

Saint Norbert Abbey

1016 North Broadway DePere, Wisconsin 54115-2697 U.S.A.

Office of the Abbot
Tel: 414-337-4306
Fax: 414-337-4328

[Redacted address]

Dear [Redacted name]

I did read your "Letter to the Editor" in the Press-G last week. In reading it I could feel your resentment but it was not until the end of your letter that I realized you were the victim of such abuse. Even then I wondered about what may have happened to you as I do remember you as a student at Premontre.

The other day Fr. Ken De Groot called me and indicated the person against whom you were making the allegation. Then of course I really felt shocked especially since you contended that no one had ever even apologized to you.

I do wish you might come to see me and we could talk about this. Fr. Peeters remembers that back about '89 you had come to see him with the intent of making peace with Fr. K. Fr. Peeters felt that perhaps you had done so and so he was surprised at the bitterness of your letter to the editor.

You have to believe me that I am heartily sorry such a thing could ever have happened to you. All I can do is to take your word for it as Fr. K is long deceased and hence he cannot admit or deny it. I surely would apologize to you without any hesitation but it is difficult and even questionable for one adult to apologize for the actions of another. But to the extent that it might ease your pain I do apologize in all sincerity.

Please give me a call so we might set up a meeting. If you prefer Fr. Peeters could be present also.

Sincerely,

Tom

E. Thomas De Wane, O.Praem.
Abbot

P.S. - I don't know why I never sent this letter.

-- Please return the sunflower when you are finished

[REDACTED] Kohnke

December 2, 2003

Monsignor Craig Cox, Vicar for Religious of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles (213-637-7284, msgrcacox@la-archdiocese.org) called the Abbot's office and left a message. The abbot asked me to return the call. Monsignor Cox informed me that while John Kohnke was assigned in Los Angeles, there were two arrests for lewd behavior in a public bathroom. Apparently, John was reported as masturbating in a public restroom on both occasions. In the first instance, he was called in and reprimanded. He denied masturbating and said he'd had a prostate operation so it's harder for him to urinate (which supposedly explained exposing himself). In another instance, while at one of the hospitals (John worked at two different hospitals in California, in Burbank and Pasadena, he helped out at a parish, St. Perpetua and Felicity, in San Marino. He befriended a family and encouraged a boy in the family, a server, to serve mass at the hospital as well. This boy [REDACTED] claimed that he was forced by John Kohnke to engage in oral sex. There is a Sept. , 1974 letter to the Archdiocese's attorney to this effect, a copy of which will be sent to us. In 1990, [REDACTED]'s mother raised this issue again with the diocese but in March of 1991 the issue was dropped. There is no record of what transpire after that until now.

At present, in California there is no Statute of Limitations on sexual abuse cases. The elimination of statute of limitations on criminal cases was struck down by the Supreme Court but for civil cases it remains in effect but litigants have one year in order to file a claim. Monsignor Cox is confident that this case will be filed. Msgr Cox is sending me what documentation he has and has asked me to send him what documentation we have concerning John Kohnke's service in that diocese. Our records do not show any indication of a problem of this nature in California but I am sending Monsignor copies of letters of appointments and correspondence with references to changes in ministry and meetings with diocesan officials. There was not a hint of any knowledge of these matters in any of the correspondence.

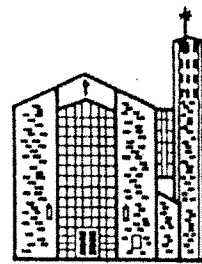
The attorney for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles is [REDACTED]

OFFICE OF THE PRIOR

This is a fair outline of his assignment - will try to get the usual more complete list for the prior's files.

St. Norbert Abbey

September 3, 1987



News Release
(Obituary)

To: News Media
From: Rev. Eugene E. Gries, O. Praem.,
Prior
Subject: Death of Rev. John Joseph Kohnke, O. Praem.

Rev. John Joseph Kohnke, O. Praem., age 80, died at St. Norbert Abbey, De Pere, Wisconsin, at approximately 9:15 p.m., on Wednesday, September 2, 1987. He was a member of St. Norbert Abbey, De Pere, Wisconsin.

Father Kohnke was the son of the late [REDACTED]. He was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on August 1, 1907. His home parish was St. Mary, Oshkosh.

He is survived by two sisters and one brother [REDACTED].

He was preceded in death by one sister and two brothers, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

Father Kohnke celebrated 50 years of priestly ministry this year.

He was vested into the Order on August 28, 1929, and made his First Profession on August 28, 1931. He made his Solemn Profession on August 28, 1934, and was ordained to the Diaconate on August 30, 1936. He was ordained to the Priesthood on March 22, 1937.

Father Kohnke graduated from St. Norbert High School, De Pere, in 1928. He graduated from St. Norbert College, De Pere, in 1934, where he earned a B.A. in Philosophy.

Father Kohnke's assignments include:

- 1934-1935, 1938-1940, and 1958-1960 ...
St. Norbert High School, De Pere, Wisconsin -
Faculty.

(continued)

News Release
(Father John Kohnke)

September 3, 1987

- 1934-1938 ...
Southeast Catholic High School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania -
Faculty.
- 1940-1953 and 1955-1957 ...
Our Lady of Ransom Parish, Hingham, Montana -
Pastor.
- 1953-1955 ...
St. Joseph Parish, Oneida, Wisconsin -
Pastor.
- 1955 ...
St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Sunburst, Montana -
Pastor.
- 1960 ...
St. Mary Parish, Chester, Montana -
Pastor.
- 1960-1964 ...
St. William Parish, Shelby, Montana -
Pastor.
- 1964-1966 ...
St. Willebrord Parish, Green Bay, Wisconsin -
Assistant Pastor.
- 1967-1969 ...
Incarnate Word College, San Antonio, Texas -
Chaplain.
- 1969-1971 ...
St. Joseph Medical Center, Burbank, California -
Chaplain.
- 1971-1974 ...
St. Luke Hospital, Pasadena, California -
Chaplain.
- 1974-1976 ...
Ss. Cyril and Methodius Parish, Shiner, Texas -
Assistant Pastor.
- 1976-1978 ...
Convent of St. Scholastica (Benedictine Sisters), Boerne, Texas -
Chaplain.

(continued)

News Release
(Father John Kohnke)

September 3, 1987

- 1979-1980 ...

St. Boniface Parish, Manitowoc, Wisconsin -
Associate Pastor.

Father Kohnke retired to St. Norbert Abbey on December 1, 1980.

The Reception of the Body/Vespers of the Dead Service will be held in the St. Norbert Abbey Church on Sunday, September 6, at 7:30 p.m.

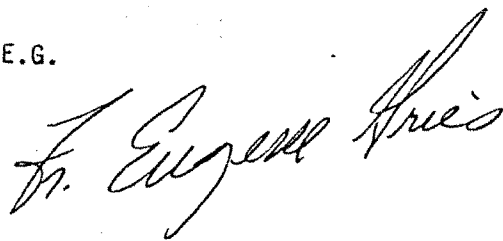
The Mass of Christian Burial will be held in the St. Norbert Abbey Church on Monday, September 7, at 10:30 a.m. Rt. Rev. Benjamin T. Mackin, O. Praem., will be the celebrant and homilist.

Visitation will be in the St. Norbert Abbey Church on Sunday, September 6, from 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. and on Monday, September 7, from 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Burial will be in the St. Norbert Abbey Cemetery.

Ryan Funeral Home, De Pere, is in charge of the arrangements.

E.E.G.



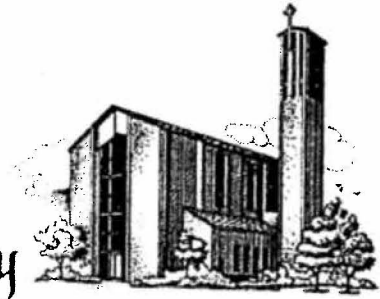
mjb

Enclosure: 1 (Photograph)

cc: House Bulletin Boards

OFFICE OF THE PRIOR

St. Norbert Abbey



December 3, 2003

Monsignor Craig A. Cox
Vicar for Religious
Archdiocese of Los Angeles
3424 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90010-2241

Dear Monsignor Cox,

Pursuant to our conversation of December 2nd, I have reviewed our files. There are a number of correspondences from the time period, 1969 to 1974 between Fr. Kohnke and the Abbot, the Coadjutor Abbot, and the Prior but no references whatsoever to the events you described to me. I have made copies of any I thought might be pertinent. This includes letters of appointment and references to arrangements for ministry in California or leaving ministry in California. I have not made copies of other letters that simply talked about his health concerns and were more "chit-chat." You will probably find the letters of appointment the most helpful. I will speak with our attorneys today [REDACTED]

Thank you for your call. I am available for further discussion as need. Just so you know, I will be out of town Dec. 20th through the 27th.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. David Komatz".

Very Rev. David M. Komatz, O. Praem.
Prior - St. Norbert Abbey

DMK: cah

Enclosures

Copies

October 9, 1974

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.
Chaplain, St. Luke Hospital
2632 East Washington St.
Pasadena, Calif. 91107

Dear John:

I received your letter of October 5 and was happy to hear from you and to learn of your updated plans for returning to Wisconsin. I suspect that your letter and one which I wrote last week crossed while being routed through the mails. Thus my note today is brief.

Jerry left for Europe a week ago Sunday and previously clued me completely on your termination in California and your expectations about Wisconsin, specifically De Pere and Oshkosh. John, I have already begun looking into your hoped for position at Mercy Hospital. At this point I can't assure you of much as I think the pastoral care plan there has changed considerably since you were in the area. However, I shall continue to pursue it. Last evening we had a Personnel Committee meeting and I made known to them your present plan and your hopes upon returning here. They too are happy about it as you will be closer again to us and no longer flying solo on the West Coast.

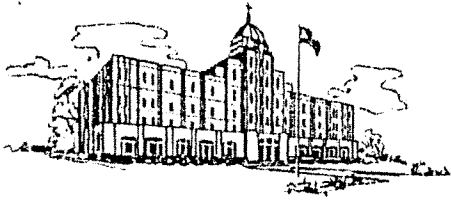
Do have a pleasant and leisure filled trip back. I see no reason for your rushing to return.

Again, I think you should be commended for your excellent work in Pasadena and the wide acceptance that you had among fellow priests as well as the many coworkers at the hospital. I'll be looking forward to seeing you and reminiscing about our days past when you used to visit the La Roche's and my family. Christ's peace to you.

Fraternally,

(Rev.) S. N. Joppe, O. Praem.
Prior

SNJ/lea



MEMBER:
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 CATHOLIC HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
 CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
 HOSPITAL COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
 ACCREDITED BY JOINT COMMISSION ON
 ACCREDITATION OF HOSPITALS

ST. LUKE HOSPITAL / 2632 EAST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD • PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91107
 TELEPHONE: (213) 797-1141

Dear Stan

Oct. 5, 1974

Abbot Tremel answered my letter that he gave to you. I plan to leave Pasadena about Oct. 14th or so - unless an emergency came up to stay a week longer - my sister is coming out here from Oshkosh - and we will drive back together.

I loved my work, but the smog, heat & all got hard on me. If per chance or otherwise you'd get to see Bishop Wyplosz of Green Bay tell him of my sincere interest in the chaplaincy or assistant chaplaincy at Mercy Hospital in Oshkosh. I always got along well with these men & helped out here in the past years.

They all know me well, and at our
mother house in Milwaukee.

It is hard to leave this place
because all the nurses, doctors,
nurses, administration & all
workers were so kind and
cheerful to me. They are a great
family.

I expect to go with my ~~brother~~
by way of Phoenix, to Texas
to visit Incarnate Word College
in San Antonio where I was
chaplain & teacher for several
years - then back to Oshkosh
for a vacation & rest. Expect to
get there by Oct 23rd or so.

I'll get to see you and
all shortly after I get home.

Hope all are well, and
things go better this school
year. I'm really praying & hoping
for Mercy Hospital Chaplaincy in
Oshkosh - God willing!

John
7 10 1950

Sept. 30, 1974

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.
Chaplain, St. Luke Hospital
2632 East Washington St.
Pasadena, Calif. 91107

Dear John:

Before Jerry left we had an afternoon-long session during which time he shared your correspondence with me along with many other things. I was elated to learn of your contemplated return to the Midwest. Similarly I was chagrined to learn of how you have been inconvenienced in health by both the working conditions and the environment there (and all this time John I thought everything was coming up roses there) .

Your letter indicated that sometime in early October, around the eighth, you would be leaving and to begin a slow trek back. John I want to assure you that I shall be available at the moment, any time during your trip and upon your arrival to assist you in anyway you think I might. I would but ask that as you see your approximate date of arrival here at the Abbey as something rather definite, please clue me so I can have a room readied for you with the necessary accommodations. As Jerry mentioned to you there is no rush necessary in your return so that you might have a pleasant and leisurely travel.

When you do get back we might want to talk about the possibility of something at Mercy Hospital in Oshkosh as you indicated in your letter. However, again John, that too at your convenience and when you feel up to it. Should you want me to pursue any other possibilities please let me know as I am in communication with the chairman of the diocesan personnel committee and he often alerts me to upcoming openings and needs.

So in closing, it sure will be good to see you first of all, and to have you for some time at the abbey. I wish you a safe and happy trip.

Christ's peace to you.

Fraternally,

(Rev.) S. N. Joppe, O. Praem.
Prior

SNJ/lea

September 19, 1974

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.
Chaplain, St. Luke Hospital
2632 East Washington Street
Pasadena, California 91107

Dear John:

I just got your letter of September 11, 1974 and will hurry this reply just in case I miss your phone call. I do accept and respect your decision to leave St. Luke's and California. I just also received a copy of Monsignor John Rawden's letter to you dated September 11, 1974. I will share the fact of your coming back to De Pere with Stan Joppe, and I'm sure that he will be happy to see to your needs and perhaps can be helpful in your plans for the future.

I did take note that you will be in California until October 7. I will be away from the Abbey from September 29 until October 29. John Neitzel and I have to do the visitation of Kilnacrott in Ireland after attending the Definitors' meeting in Rome in early October. Stan will be here, however, and when you arrive you can get in touch with him. If you stop to visit along the way, perhaps your arrival time will somewhat coincide with mine, and I'll look forward to a chat with you. I think it's two years since we talked last.

My summer was made up of bits and pieces. I spent a lot of time with Izzy Gosz and John Hoffman during their surgery and then it seemed that we spent the whole month of August burying people. That business about the "dead burying the dead" just isn't true. It's the living that do so. Both Joe Dorff's death and Jim Clabots' death were a shock, especially with the added death of Jim's sister, [REDACTED], when she arrived in Green Bay to be with her family during those difficult days. We had a double funeral here at the Abbey and it was a great strain, especially on the family.

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.

September 19, 1974

I'll wait for your call and look forward to seeing you when I get back at the end of October.

Faternally yours,

Jerome G. Tremel
Abbot

JGT:jm

cc: Rev. Stanislaus N. Joppe, O. Praem.



ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES
1531 WEST NINTH STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90015
DUnkirk 8-8101



September 11, 1974

Reverend John Kohnke, O. Praem.
St. Luke Hospital
2632 E. Washington Boulevard
Pasadena, California 91107

Dear Father Kohnke:

I am in receipt of your letter of September 7 indicating that you will be leaving the Archdiocese of Los Angeles on October 7, 1974, and returning to your religious community in DePere, Wisconsin, for a new assignment.

I appreciate your remarks indicating the wonderful spirit of charity and cooperation which you have encountered at both your chaplaincies in this Archdiocese.

With kindest best regards, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Reverend Monsignor John A. Rawden
Chancellor

fd

cc Rt. Rev. Jerome G. Tremel, DePere, Wisc. ✓
Mr. James D. Quackenbush, Adm., St. Luke Hospital



MEMBER:
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ST. LUKE HOSPITAL 2632 EAST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD • PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91107
 TELEPHONE: (213) 797-1141

Sept. 11th 1974
 now - 11th

Rt. Rev. J. Tremel
 St. Norbert Abbey
 De Pere, Wis.

Dear Father abbot,

Since my heart attack a year ago, I have felt up and down, tired and the weather has been so very hot humid and so much smog. I haven't slept too well at night.

One of my doctors said it may be better to get out of this heat and heavy smog. I had thought about this for over 3 months. I talked to Msgr. John Rowde the Chancellor and I told him of my health and asked if he were able to replace me, He said by Oct. 1st he would have a priest to replace me.

About last January, they called
and asked if I were willing
to go back to Burbank since
a priest wanted a smaller
hospital, I declined as
Burbank now has 580 beds
at St. Joseph Hospital. I told
msgr. Rawden I would write
you today and mention this
I have been 2 years in Philadelphia,
22 years in Montana, 2 years
in San Antonio Texas, over 2 years
at St. Jos. in Burbank and 3 years
in Pasadena. I was gone from
Wisconsin in all - 31 years. I do
want to come closer to my
own people and community.

Msgr. Rawden will write
to you. I asked him to ~~write~~
evaluate my work.

I also have helped out
every Sunday for 2 masses
in San Marino, Calif. - south of



2

MEMBER:
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TELEPHONE: (213) 797-1141

now I help out also Sat. afternoon
at 5 p.m. - and for 5:30 p.m. Mass
plus 3 Sunday masses. This
with my hospital schedule
is trying and tiresome. How-
ever, I loved the work. all
have been so kind to me,
you should get this letter
by (Monday Sept. 13th) so I'll
call ~~or Tuesday the 14th~~ ~~the 13th~~ I will
then talk to my sister who
will visit here sometime
to come and help pack so
we can enjoy the trip
back together.
my brother in Hollywood
had his difficulty with
the heat and smog. He mentions

The thought of selling the home,
my prostate also gives me
periodic trouble, I did have
surgery on it about 10 years
ago. Since my friend Joe
Dorff's sudden death with a
second heart attack it sort
of gets to a guy.
I haven't had a vacation
in several years. Every
several years I went to
Oshkosh and De Pere. I would
enjoy a good vacation and rest
and visit at Philadelphia
and Paoli.

Even at 67 years of age, in
spite that I love California
I think this is the right
thing to do. I will discuss
any plans - if you OK them -
as I have been anxious for 30 years
to be chaplain at Mercy Hospital
in Oshkosh or Assistant Chaplain
for the change of the seasons via
the air so clear.



3

MEMBER:
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HOSPITAL COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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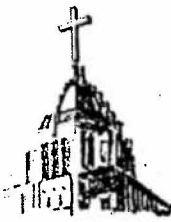
ST. LUKE HOSPITAL 1/2632 EAST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD • PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91107

TELEPHONE: (213) 797-1141

So I have over 3 weeks to enjoy the work here and my many hospital friends. I get over to see my brother now every week as Friday is my day off.

St. Luke Hospital had 20 Sisters when I came 3 years ago, some left, others in different assignments, now we have only 12 nuns. In late November the new retirement Convent at the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, Cal will open so, at least, 4 or 5 older Sisters will leave here that leaves 7 or 8 Sisters in this huge Convent with 21 private rooms.

The Catholic number of patients is from 24 to 32 people usually. Only from 8 to 16 Communions.
The layman administrator and



4
Saint Luke Hospital

2632 East Washington Blvd. • Pasadena, California 91107 • (213) 797-1141.

added -

Sept. 10th 1974 -

I saw Msgr. Rawden the Chancellor here this afternoon. He told me he has a new chaplain lined up for St. Luke's for Oct. 7th instead of Oct. 1st.

I meant to send the other letter direct to you on Sept. 6th but I felt rather again and rested more. The humidity comes back and the smog has been intense the past week - hard on the eyes, you can even taste it.

My sister will visit my brother and me - and I want to go back with her. I hope to leave about

Oct 10th or so.

The reason that I want to return with my sister I want to visit some 'dear' old friends on the way back.

I'll keep in touch with you. Msgr. Rowden said he would write you and send a letter of my resignation to you as is his custom.

He leaves shortly for his vacation.

Fraternally,

John
John J. Kohnke
Prairie

COPY



Saint Luke Hospital

2632 East Washington Blvd. • Pasadena, California 91107 • (213) 797-1141.

Rev. Msgr. John A. Rawden
1531-W. Ninth St.
Los Angeles - 90015

Sept. 7, 1974

Dear Msgr. Rawden:

Thank you for your kind advice and help on Thurs. Sept. 5, when I called on you.

I have felt "up and down" the past year since my heart attack. The excessive heat, high humidity and successive long periods of heavy smog have been difficult for me. My nights have been so restless and I get these sudden tired spells.

I have been gone from all my people and our community now for over 31 years. I haven't had a vacation in several years. As much as I enjoy working in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and enjoyed both assignments in Burbank 2 years and Pasadena for 3 years and since you have an available priest for a Chaplain replacement at this time, I feel my request for

resignation is in order.

As you suggested I will enjoy remaining on here at St. Luke's until October 1st. ^{now it is Oct. 7th} It gives me more time to visit and do my work here and enjoy the kindness and consideration of all our wonderful people at St. Luke's. I will miss them and all.

I have also written to my abb. as you knew I would. This is always our first step. I also talked to my doctor who cared for me since the heart attack. He thought it was the right decision since the clear, fresh air would be profitable to me and the heat is not excessive - the smog is the worst in California.

I'll drop this letter at your office next Tuesday and have a chat with you.

I hope you'll enjoy your coming vacation on Sept. 14 on - you really deserve one

Sincerely,
Father John Kohnke
Praem.

July 3, 1973

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.
Chaplain, St. Luke Hospital
2632 East Washington Street
Pasadena, California 91107

Dear John:

I tried to call you a couple of times in the past week, and will write this note just before I leave for Montana. Judging from the handling of the calls at St. Luke Hospital, you are up and around working again. I hope that is the case and that suffer no ill effects from your recent illness.

██████████ got out of the hospital on Friday the 29th. He will be spending the rest of the summer recuperating in his digs at St. Thomas College, but then in the Fall will teach at a prep school somewhere in St. Paul, I forget the name. I will try to see him on the way out to Montana.

Things are fairly quiet around here. The College is busy with many activities this summer. The theology institute has about 150 students, including about 10 Norbertines. That's a good sign, kind of like eating meals in your own restaurant. It must mean the food is good. Also, the Army is running a series of two week command schools on the campus. That keeps the place busy, occupied and supported to some extent.

I will be driving to Montana with my young nephew for company. I will make a number of stops on the way out and back and hope to be back in a couple of weeks. I hope this letter finds you well and thriving, John.

Fraternally yours,

Jerome G. Tremel
Abbot

JGT:drd

November 11, 1971

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.
Chaplain, St. Luke Hospital
2632 E. Washington Street
Pasadena, California 91107

Dear John:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 4, 1971, and the enclosed check in the amount of \$2,200. I wish to thank you for sending this on to me. I assure you that it is appreciated very much and very sincerely. Although it does represent your savings from the past year, since it is credited to your account on this date, it will have to be recognized--as far as our bookkeeping system is concerned--as a contribution of the 1971-72 fiscal year. I'm sure you understand.

I filled out the signature card for your new bank account and am returning it with this letter. I hope that it is filled out properly and that you can now go ahead with your plans relative to this bank account. I didn't notice it on the card, but the account should specify that the checks and bank statements should be sent to you.

I'm very glad that you like your assignment to St. Luke's Hospital very much. From the drawing of the hospital on your stationery it appears that it is not as big as St. Joseph's. However, sometimes these little drawings are deceiving. Anyway, what really counts is that you are accepted well and that you are well provided for to do your work and that you find your work satisfying.

You make mention of a meeting you are having with the Chancellor of the Diocese. I could say that from the Abbey point of view in regard to your work in a diocese such as Los Angeles that we feel you should receive a salary, as well as all benefits, on a par with the priests of the diocese in which you work. This is ~~not~~ always the custom, but we do feel that that is the way it should be. After all, John, you are a priest who has served the community and the Church for many years. Your experience is worth

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.

November 11, 1971

something. We feel that it should be adequately compensated and that provisions should be made for other needs, such as, hospital and medical insurance, vacations, retirement, etc. I certainly would not want to suggest that the only consideration for a Norbertine serving in any apostolate is monetary. As you well know, many of our priests do serve without compensation. The particular situation does dictate the approach. I'm sure that you put in many hours of service beyond the "forty-hour week." These are just some thoughts that I want to pass along to you, John. Again, I am very happy that you are satisfied with your new assignment. I do hope that all goes well and that you can perform a real service to the sisters and patients at St. Luke Hospital.

There isn't much else to talk about at this time, so I'll be closing for now. The Abbot returned from his trip to Europe and Montana, and we had a couple of weeks to review things. My very best regards to you, John.

Fraternally yours,

Robert K. Finnegan, O. Praem.
Prior

RKF/dmg

Enclosure

November 5, 1971

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.
Chaplain, St. Luke Hospital
2632 E. Washington Street
Pasadena, California 91107

Dear John:

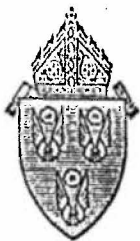
I wish to acknowledge your reply to the annual questionnaire of the Personnel and Apostolate Committee (Form D). Thank you very much for taking the time to respond so promptly. Your cooperation with the committee is appreciated very much.

Since you do not indicate any desire for a change during the coming year nor a desire to meet with the Personnel and Apostolate Committee, there will be no need to consider your situation any further at this time. However, should anything develop during the year and you wish to contact the committee, I urge you to do so promptly. On the other hand, if anything were to develop which would suggest to the committee a need to contact you, we will certainly do so. I assure you that the Personnel and Apostolate Committee is always available to serve you.

Fraternally yours,

Robert K. Finnegan, O. Praem.
Prior

RKF/dmg



ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES
1531 WEST NINTH STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90015

Dunkirk 8-0101
Sept 29, 1971

File

Reverend John Kohnke, O. Praem.
ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL
501 S. Buena Vista
Burbank, California 91503

RECD OCT 1 1971

Dear Father Kohnke:

His Excellency, Archbishop Manning, has directed me
to confirm your appointment as

CHAPLAIN

of ST. LUKE HOSPITAL, Pasadena. You have also been appointed
Assistant at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary parish, Pasadena, for
purposes of marriage jurisdiction.

Enclosed is a Memorandum of the Faculties and Duties
of Chaplains to Institutions in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles which is in
accord with the Archdiocesan Statutes and special rescripts.

It is understood that His Excellency, Archbishop Manning,
will not become a benevolent Bishop and that you will remain attached to
your Order.

Your appointment will become effective on Friday,
October 8, 1971.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

John A. Rawden
Reverend Monsignor John A. Rawden
Chancellor

fd

cc Rev. Robert Deagan
Rev. Timothy J. Crean, Assumption
Msgr. Hawkes
✓ Rt. Rev. Jerome Tremal, O. Praem.
St. Norbert Monastery, DePere, Wisc.

Norbertines (Kohnke) 0028

July 9, 1970

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.
Chaplain, St. Joseph Hospital
501 South Buena Vista Street
Burbank, California 91503

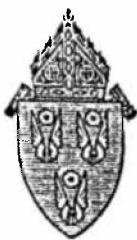
Dear John:

Your letter of June 15 has been on my desk for some weeks, mostly because I was away during the week of June 14 and after less than a day at the Abbey spent the next week in Dayton, Ohio at the assembly of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men. I returned last Tuesday after attending [REDACTED] farewell in Chicago. It was good to hear from you and I hasten to answer before I again dash off, this time for the second session of the General Chapter. I will fly from New York on the 14th of July but will leave De Pere July 10 if I can. I will return to De Pere by August 20. There isn't much news that isn't in the NEWSLETTER. The weather here has been on again, off again and in general fairly pleasant. I have been busy with one thing after another. The weeks before the Canonry Chapter in June were ones of intense preparation and hard work. I was gratified that it came off so well. Let me know if I can be of help, John. My greetings and constant prayers.

Fraternally yours,

Jerome G. Tremel
Abbot

JGT:drd



ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES

1531 WEST NINTH STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90015

DUnkirk 8-8101

March 6, 1970

REC'D MAR 13 1970

Right Reverend Jerome G. Tremel, O. Praem.
St. Norbert Abbey
DePere, Wisconsin 54115

Right Reverend and dear Abbot:

We acknowledge your letter of February 24
and hasten to confirm that the faculties of the Archdiocese
of Los Angeles have been extended to

Reverend John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.

These faculties will expire as of October 31,
1970, at which time application for renewal may be made.
Father Kohnke was advised of this last October.

Be assured of our gratitude to you for the
services of Father Kohnke to the people of Los Angeles.

With sentiments of esteem, I remain

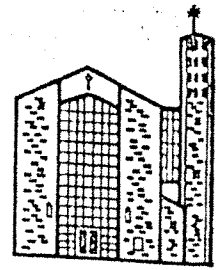
Respectfully yours in Christ,

Reverend Monsignor John A. Rawden
Chancellor

fd

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

St. Norbert Abbey




February 24, 1970

Most Rev. Timothy Manning, D. D.
Archbishop of Los Angeles
1531 West 9th Street
Los Angeles, California 90015

Your Excellency:

I was installed on January 6, 1970 as Abbot of St. Norbert Abbey, at the retirement of the Rt. Rev. S. M. Killeen, O. Praem. One of the tasks that I have been trying to take care of is the determination of the precise status of ordinary faculties for men who work in a diocese.

The following priest member of St. Norbert Abbey is presently working in your Archdiocese. I should like to have you confirm the faculties of your Archdiocese that may have been granted, and ask you to grant faculties to the following priest if you have not already done so:

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem. 
Chaplain, St. Joseph Hospital
501 South Buena Vista Street
Burbank, California 91503

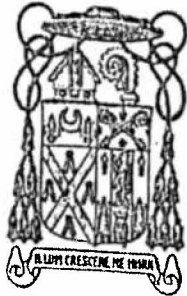
I would appreciate your sending to me a copy of the faculties granted and also to the individual priest if that is your practice. Thank you very much for your attention to this request.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rt. Rev. Jerome G. Tremel, O. Praem.
Abbot

JGT:drd

File : Kohnke, J.



St. Norbert Abbey

De Pere, Wisconsin

54115

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

July 1, 1969

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.
Chaplain, Incarnate Word College
4301 Broadway
San Antonio, Texas 78209

Dear Father John:

Thank you very much for your letter of June 19 in which you enclosed the forms for your annual report and a copy of your letter sent to Monsignor Hawkes.

I have discussed your letter with Father Abbot Tremel when he returned from Lima, Peru. We both regret any inconvenience caused you by the delay in announcing the election. This was an oversight with no bad intention behind it. We hope that you will understand.

Your letter presented several other questions. I will try to explain them as best I can within the limitations of a letter. First of all I should like to speak about the help needed for your brother. The Order has helped others in similar circumstances. In fact, there are three being helped at the present time. Perhaps in your brother's case a plan can be worked out whereby the expenses could be shared by the whole family. If you will let me know what the rest of the family think about it, and what our community's share should be, I feel confident that the Abbot and his Council would approve it.

Now as regards the annual report, I would like very much if you would fill it out as usual and return it to me with whatever surplus funds you have. I am returning the form for your convenience.

Now as regards the major point of your letter, that is, with respect to the proposed leave of absence. Neither Father Abbot Tremel nor myself is certain as to exactly what status you are requesting. I rather think it might be that which is called in Canon Law "exclaustration." By this is meant permission to leave the institute temporarily. The Canon covering

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.

July 1, 1969

this matter is No. 638. This whole matter is explained in Chapter 9, under the title of Leaving the Religious Life. It is found in a textbook on Canon Law by Bouscaren and Ellis. It is published by the Bruce Publishing Company in Milwaukee. The edition that I have is quite old; the copyright reads 1946. It may very well be that there are some changes in this Canon since that time. I might suggest that you contact a canon lawyer in San Antonio for a fuller explanation of the meaning of exclaustation. I would like to suggest that under the arrangement of exclaustation the person is expected to put aside his religious habit and wear the clerical dress prescribed by Canon 136, paragraph 1. However, there are certain conditions under which the religious habit may continue to be worn. I think it would be to your advantage to consult a canon lawyer for a full explanation.

A second point that I feel I should make here is that Monsignor Hawkes should be informed, either by you or by me, that a change in your status has taken place, since you are to take up work in the Diocese of Los Angeles as your next assignment.

And now a bit of news. Today is the funeral day of Father [redacted]. He died rather suddenly at Manawa, Wisconsin. The mothers of Fathers [redacted] and [redacted] died last week. No doubt you have received the card asking that you offer a Mass for each of them. While both deaths were unexpected, they were preceded by rather long periods of illness. There was a death in my family, too, last week. My first cousin, [redacted], died at Rice Lake after a rather lengthy period of suffering from cancer. Father Theodore Verbeten is living with us here now at the Abbey. He seems to enjoy the life very much. His health [redacted]

[redacted] We had about nine or ten young priests here the last few days from different parts of the country. They were holding a conference on retreat work. Father Carson was the host for them. They were a fine group of young men.

Rev. John J. Kohnke, O. Praem.

July 1, 1969

We have six postulants here at the present time taking work at the college in preparation to their being vested in August. Well, that's about all the news I can think of at the moment.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am,

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Rt. Rev. S. M. Killeen, O. Praem.
Abbot

SMK:jm

Enclosure

cc: Rt. Rev. Jerome G. Tremel, O. Praem.