict was that he suffered from nervous case of sinus trouble. For some time he was under the doctor's care; x-rays and ex-Physically Fr. Mathias is still handicapped by his natural speech defect and tension.

In his studies, the past semester marks were C average. Extra-curricular work was occasional prefecting in High School and taking care of Clerivate Mass servers.

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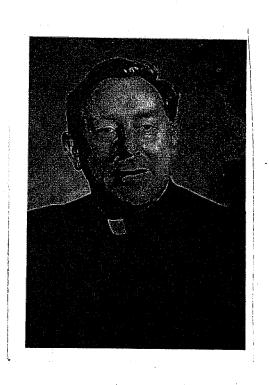
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ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH 1022 W. Cleveland Ave. Montebello, California 90640

April 17, 1969

Dear Father Abbot,

I have waited for two weeks to decide to write this letter to you. It has to be done.

For the past three years I have not paid any particular attention to Father Mathias and his problem. In fact I have ignored it. But a few weeks ago it was brought to my attention again. The source is of three families and I have to accept it. Nothing has been said to Father Mathias. This was in part because the families have told me that things were quiet after his heart attack. But as his health improves I have noticed things that did not exist during the past few months.

I write you this because I intend to change most of the work of Father Mathias and Father Francis. I have had them doing the things I thought them capable to do. Now I will have to simply give g jobs on the basis of relation to children. If I change enough work for them my purpose may go unnoticed - but this may be futile. They will suspect something. I am sure that neither will complain about the changes either to you or to me.

In fact none of us tell you anything. If I mention that they are not doing what they could do, you talk to them and our relations are strained. I am sure that if they compain to you the same would happen. We all know that you will give advice but not make changes that might have a solution. For this reason I see no purpose in your speaking to Father Mathias. As long as we have to work together we should leave it as it is.

However, if this particular problem does not clear up after I make the change, perhaps you should replace Father Mathias. Or get one of the other Fathers to take my place. I'd be happy to transfer back to Oklahoma. Any time, andy place.

Nothing will be done until Father John returns to Oklahoma. But I have to do something and this seems to be one move. If you have suggestions, I will be happy to listen.

Sincerely in Christ,

James, orB

Saint Gregory's Abbey

SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

April 21, 1969

Dear Father James

Both of us are disappointed that Father Mathias did not overcome the problem. There is danger of bringing harmful discouragement into his life if we do not take a positive approach, seek professional help for him and give him a fair warning. For him this is not so much a moral problem as it is a psychological one.

You may find it very difficult to change his work without getting yourself into a serious bind and in the process you could upset a lot of people. And as for my changing him, my experience has been that this does not solve the problem it only shifts it from one place and from one group of people to another. Too often it wrecks the individual involved!

Personally I am not at all convinced, in this age of dialogue, that there will arrise "strained relations" if you simply talk to him confidentially, confrere to confrere, that there have been complaints from reliable sources. You can tell him you find it difficult to believe but that you are anxious to be of help to him and do what you possibly can before someone writes to the Abbot.

I am afraid we will be doing him a grave injustice and he will always resent it if this chance is not given him and we lower the boom after his next false move. Nothing is gained by keeping facts from him.

You have worked very patiently with him through the years, and for this I have always been most grateful, and no one has his confidence nor can give him the kind of help he now needs as you can. It is a serious mistake for him not to face up to this difficulty but he needs the good word and the guidance of a trusted confrere.

What you should do, if at all possible, is to go with him to a good psychologist. Because of the danger he is to the parish you can even insist, but it is necessary you take the initiative and make the appointment. This kind find it extrmely difficult to take that first step by themselves. Once he has started these appointments it will not take him long to understand the nature of his problem and learn how to handle himself.

Never think for a moment he will hold this against you. You are approaching him as a confrere and a friend, and not as an authority figure. He will most sincerely appreciate the interest and the understanding you are showing him. Unless we manifest this kind of positive concern we run the risk of hearing what Cain heard: "What did you do to your brother?"

Please take early action and keep me informed. He merits the same kind attention in this illness as you so wonderfully manifested in his previous illness!

These are busy days for you and I hope all is intact in the rectory and parish by the time are extremely grateful for the generous consideration you have shown them.

Fraternally in our Risen Lord, FM 0013

Saint Gregory's Abbey

SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

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Fraternally in our Risan Lord, F

FM 0014

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH 1022 W. Cleveland Ave. Montebello, California 90640

June 23, 1970

Dear Father Abbot.

I am planning on taking my vacation from about July 25 to August 14, or July 21 to August 6. Present plans are to spend this time in Minnesota. Probably we will go to the northern part to get away from civilization for most of the time. Several relatives have cabins on the lakes.

Should be here then. Do I have your permission to take a vacation at that time?

seems to be getting some results from his medication and medical examinations. He expects to return to Oklahoma about the end of July unless he has to take one more of those shots in the veins. The only thing he hasn't done yet is start to lose weight.

Stopped in over Sunday enrout to Japan,
New Zealand, Australia, Phillipines, Hawaii and numerous other countries. He
plans on being back here July 28.—until September 13. will be
here from July 4 to the middle of August. I believe we are well covered so
that all of us can get away.

Otherwise all things are the same here. I don't think I have to say any more, for you know the situation pretty well.

We are preparing for the First Mass. Bishop Ward has given permission for us to trinate July 12. This includes all the Priests from St. Benedict's, Lourdes, and anyone who comes out should there be a need to do so.

Well, keep the faith. We'll be seeing you in July.

Fraternally,

Malties cas.



ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES

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

February 15, 1985

Right Reverend Adrian Vorderlandwehr, O.S.B. St. Gregory's Abbey 1900 West MacArthur Drive Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801

Right Reverend Abbot:

Please accept my sincere appreciation for your letter of February 6th regarding Father Mathias, O.S.B..

His Eminence, Cardinal Manning, and I concur with your decision to have Father Mathias continue serving at St. Benedict's Parish in Montebello, Ca.

With kindest best regards, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Monsignor John A. Rawden

∕Chancellor:

/scc

Cardinal Manning

February 6, 1985

Rev. Msgr. John A. Rowden 1531 W. 9th Strett Los Angeles, CA 90015

Dear Msgr. Rowden

I am writing in regard to Rev. Mathias Faue, O.S.B. who is assigned to St. Benedict's Parish in Montebello, California.

You were aware of an incident on October 3rd, 1984, when Father Mathias was arrested in a movie theatre in Long Beach. He made a court appearance in early December with council of The immediate problem was resolved and Father Charles Massotn informed Msgr. Connolly of this.

I made a visit to the parish on December 11-13 to investigate the matter and to discern if further action was necessary. I am negligent in writing to inform you of my decision.

After a long conversation with Father Mathias, I determined that this is an isolated incident. He does not regularly attend X-rated movies. Nor was he doing anything that could be construed as @exposing himself". I do not foreseeaayy further difficulties. Therefore, I asked him to continue serving at St. Benedict's Parish.

I trust this discernment of my part is satisfactory to all concerned. If you have need for further information, please contact me. I will be in the Archdiocese again visiting the two parishes of St. Benedict and Our Lady of Lourdes from February 7 to the 11th, and again February 16th to the 18th. I will be happy to provide any further information needed.

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Rt. Rev. Adrian Vorderlandwehr, O.S.B. Abbot

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on recommendation of

Petucil Judge———

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH 1022 W. Cleveland Ave. Montebello, California 90640

Phone 721-1184

December 4, 1984

Rev. Msgr. Clement Connolly 1531 West Ninth Street Los Angeles, California 90015

Dear Monsignor Connolly:

What happened, , was that Fr. Mathias was sitting in the theatre, was massaging himself, and a ViceDetective was sitting a couple seats to one side of him. Fr. Mathias did not expose himself, or make a pass at this other person. After some time, I don't know how long, the detective arrested Fr. Mathias.

In Father Mathias' favor, I do want to say that is doing good work here in the parish. He is very helpful also, very faithful with the day to day tasks in the work of taking care of the people of the parish. I would hate to lose him as an Associate.

I am sending Abbot Adrian a copy of this letter, Monsignor. I suggest, since there was no publicity or scandal here in the parish, that Father Abbot discuss this matter with Father Mathias by telephone or letter, unless he wishes to pursue a different course, and then when he is visiting California in early March, that he again have a face to face discussion with Fr. Mathias as to the seriousness of the matter.

Thank you Monsignor Connolly, for your help0019 In Christ,

Clas Ra Do 25

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH 1022 W. Cleveland Ave. Montebello, California 90640

Phone 721-1184

November 30, 1984

Dear Abbot Adrian,

Your letter arrived today. I want to get this GREGORIAN MASS to you so will answer right away.

The GREGORIAN MASS stipend is only \$150.00, but if you are sometimes short perhaps the monks can take care of it. Please see the attached sheet with the Mass intentions on it.

Yes, Father Mathias told me you called. I came into the house about 10 seconds after he had hung up. Thank you for the greetings. However, I am 61 years--the Ordo gives my birth year as 1924--it is really 1923.

I talked to Msgr. Connolly (the Cardinal's secretary) this week about Fr. Mathias. Since this incident is a matter of record now, Msgr. C. said the Cardinal would expect somebody to make some discernment about the case and write the Cardinal either saying

 that a discernment has been made into the matter and it is our belief that Fr. Mathias does not have a problem and that he will continue at St. Benedict's.

or 2) that a discernment has been made, that Fr. Mathias does seem to have a problem and that he will no longer continue in his assignment at St. Benedict's.

Monsignor said it is not fair to Fr. Mathias to leave him here if he has a problem—we would just be waiting for it to happen again. Monsignor asked me to call the lawyer, to see just what Mathias seemed to be accused of. I have not been able to reach him, but his secretary said she would ask him to call me on Dec. 3. Mathias is doing good work here—much more involved with CCD than Fr. Bernard was. I would hate to lose him, really. I did not tell Msgr. Connolly about Fr. Mathias' problems of the past.

Things are going much better for me here at the parish than when I talked to you about a change some months ago. Chiefly, it was the Sister Administrators of the school that were really a headache. They have gotten better; they have told me this is their last year. --So I am happy to stay here, life has become pleasant again--unless you want me to come back to Oklahoma.

Running out of paper.

Fraternally,

Charles FNADO28/5

Dear Father Charles

I received your letter yesterday regarding Father Mathias. Thank you very much for keeping me informed. Father Mathias has not said a word.

I called out Sunday afternoon to wish you a happy birthday, but missed you. I presume Father Mathias gave you the message. But when I missed you I talked to Father Mathias and asked him to write me about the incident. He reported to me only that the case was "dismissed". So he is having trouble talking about it yet. I will wait a couple of days now before I write a much stronger appeal for information. I am still debating if I should come out, and I will if he fails to talk with me openly.

It was not possible for me to overlook the fack that this was your 60th birthday. Congratulations and many more happy days is my wish to you.

At one time, you mentioned something about being ready to leave there in a few years. If I remember correctly, there was something about 60th birthday mentioned then also.

Obviously, with the departure of _____ we have a College Business Manager's job open here. Also, _____ continues to beg to go back to Lourdes, and I am tempted to grant his wish. I know without any doubt that he would take charge. But that would leave Harrah open as well.

I have made no definite plans on any of this, and am primarily asking your feelings about a change. Please think about them so that the next time we see each other, which will be in February at the latest, we can decide fftthere will be any changes.

Incidentally, OSU lost, so it was not a good day for me last Saturday. We will continue to try harder.

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH 1022 W. Cleveland Ave. Montebello, California 90640

Phone 721-1184

November 24, 1984

Dear Abbot Adrian,

Just a note this dreary day--sprinkling here a bit--as we prepare to watch Notre Dame-USC and Oklahoma and Oklahoma State battle it out.

No, a word about Fr. Mathias. He went to court on November 14. He said it took about two minutes for the charge to be changed to "tresspassing." He was fined \$180 court costs, plus had to pay the lawyer \$400.00.

No one has said anything to any of us priests here about this--so we gather that it has not been a scandal. This was what Msgr. Connolly, the Cardinal's secretary, was concerned about when I talked to him about this.

I have not been able to get hold of Msgr. Connolly by telephone, but I will keep trying. I don't know what the policy is in cases like this--or what they might want us to do if anything.

As we reported to you, Fr. Mathias got very faint at a 9 a.m. Sunday Mass on Nov. 4. Tests showed that he had a small blood clot in his head. The doctor put him under no restrictions, Fr. Mat has been telling us that he is okay, but this past week he told me that he wished his head would clear up. He has some kind of pain there, but it evidently doesn't bother him very much. He was with some of his relatives for Thanksgiving.

I hope all is well, and that your favorite teams win today. Regards to you, and all.

Fraternally,

Markon

March 18, 1985

Dear Father Mathias

I received the disappointing letter from Father Charles a couple days ago reporting the complaint of a parent regarding you.and your actions with some of the children on the playground.

I was hoping to avoid this kind of problem with my note dated Feb. 22nd. Because the dates are so close, with the date of the complaint being sometime before March 3rd, there was probably not time for your to react and change your behavior. I trust that you have changed by this time and there will be no further incidents.

Gather Charles has now informed me via his letter, that if there is one more incidenthibe expects you to be recalled to the Abbey immediately. That should certainly be a caear warning.

You clearly have a problem, Father Mathias. It is time you seek some assistance. The incident at Brague that marred your celebration of your 25th anniversary of ordination. The recent incident in Long Beach, the question marks around your earlier service in California, these all indicate a continuing problem. You must face up to this and seek some assistance.

I will expect by return mail that you will give me the name of a psychiatrist or counsellor that you will be visiting who can assist you with therapy to overcome this problem. I will expect that you can obtain that name and schedule the first visit within 10 days after the receipt of this letter.

I will send Father Charles a copy of this letter as well as a copy of my previous note so you will be encouraged to undertake this counseling. Likewise, it will not be necessary for you to explain to him why you need the time and the funds.

With all my centinuing love,

Rt. Rev. Adrian Vorderlandwehr, O.S.B. Abbot

March 12, 1985

Dear Father Abbot,

It saddens me to have to write you this, but I suppose you should know.

On Sunday, March 3, Sister Ann phoned me and said that a parent had gone to one of the school teachers and complained about Father Mathias the way he was touching the young boys--even touching their behinds. This teacher reported this to Sister Ann.

Sister Ann called her brother, and asked him if Fr. Mathias had a history of this. simply told her to go to Father Charles and let him handle it. I don't know all the details, but it was, I believe, just touches outside the clothing, and the genitels were not touched.

I spoke to Father Timothy about this matter on March 3, the same day. He said when he and the men were putting the "dish" on our roof, he noticed Mathias on the school ground, and he continually followed one particular kid around. The kid would move, and Mathias would follow him. Mathias often goes out on the school grounds when the kids are having sports games, etc.

The following day, Monday, March 4, in the presence of Fr. Timothy, in our living room, I told Father Mathias that this complaint had been made about him by one of the parents of a school child. I told him that he should not touch any of the kids, not even put his hand on the kids shoulder, or around a kid's waist when he is standing near a child. Father Mathias said nothing, and this is where the matter stands. Sister Ann said the other day that the parent that complained had not come back to her about the matter.

There is such a big adoo going on at this time in the L. A. area about child abuse; I would hate to see Fr. Mathias get caught on something like this. Solution: if this happens one more time, Fr. Mathias should be asked to return to the Abbey.

Pray for all of us this Lenten Season.

FM 0024

Fraternally,



February 22, 1985

Dear Father Mathias

Just a note to let you know the dates of the retreat, which is as you and others tried to tell me, May 27-31. We are looking forward to having you. I have tentatively listed you for the Mass on Thursdayxx Friday. We will then renew our vows, you first, second (25th) and then the rest of us.

On my arrival home, I found a letter from Asgr. Rawden accepting my evaluation of your situation, so they will permit you to remain in California. Needless to say, there should not be any further incidents. We would not be abbe to them away again. I will pass on to you that some mentioned to me that you are a little free with your affections and use of hands with children on the school grounds. Please be careful. Certainly better safe than sorry.

All is well here. We have the day off for the ski trip. I need about a week to get caught up. See you in May.

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH

1022 W. Cleveland Ave. Montebello, California 90640

Phone 721-1184

Dear Father Abbot,

I have made an appointment with

He is a Catholie pshehiatrist recommened by the St. Themas More Clinis in Downey.

All is in readiness for the Triduum. Happy Easter to you.

In St. Benedict,

Mather was

May 18, 1985

Dear Father Mathias

At last, I have uncovered your letter of March 25th and will respond. As you can calculate, died March 30th, so you can guess what happened to your letter and several others that got laid down beside my typewriter to answer. The pile just simply got higher.

You note shock at my request that you find a psychiatrist for counseling. I am sorry. The events just seemed to add up that this was something advisable at an incidents should occur.

I doubt that I need to point out to you all the child abuse and child molestation cases filed these days. So when Father Charles informed me that a parent had complained, I took stock of all the information available to me, and decided on this course ratherthan ask you to return to the Abbey at thattime. You know that neigher of us desires that. But when I made the special trup out in December, you assured me nothing wouldhappen. It is too close.

Also, I had to add up a previous history of something, not all of which I know about except by rumor. I never dound out exact circumstances in Prague. There are rumors that float in the community about some difficulty you had years ago in Montebello and in Anadarko.

So, In short, I figured there may be some good and probably little harm. I can understand your reaction, but I ask your cooperation, as I know you have already given by thisttime. Certainly I wish you no harm, but only that your labors may be as productive as possible. I hope we will be able to discuss the results when you are here for therretreat—which comes now very soon.

Thank you for your ready cooperation and willingnesstto undergo this little penance. You are doing some very good work which is appreciated by many, especially Father Charles, because it relieves him of some of the burden of responsibility. He is mostggrateful.

Looking forward to seeing you.

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH 1022 W. Cleveland Ave. Montebello, California 90640

Phone 721-1184

Dear Father Abbot.

I was very shocked to receive your letter. I would like to know what I did to merit such a reprimand. If giving someone a bithday swat is considered wrong, then I am guilty. I always thought that was something you always do on a birthdya.

Father, Abbot, from the beginning of my religious life, I always had the unders standing, from studying the rule, that one who was reprimanded in any way was to accept the reprimand with out defending one self. And this is what I have always done. To defend one self was considered pride, and I have always accepted the accusations of others without complaint. I guess so much so that some times I ask myself "what and I doing wrong new?" even when doing something good.

I am looking for a psychiatrist at this time, and will inform you as soon as i make contact with him.

We are getting ready for Holy Week and the completion of our first RCIA class with the Baptisms of Holy Saturday. We have ten candidates who will be receiving the Sacraments at that time.

The tickets are out now for the spring festival. This year we are raffling a Chev Sprint.

A blessed Easter to yo,

In St. Benedict.

Mathe 33

SE NAR 28

M. Ber. Adrion Volukusky, Ciris H. Dryeng Aboy Showner, Chikus 7 4501

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH 1022 W. Cleveland Ave. Montebello, California 90640

Put in In. Mathias file



ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

910 MARION STREET SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104 (206) 382-4888

December 22, 1988

The Right Rev. Adrian Vorderlandwher, O.S.B. St. Gregory's Abbey 1900 W. MacArthur Drive Shawnee, OK 94801

Dear Abbot Adrian:

Fnclosed is a copy of a letter we sent to in response to his complaint this past summer. believe that you will find the response self-explanatory.

If I can answer specific questions, please do not hesitate to call or write.

With prayerful best wishes, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

(Very Rev.) George L. Thomas

Chancellor

enclosure

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE



910 MARION STREET
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104
(206) 382-4888



July 14, 1988

Dear

Thank you for your call to the Archdiocese of Seattle regarding an incident of abuse that you reported on June 1st of this year. I know that this is a very difficult situation to report, and we very much appreciate your courage in coming forward.

It is my understanding from your call that the priest's name is Fr. Matthias, and that he died in January of this year. If you are not certain of his death, please let us know immediately, so that the well-being of the community can be protected. Furthermore, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, the Benedictine Order, and the civil authorities would have to be notified right away.

It is the policy of this Archdiocese to offer whatever assistance we can to help you find the appropriate contact person in the diocese where the abuse took place. This will assure that you can receive the help you need from them. In this instance, I recommend that you call or write to Msgr. Thomas Curry, Director of Priest Personnel, Archdiocese of Los Angeles, 1531 W. 9th, Los Angeles, California, 90015. You can call him at (213) 251-3261.

In your situation, given that the priest was also a member of a religious order, I would also urge you to write to Abbot Adrain Vorderlandwher, St. Gregory's Abby, 1900 W. MacArthur Dr., Shawnee, Oklahoma, 94801. The phone number is (405) 273-9878.

If you need our help in contacting these people, please call my assistant, at (206) 382-4592. I have informed her of this case, and she will do what she can to help you get pastoral care for this serious concern.

July 14, 1988 Page 2

Please be aware that in this case it is also our policy to inform the diocese and religious order in question that someone from our Archdiocese has raised this concern. We will be writing to the Abbot and the Director of Priest Personnel of Los Angeles to let them know about your call to us. If you do not want us to do this for some reason, please contact within the week. Otherwise, we will pass on this information to the appropriate parties.

Again, thank you for your courage in coming forward to let us know about this problem. And do not hesitate to call us for further assistance.

Sincerely,

Very Rev.George Thomas

Father St. Chomo

Chancellor

Archdicoese of Seattle

cc:

Alega .



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of Vicar for Clergy (213) 637-7284 3424 Wilshire Boulevard

Los Angeles California 90010-2241

July 27, 2002

Abbot Martin Lugo, O.S.B. St. Gregory's Abbey Shawnee, OK 74804

Dear Abbot Martin:

I am writing to follow up my earlier letters 26 concerning the complaint of would very much like to hear from you or from someone designated by you to talk more about his complaint. It was his understanding that you would be in touch with him.

It may be that you have tried phoning him without success.

Coordinator for Assistance Ministry, has tried returning his calls on numerous occasions without reaching him. I do trust, however, that you will give him the opportunity to talk to you or one of the other monks about his experiences.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter. May God bless you and the monks of St. Gregory's.

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.

Vicar for Clergy

cc:

8-1-02

ABBOT MARTIN LUGO,O.S.B. ST. GREGORY ABBEY SHAWNEE, OK 74804

DEAR ABBOT MARTIN,

MY NAME IS:

AND I AM WRITING TO FILE A CLAIM/ REQUEST A SETTLEMENT FOR THE SEXUAL, PHYSICAL, AND MENTAL ABUSE I SUFFERED AND SUFFER FROM AT THIS TIME; BECAUSE OF THE ABUSE I WAS DEALT FROM TWO PRIEST AS A ALTAR BOY AT SAINT BENEDICTS CHURCH BETWEEN THE YEARS OF 1963 THROUGH 1967.

I RECENTLY WROTE A LETTER TO CARDINAL ROGER MAHONY AND REQUESTED HELP WITH MY MEDICAL EXPENSES, PERSCRIPTION'S, AND OTHER EXPENSES. I WAS REFFERED TO YOU BYE CARDINAL MAHONY'S STAFF, WHO STATED THAT MEDICAL CARE WAS NOT AVAILABLE AND THAT I WOULD NEED TO REQUEST A SETTLEMENT FROM YOU TO COVER THESE EXPENSES.

I WAS ABUSED BY THESE PRIESTS OVER AND OVER AND OVER AGAIN AND HAVE BEEN FULL OF HATE AND A RAGE INSIDE ME FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS, WHICH HAS CAUSED ME AND ALL AROUND ME A GREAT DEAL OF HARM MENTALLY, EMOTIONALLY, AND TO ME PHYSICALLY.

I WAS JUDGED 'TOTALLY DISABELED" BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LAST FEBRUARY, BECAUSE OF MANY PROBLEMS I HAVE. MY EXPENSES FOR PERSCRIPTION'S ALONE COST OVER \$1,200 PER MONTH. I HAVE GONE TO DOCTOR AFTER DOCTOR OVER THE LAST 30 PLUS YEARS TO HELP ME CONTROL THE RAGE INSIDE ME.

THE HATE THAT I HAVE FELT FOR MYSELF, THE RAGE TOWARDS OTHERS, THE MANY HOURS OF COUNSELING, DIVORCE, MEDICATIONS, CONSTANT SUICIDE THOUGHTS AND PLANS, HAVE TAKEN A HUGE TOLL ON MY LIFE. I HAVE WORN OUT AND RUINED MANY RELATIONSHIPS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND MY FAITH BECAUSE OF THE RAGE AND HATE INSIDE ME.

I HAVE ENCLOSED A COPY OF MY LETTER TO CARDINAL MAHONY FOR YOUR FILE ON ME, AND WAS TOLD THAT YOU HAVE BEEN UPDATED BY AS TO OUR DISCUSSIONS.

AS I HAVE STATED, I WOULD PREFER TO COME TO A SETTLEMENT BETWEE OURSELVES AND WITHOUT ATTORNEY'S AND THIS BECOMING PUBLIC. ENOUGH DAMAGE HAS BEEN DONE ALREADY TO BOTH SIDES.

I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOUR STAFF.

THANK YOU.

SINCERELY,

4-10-02

CARDINAL ROGER MAHONY ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES 3424 WILSHIRE BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA.90010-2241

DEAR CARDINAL MAHONY;

MY NAME IS . AND I AM A SURVIVOR OF MOLESTATION BY TWO PRIESTS WHILE I WAS AN ALTAR BOY AT SAINT BENEDICTS CHURCH IN MONTEBELLO DURING THE YEARS OF 1963 THRU APROXIMATELY 1967.

YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW THAT FATHER MATHIAS WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE ALTAR BOY PROGRAM AND FATHER FRANCIS, WERE MOLESTING ALTAR BOYS DURING THOSE YEARS. I ALSO ATTENDED SAINT BENEDICTS SCHOOL FOR EIGHT YEARS.

I HAVE SUFFERED FOR MANY YEARS WITH HATEING MYSELF, SEVERE DEPRESSION, CONSTANT CUICIDAL THOUGHTS, AND RAGE OVER THE MOLESTATION I WAS PUT THROUGH

I HAVE RECENTLY SEEN, READ, AND HEARD OF OTHER BOYS GOING THROUGH THE SAME TREATMENT THAT I HAD, WHICH HAS FINALLY GIVEN ME THE COURAGE TO ADMIT WHAT HAPPENED AND CONTACT YOU.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I LOST MY FAITH AND HAVE NOT ATTENDED CHURCH FOR NEARLY TWENTY YEARS UNTIL JUST RECENTLY. I COULDN'T STAND THE THOUGHT OF WALKING INTO A CHURCH AND HEAR A PRIEST PREACH TO ME .

I HAVE BEGUN TRYING TO REBUILD MY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. I REALIZE THAT IT WASN'T MY FAULT FOR WHAT HAPPENED WHEN I WAS A CHILD. BACK IN THOSE DAYS WE WERE TAUGHT THAT A PRIEST WAS LIKE GOD, AND NEVER QUESTION HIS AUTHORITY.

I DON'T FEEL IT WOULD BE RIGHT TO EXPLAIN TO YOU WHAT HAPPENED AS TO THE SEXUAL, PHYSICAL, AND MENTAL ABUSE THAT THOSE PRIESTS DID TO ME IN THIS LETTER. I THINK YOU ARE A GOOD AND HOLY MAN AND DON'T WANT YOU TO HAVE TO HEAR ALL THE DETAILS. PLEASE HAVE SOMEONE CONTACT ME SO WE CAN WORK THRU THIS SITUATION.

I WOULD PREFER TO KEEP THIS JUST BETWEEN OURSELVES AND WITHOUT LAWYERS AND THE PUBLIC INVOLVED, BUT I NOW REALIZE THAT IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT I CAN KEEP INSIDE AND HIDE ANYMORE. I HAVE CAUSED MUCH DAMAGE TO MYSELF AND OTHERS AROUND ME BECAUSE OF THE RAGE AND DEPRESSION I HAVE HAD FOR SO MANY YEARS.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I'M NOT LOOKING TO GET RICH OR TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SITUATION, BUT I DO NEED HELP WITH COUNSELING, HEALTH CARE, MEDICATIONS AND TRYING TO PROVIDE FOR MY FAMILY.

SENCERELY



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of Vicar for Clergy (213) 637-7284 3424 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles California 90010-2241

May 14, 2002

Abbot Martin Lugo, O.S.B. St. Gregory's Abbey Shawnee, OK 74804

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Abbot Martin:

I remember well your service here in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, and trust that you and all the monks are well.

It is with sadness, however, that I am writing you. Enclosed, please find a letter that Cardinal Mahony received from alleging abusive conduct on the parts of Fathers Francis and Mathias at St. Benedict's, Montebello, in the mid 1960's.

Would you please be so kind as to contact as soon as possible to discuss what sort of pastoral outreach the Benedictines can make to aid his healing? Hopefully, you can provide some ongoing counseling for him, which is the sort of pastoral assistance we provide when one of our Archdiocesan priests has abused anyone. Since lives in Idaho, I would hope that Bishop Driscoll in the Diocese of Boise could make appropriate referrals to well-trained counselors convenient to him.

In looking over our records, I assume the two priests to whom refers would be Father Mathias Faue, O.S.B. and Father Francis Simon, O.S.B. The records in my office do not contain any previous complaints about abusive behavior on their part, but it may be that you have information that we do not. If I am mistaken in this identification, please correct me.

Since our records from that period are not that well kept, I would appreciate learning from you the exact years in which Fathers Faue and Simon were assigned to St. Benedict's or any other parish or post in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Given the passage of time and since I do not see either of these priests listed in the Kenedy Directory, I am assuming that they may have passed away or left the priesthood. Please send me as well the dates of their death or, if they have left the priesthood, the dates of their departure or dispensations.

Please feel free to contact to discuss with her the sorts of ministry we strive to offer victims of abuse. Also, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you for your attention to this distressing matter. May God bless you!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D. Vicar for Clergy

enclosure

cc:.

ABBOT MARTIN LUGO,O.S.B. ST. GREGORY ABBEY SHAWNEE, OK 74804

DEAR ABBOT MARTIN,

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I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOUR STAFF.

THANK YOU.

SINCERELY,



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of Vicar for Cicrey (213) 637 7284 3424 patchire Boulevari Los Angeles Callomia 90010-2241

May 14, 2002

Dear

Cardinal Roger Mahony asked me to acknowledge your simple yet eloquent letter of April 10, 2002. Whenever a priest violates his sacred commitment and sexually abuses a boy or girl, it is a terrible sin and a betrayal of trust at am profoundly sorry, though I realize that no words can remove the years of depression and agony you have experienced as a result of the molestation. I am glad that slowly, with the help of God's grace, you are beginning the process of rebuilding your relationship with God.

As you know, both Fathers Mathias and Francis were members of the Order of St. Benedict. They served under the direct authority of the Abbot of the Benedictine Abbey to which they belonged. For that reason, I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter to Abbot Martin Lugo, O.S.B. I expect that he will contact you in the near future. He would be the most appropriate person with whom to discuss the counseling that will contribute toward your inner healing.

While waiting for Abbot Martin to contact you, please know that you are welcome to contact the Coordinator for Assistance Ministry of this Archdiocese. She would be able to speak with you on the phone in order to hear your story fully and then make a complete report to Abbot Martin.

Ladmire your courage in writing, and thank you for coming forward. You are in my prayers that the Spirit of Christ may give you healing and peace.

Sincerely yours,

Monsigary Ofarg A. Cox, J.C.D.

Vicar for Clergy

Abbot Martin Lugo, O.S.B.

CARDINAL ROGER MAHONY ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES 3424 WILSHIRE BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA 90010-2241

DEAR CARDINAL MAHONY,

MY NAME IS

AND I AM A SURVIVOR OF MOLESTATION BY TWO PRIESTS WHILE I
THRU APROXIMATELY 1987

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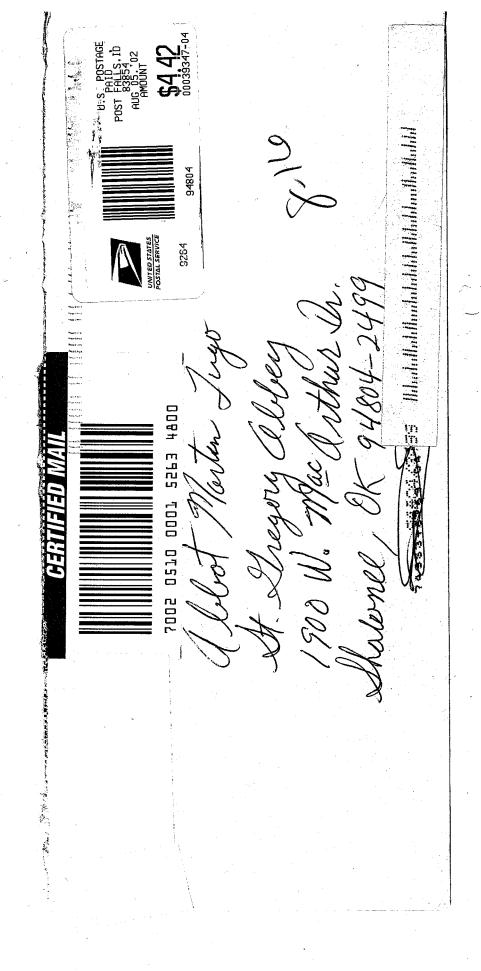
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SINCERELY





Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of Vicar for Clergy (213) 637-7284 3424 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles California 90010-2241

September 4, 2002

Abbot Martin Lugo, O.S.B. St. Gregory's Abbey Shawnee, OK 74804

Dear Abbot Martin:

I want to thank you for sending me a copy of your August 28, 2002, letter to that he will find it helpful in his own healing. I am also grateful that you and been in touch and will work together to assist this gentleman.

I hope have

May God bless you and the monks of St. Gregory's.

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.

Vicar for Clergy

cc:



Saint Gregory's Abbey

August 28, 2002.

Dear

I received your letter of August 1, 2002. I am truly sorry for any abuse that you suffered from Father Mathias and Father Francis. Abuse on anyone but especially on the young is horrible and can be so devastating, especially when it is committed by a person whom you trust. I wish there were a way to undo the abuse that has happened so that your pain and suffering could be lifted but I do not know of any. I can give you in the name of this Abbey and myself, my sincerest apology.

of the Archdiocese I have been in contact with of Los Angeles. Since Father Mathias and Fatner Francis served in a parish of to assist the Archdiocese, I have asked the Archdiocese through you. I believe that Monsignor Cox also wrote this to you in his letter. is trained to work in the area of sexual abuse of minors. She will listen to your full story and make a report to both the Archdiocese and the Abbey so that

we can proceed in the healing process.

has tried to return calls to you, but has I understand that been unable to reach you at times. If you have not done so, perhaps you could leave some specified times if you cannot speak with her directly when you call. Thus she would know when you might be available.

Again, my sincerest apology for any abuse that you suffered from members of this Abbey. I will hold you in prayer and asking God's healing blessing upon you and your family.

Yours in Christ.

Abbit Martin Lugo, OSB. Abbot Martin Lugo, OSB.

cc. Msgr. Craig Cox and

4-10-02

CARDINAL ROGER MAHONY ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES 3424 WILSHIRE BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA.90010-2241

DEAR CARDINAL MAHONY.

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SENCERELY

August 5, 2002, 6:25 p.m. phone message: the Coordinator for Assistance Ministry of the Archdiocese of L.A. called: She is traveling to Chicago for a convention and will be gone until Friday August and made it clear that counseling is the only 9, 2002. She talked with thing being offered a t this time, not money, medication for things like that. We have to placek sure that we are on the same wave length and not let him negotiate otherwise. "Don't let Jim divide us on this." Other alleged victim of Fr. Matthias has come forward: Mit Marten 08k. Call 41 p.m. Message: xept 26,2002 called. In me to call De wanted full name, of Per Matthia, Jours, OSB. died Jan 30, 1988

Diancis Simon, 0818. He suil care unell be clind because they are deceased. elated informe

FM 0045



Saint Gregory's Abbey

June 16, 2002.

Monsignor Craig A. Cox Vicar for Clergy Archdiocese of Los Angeles 3424 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, California 90010-2241

Dear Monsignor Craig Cox,

I am sorry for the delay in writing to you after my letter of May 30. As I mentioned in that letter I wanted to discuss the issues with Father Dan Ward, OSB. He has been out of the country on business and only recently returned.

I believe that it would be best if the Archdiocese handled the matter of Please let me explain.

As you know, the monks of St. Gregory's served in the parishes in the archdiocese for a number of years. However, the parishes remained parishes of the Archdiocese with the obligation and the right of the Archbishop to appoint and supervise the priests in the parishes. They served there by appointment of the Archbishop. Since it is clear from a letter that if abuse did occur, it occurred while the monks were serving as priests of a parish under the control and supervision of the Archdiocese.

It is my understanding in such situations of religious serving in parishes that in any case of abuse, the diocese and the religious community generally cooperate in resolving the matter and providing assistance to the victim. This approach better serves the victim and the Church rather than having the diocese and the religious community adjudicate liability in the court system although this has been done in some cases. If abuse did occur, I would prefer that the Archdiocese and the Abbey mutually agree to cooperate and take joint responsibility for the matter.

St. Gregory's Abbey is a small community and does not have the resources and pastoral experience to handle such a matter as sexual child abuse. On the other hand, the Archdiocese does have the resources and experience in these matters. Since the alleged abuse took place within the Archdiocese in a parish under the control of the Archdiocese, it would seem best for the Archdiocese to use its resources and pastoral knowledge in this matter. This, I believe, would best help the victim and also protect the interests of the Archdiocese

FM 0046

St. Gregory's Abbey will certainly cooperate with the Archdiocese in this matter. Further the Abbey will join with the Archdiocese in providing reasonable assistance to the alleged victim. However, I would request that the Archdiocese consult with me prior to providing any monetary assistance. The Abbey, itself, does not have a great deal of financial assets nor persons providing income to the support of the Abbey.

I wish to assure you that I am not disregarding the responsibility of the Abbey in this matter. However, I am looking at both the reality that while the monks were under the abbot in their personal lives, they were under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop in their positions as priests at St. Benedict's in Montebello. I believe that the Archdiocese is better able to determine the facts and truth of the matter and resolve the issues in a manner that the Abbey cannot.

One final note, it is my understanding that the statue of limitations has run on this case. Not that this relieves us of our moral responsibility, but it does situate the case. If I am wrong on the statue of limitations, please let me know.

Thank you and the Archdiocese for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours in Christ,

Abbot Martin Lugo, OSB.



Saint Gregory's Abbey

May 30, 2002.

Monsignor Craig A. Cox Vicar for Clergy 3424 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, California 90010-2241

Dear Monsignor Craig Cox,

I received your letter of May 14, 2002. I was not able to answer more quickly since I was on our community retreat and meeting days. I do remember you well. You were just beginning your studies in Canon Law.

I am also saddened that has alleged abusive conduct against Fathers Francis Simon and Matthias Fauve, former member of our community of St. Gregory's Abbey. Both are deceased.

You requested the assignments dates of these two Priest's ministry in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. We had two parishes founded by the Benedictines: Our Lady of Lourdes in East Los Angeles, and St. Benedict in Montebello, California. Fathers Francis and Matthias served in both parishes.

According frour records the approximate dates of their service in the Archdiocese was as follows:

Fr. Matthias Fauve, OSB: Our Lady of Lourdes: 1953-59 St. Benedict Parish: 1966-75. St. Benedict Parish 1983-1988.

Fr. Matthias died January 30, 1988.

Fr. Francis Simon, OSB: St. Benedict Parish: 1958-71. Our Lady of Lourdes Parish: 1964-1969 Fr. Francis died in Dec. 18, 1995.

For more accurate dates, one of the former associates suggested that the Baptism registry be reviewed. Usually associates would begin baptizing as soon as possible.

I will get in contact with ministry offered to abuse victims.

to discuss the types of

Before speaking or writing to , I plan to consult Father Dan Ward, OSB, since has made references to extensive counseling, assistance for his medical costs and "providing for his family."

Thank you for the difficult work you are called to render.

Yours in Christ,

Abbot Martin Lugo, OSB.

Rev. Msgr. Craig Cox Vicar for Clergy

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

3424 Wilshire Boulevard

Los Angeles California 90010-2241

Rt. Rev. Martin Lugo, O.S.B. St. Gregory's Abbey Shawnee, OK 74804

CONFIDENTIAL

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FM 0050

3424 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90010-2241 [213] 637-6607



Archdiocesan Catholic Center



To: about Mertin Luga	From
Fax: 405-878-5789	Pages: 5
Phone: 405-878-5449	Date: Quguet 13, 2002
Re: Jam	CC:
	mment □ Please Reply □ Please Recycle
• Comments:	
abbot martin,	
1 sending	a ow log x
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letters you do	not have
copies of.	

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

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10B #5e2

**** INCOMBLETE DESTINATION(S) HIGHLIGHTED BELOW ****

page! Progress Notes 26 Letter from Craig Coxtollot 6/26 119 let Letter from about Lugo 6/16 acation July 15 Aug. 2. (1) 4-10-02 Letter from Abbot to My (FM)0052

6-16-02

Progress Notes

7/17	Rec'd letter about O Thank	tin Lug
7/18	Called	
·	he want the about 1, p 7	4
	of said f'y get it & Car	21
	he want the about 1 5 7 I paid I'v get a Car back	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
7/18	Called back 15 min later no tape - no answer	
,,,	no tape - no answer	
7/19	Jim Callel Lourder	
	Jim Callel Lourder Longlaine d	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
7/22	Jan Called Lucille a Complained	
·/	Complained	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
7/24	emailed - Phone busy	<u> </u>
7/27	Memo from My Cox	
8 <u>/ / </u>	phone contact orme to y name	
8/9	about Legy Called	
3/12	11 11 11	
	agreed to call Jin & make	-
	Therapy contract.	
8/13	Fax capies of documents to	
	Fat capies of documents to	
Nome:		
Name:	Page #:FN	1 0053

Progress Notes

8/13 Called Sin -	
8/13 Called Jin - D Faxed his 2 letters Card	linal
to about Lugo	1
(2) He sent letter to about.	
2) He sent letter to About. Did he get it - of don't. (3) Story of ather prints to	know_
(3) Story of other prints &	
Palish - paid try force on hunself & his story	
on hunself & his story	
(4) Conjensation - Don Wood	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
8/13 Wood dugo	
(a) 12 Ded you get fat - he'll be	oh -No
8/13 Abbal Lugo (a) 1200 Did you get fax - he'll le (b) Jim sent you a letter etc.	
14 can tape meisage - about	Dego
8/14 ban tage message-Abbet "I did not receive fat." mail:	<u>Mins</u>
1	
8/14 Fal Some shoot " in make	ta
8/14 Fax face sheet "incomplet in my nail box dealine	tin"
8/14 930 am put copies in	
8/14 930 am put copies un	

Name:______ Page #:___

4-10-02

CARDINAL ROGER MAHONY ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES 3424 WILSHIRE BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA.90010-2241

DEAR CARDINAL MAHONY.

MY NAME IS AND I AM A SURVIVOR OF MOLESTATION BY TWO PRIESTS WHILE I WAS AN ALTAR BOY AT SAINT BENEDICTS CHURCH IN MONTEBELLO DURING THE YEARS OF 1963 THRU APROXIMATELY 1967.

YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW THAT FATHER MATHIAS WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE ALTAR BOY PROGRAM AND FATHER FRANCIS, WERE MOLESTING ALTAR BOYS DURING THOSE YEARS. I ALSO ATTENDED SAINT BENEDICTS SCHOOL FOR EIGHT YEARS.

I HAVE SUFFERED FOR MANY YEARS WITH HATEING MYSELF, SEVERE DEPRESSION, CONSTANT SUICIDAL THOUGHTS, AND RAGE OVER THE MOLESTATION I WAS PUT THROUGH

I HAVE RECENTLY SEEN, READ, AND HEARD OF OTHER BOYS GOING THROUGH THE SAME TREATMENT THAT I HAD, WHICH HAS FINALLY GIVEN ME THE COURAGE TO ADMIT WHAT HAPPENED AND CONTACT YOU.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I LOST MY FAITH AND HAVE NOT ATTENDED CHURCH FOR NEARLY TWENTY YEARS UNTIL JUST RECENTLY. I COULDN'T STAND THE THOUGHT OF WALKING INTO A CHURCH AND HEAR A PRIEST PREACH TO ME .

I HAVE BEGUN TRYING TO REBUILD MY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. I REALIZE THAT IT WASN'T MY FAULT FOR WHAT HAPPENED WHEN I WAS A CHILD. BACK IN THOSE DAYS WE WERE TAUGHT THAT A PRIEST WAS LIKE GOD, AND NEVER QUESTION HIS AUTHORITY.

I DON'T FEEL IT WOULD BE RIGHT TO EXPLAIN TO YOU WHAT HAPPENED AS TO THE SEXUAL, PHYSICAL, AND MENTAL ABUSE THAT THOSE PRIESTS DID TO ME IN THIS LETTER. I THINK YOU ARE A GOOD AND HOLY MAN AND DON'T WANT YOU TO HAVE TO HEAR ALL THE DETAILS. PLEASE HAVE SOMEONE CONTACT ME SO WE CAN WORK THRU THIS SITUATION.

I WOULD PREFER TO KEEP THIS JUST BETWEEN OURSELVES AND WITHOUT LAWYERS AND THE PUBLIC INVOLVED, BUT I NOW REALIZE THAT IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT I CAN KEEP INSIDE AND HIDE ANYMORE. I HAVE CAUSED MUCH DAMAGE TO MYSELF AND OTHERS AROUND ME BECAUSE OF THE RAGE AND DEPRESSION I HAVE HAD FOR SO MANY YEARS.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I'M NOT LOOKING TO GET RICH OR TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SITUATION, BUT I DO NEED HELP WITH COUNSELING, HEALTH CARE, MEDICATIONS AND TRYING TO PROVIDE FOR MY FAMILY.

SENCERELY



COPY

170

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of Vicar for Clergy (213) 637-7284 3424 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles California 90010-2241

May 14, 2002

Mathias Francis

Dear :

Cardinal Roger Mahony asked me to acknowledge your simple yet eloquent letter of April 10, 2002. Whenever a priest violates his sacred commitment and sexually abuses a boy or girl, it is a terrible sin and a betrayal of trust. I am profoundly sorry, though I realize that no words can remove the years of depression and agony you have experienced as a result of the molestation. I am glad that slowly, with the help of God's grace, you are beginning the process of rebuilding your relationship with God.

As you know, both Fathers Mathias and Francis were members of the Order of St. Benedict. They served under the direct authority of the Abbot of the Benedictine Abbey to which they belonged. For that reason, I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter to Abbot Martin Lugo, O.S.B. I expect that he will contact you in the near future. He would be the most appropriate person with whom to discuss the counseling that will contribute toward your inner healing.

While waiting for Abbot Martin to contact you, please know that you are welcome to contact the Coordinator for Assistance Ministry of this Archdiocese. She would be able to speak with you on the phone in order to hear your story fully and then make a complete report to Abbot Martin.

I admire your courage in writing, and thank you for coming forward. You are in my prayers that the Spirit of Christ may give you healing and peace.

Sincerely yours,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.,

Vicar for Clergy

cc:

Abbot Martin Lugo, O.S.B.

ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES COORDINATOR FOR ASSISTANCE MINISTRY 3424 WILSHIRE BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA,90010-2241

DEAR -

I AM CONTACTING YOU REGUARDING MY LETTER TO CARDINAL MAHONY, AND THE REPLY LETTER SENT TO ME FROM MONSIGNOR CRAIG A. FOX DATED MAY 14, 2002.

MONSIGNOR COX SAID THAT WE SHOULD SPEAK SO THAT I COULD ANSWER QUESTIONS CONCERNING MY ABUSE BY TWO PRIESTS . I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU WILL BE SHARING THIS INFORMATION WITH ABBOT MARTIN LUGO.

WOULD YOU PLEASE CALL ME AT MY HOME (AT A TIME GOOD FOR YOU SO WE CAN DISCUSS THIS MATTER AND I CAN ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE.

THANK YOU.

SINCERELY,



Auchdiocese of Los Angeles

Mishire California

Boulevard 90010-2241

had abused him. However, has tried to contact him various times and he does not return calls. She reported talking with

who is actually the one pushing this case. She alleges that her husband is homosexual and this was caused by the relationship with Fr. Matthias. She is seeking to have her marriage annulled by the Church.

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles is not pursuing this case since it regards a different concern and issue.

So communication is continuing with in regard to his counseling, and the Lawyer representing the L.A. Archdiocese.



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of Vicar for Clergy (213) 637-7284 3424 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles California 90010-2241

June 26, 2002

Abbot Martin Lugo, O.S.B. St. Gregory's Abbey Shawnee, OK 74804

Dear Abbot Martin:

Thank you for your letter of June 16, 2002. I understand the concerns you raise, and agree that canonically we do have a ioint responsibility in this matter. I also realize that we need to respond to the pastoral needs of in such a way that respects the limited resources of the Abbey, as well as our own limited resources.

Thank you for your willingness to cooperate with us in providing reasonable assistance to

Our usually pastoral outreach offers assistance with therapy and spiritual direction. If
you or your delegate would please be so kind as to contact our Coordinator for Assistance
Ministry,
You may reach her at
She will be happy to take
the lead on this matter and coordinate the efforts you can make with the outreach we will
provide.

Let me confirm that we will not make any sort of agreement for monetary compensation with without prior consultation with you and with attorneys for both the Abbey and the Archdiocese.

Thank you again for writing. May God bless you and the monks of St. Gregory's.

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D

Vicar for Clergy

enclosure

cc: Sister Sheila McNiff, SHCJ

SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801-2499 SAINT GREGORY'S ABBEY • INTE AUDUT July 3, 2002 I speke with Office of the Abbot that she assist us at co-ordinating effects in Contacting. greed to contact
after See 4th of
July weekend in segard to
begin therapy Counseling:
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She will freepin Cartiel.

She will free south friend.

Noting thirt she space friend.

Could not be formed. Maint Man.

Fr. Lawrence

From: -

Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2005 1:24 AM

To: Fr. Lawrence

To the Abbot and Monastic Community:

My freshman year at St. Gregory's High School (1961-62) stole the Church and my vocation away from me forever.

Can you please tell me what has happened to Father Mathias Faue?

Is it foolish of me to think that you will reply?

In the spirit of healing, I hope that you will.

Resonare Christum

Please Reply To:



Saint Gregory's Abbey

May 11, 2005.

Dear Michael,

Father Lawrence forwarded to me you email addressed to the Abbot and Monastic Community. Thank you for contacting us.

Your letter indicates that something happened to you during your freshman year at St. Gregory's High School. I want to assure you that I am here to listen to you. I invite and encourage you to contact me so that you can speak and I can listen and respond. Whatever did happen, I hope that we can find a way of healing.

You asked what happened to Father Mathias Faue. He remained a priest-monk of the Abbey and died in January 30, 1988.

Be assured of my prayers, support and openness.

Yours in Christ,

Abbot Martin Lugo, OSB.

1900 West Mac Arthur

Shawnee, OK 74804.

405-878-5449 (private direct number).



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