

NEW YORK — The American Jesuits' influential weekly *America* has weighed in with its analysis of Pope John Paul II's apostolic letter *Apostolos Suos*, asserting that it threatens the "viability" of national episcopal conferences, such as the U.S. bishops' National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The editorial also predicts that the letter, which clarifies the limits of conference authority, will backfire on the Vatican, and further divide bishops from laity.

The editorial, published in the August 15th-22nd edition, "Future Doubtful for Bishops' Confer-

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ences," also claims that the Pope's letter will produce an unintended result: Bishops' conferences will say less and less while their bureaucrats say more and more.

Taking aim at one of the chief facets of *Apostolos Suos*, the requirement that any statement produced by an episcopal conference be approved unanimously by the member bishops in order for it to have "authority," the *America* editorial presents this unlikely scenario:

See "papal letter" p. 7

# Was Popular From Paris

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Fr. James Callan, a popular city pastor who "prepared" same-sex couples for marriage, gave Holy Communion to Protestants and Jews, and concelebrated Mass with women vested as priests, was

"fired" from Church by Clark.

Callan said he was forced to take refuge from Joseph Clark, prefect of the Diocese for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Callan, 50, was transferred into his parish in his hometown of Rochester on August 16th. He told a crowd that he was "a sinner" and that Bishop Clark's removal was "a great relief" to him. It was

Bishop Clark's Vatican order to remove Callan from the parish. Callan said that he had been told that he was in violation of Church laws.

Callan's removal is necessary, Clark said in a statement, "even though I do not have authority to remove him from the parish."

News of Callan's removal from the parish is typical of the way the Vatican handles such matters. McClellan Vincent, Boston

"Fr. Jim Callan, I don't know," said a source who doesn't know the true gift he has.

And Clark said he thinks it shows a "mindedness" on the part of the Vatican.

But to many, the removal of Callan from the parish is a "decent" and "objective" defiance of Callan's removal. Callan's removal is critical.

"Bishop Callan is a scandalous upholding of the Church's teaching on homosexuality," said *The Wanderer*.

"The honor that Clark's removal is a complete victory for only believing in marriage, but clearly, Deacon Callan's removal is a blessing for the home Diocese."

## Another Texas Bishop Reveals Poor Judgment

(Special to *The Wanderer*)

FORT WORTH — Bishop Joseph P. Delaney of Fort Worth has joined his episcopal brothers, Charles V. Grahmann in Dallas and Patrick F. Flores in San Antonio, in revealing to the public his poor judgment when it comes to hiring suspected pedophile priests.

On August 12th, Brooks Egerton of *The Dallas Morning News* revealed in a copyrighted story that Bishop Delaney incardinated in his diocese a priest from the Diocese of Worcester, Mass., who, in the words of then-Bishop Timothy J.

Harrington, left "a trail of damaged youngsters" behind in one town.

After the *Morning News* article broke, Bishop Delaney called a press conference and confessed that he was "terribly embarrassed" by the revelations, and admitted that he should not have brought Fr. Thomas Teczar — now facing sex abuse charges in Massachusetts — into the diocese.

Teczar and another priest, Fr. Philip Magaldi, a friend of Delaney since the 1950s when the two studied together at the North

American College in Rome, were both suspended from serving as priests — Magaldi in Rhode Island — when Delaney brought them into the Fort Worth Diocese.

Magaldi was suspended after his conviction for stealing more than \$120,000 from a Providence parish.

Teczar's personnel file showed that Harrington had tried to dissuade Delaney from incardinating the suspected pedophile priest, but

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## Ray Flynn Sole Sane Voice In Massachusetts Congressional Primary

By EUGENE NARRETT

BOSTON — The most liberal PBS-TV and radio station is Boston's WGBH, which archly promotes itself as "the world of choice." The double entendre is not lost on its audience of smug professionals, radical feminists, socialists, and others unconcerned about the trappings of the ride to the abyss. An irony familiar to our era is that the language of "choice" is in every respect a lie: it lies about life, responsibility, commitment, and relationship.

The "world of choice" also is a lie in Massachusetts, whose politics and media offer little true choice to those who believe that abortion and deviancy are abominations rather than entitlements requiring a subsidy from public funds and promotion in public schools. Those now vying in the Democratic Party for the state's Eighth Congressional District contain only one choice for champions of life and health. Yet the situation is less grim than some reports

suggest ("Congressional Race Features Dysfunctional Catholics," *The Wanderer*, August 13th, 1998, p. 7), and the glimmer of light bears mention as well.

It has been nearly a year since peccadilloes by others in his family led Cong. Joseph P. Kennedy II to excuse himself from a campaign for governor and announce that he would retire from Congress. This unloosed a blood-dimmed tide of

See "congressional primary" p. 10

## Poor Judgment

(Continued from Page 1)

Delaney persisted. The file also showed that Harrington had briefed numerous other bishops on Teczar's past, all of whom refused to accept Teczar into their dioceses.

After Delaney decided to allow Teczar to work in the Fort Worth Diocese, Delaney wrote a letter to Harrington thanking him "for the frank and open way in which you expressed your concerns about his ministry in the future based on what has already happened. . . ."

"Having thought the matter over and prayed over it, I am now writing back to tell you that I am willing to give Fr. Teczar an opportunity to get back into active ministry, fully aware of the risks that may be involved," wrote Delaney.

A day after Egerton's story appeared in the *Morning News*, Delaney called a press conference to express his embarrassment.

"In retrospect, we should not have accepted Fr. Teczar for the exercise of his priestly ministry here," he said.

### Deep Meaning

One priest knowledgeable about affairs in the three Texas dioceses said that this latest revelation points to very serious problems in the episcopacy.

"It is very difficult to avoid the impression as these incidents multiply that something is very wrong with our hierarchy. It's not just the scandals and the opportunities bishops give to priests with serious problems, but it's the total lack of outrage that they show when confronted.

"No one is ever horrified," the priest said. "They are only concerned with damage control. It makes me wonder about the hierarchy.

"My frustration is that they give the impression that the Gospel is completely unreal to them. It seems like they've been brainwashed by [Fr. Raymond E.] Brown and [Fr. Bernard] Häring. They talk of 'forgiveness,' but never conversion or repentance. They blink at mortal sin. It just doesn't concern them. Religion is entirely subjective.

"They don't react the way normal people do to these scandals."

### The Blotter

The *Morning News* reports are based on confidential Church documents made available in a molestation suit now pending

against Fr. Teczar and the Diocese of Worcester, and also on Texas court records involving the child abuse trials of two associates of Teczar.

The documents also show that Teczar had been suspected of sex abuse since the 1960s, that he had been in a molestation treatment center, and that Delaney retained Teczar even after he received a 1990 warning from Bishop Harrington that "he does not have my approval to function as a priest."

Teczar, now in Massachusetts, fled Texas during a grand jury probe into alleged child sexual abuse. Initially, Delaney told the *Morning News* that he thought that Teczar left the state because he was tired of Texas and wanted to work elsewhere.

Teczar's two associates were not so fortunate. They were convicted of sex abuse charges and sentenced to prison terms of more than 30 years each.

Upon arriving in Texas in 1988, Teczar's first assignment was St. Patrick's Cathedral in downtown Fort Worth, where he served under Fr. William Hoover — who resigned from his post in 1995 after he was charged with the sexual abuse of minor males.

Subsequently, Teczar was posted as an assistant pastor for about a year at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Bedford, Texas. It was while he was there that a Massachusetts couple who had complained to Harrington about Teczar's molestation saw his out-of-state assignment listed in the Worcester diocesan directory.

They immediately protested to both Harrington and the Vatican.

"Your assurance to us," Norma and Edward Maciorowski wrote Harrington in January, 1990, "was that he would never go to another diocese because in order to do so, Teczar would need your permission — something that you would never grant. . . . Bishop Harrington, how do you manage to live with yourself when you know Thomas Teczar's history of sexual abuse of young males, providing alcoholic beverages to Catholic Youth Council participants . . . and other deviations. . . .?"

The Maciorowskis copied their letter to Bishop Delaney and the Sacred Congregation for the Clergy at the Vatican. Delaney never replied, but the Vatican did.

"When Fr. Teczar sought out a bishop who would receive him into his diocese, Bishop Harrington

shared with that bishop what had occurred and his reasons for not reinstating Father as an active priest," reads the response. "The recollection of Bishop Harrington is that he agreed with you not to reinstate Father . . . but he stated that he could not impose on another diocesan bishop to do the same.

"You can easily understand that this is a complex situation and the bishop has tried to seek justice for all involved, responding empathetically and responsibly to the allegations made by you and protecting assiduously the good name of the Church.

"We trust that you will understand this painful and delicate process and, guided by your Christian principles which you have shown to cherish in the past, will let the local authority handle the case with merciful justice."

According to a canon lawyer consulted by *The Wanderer*, a bishop can incardinate a priest from another diocese without the approval of the priest's bishop, as long as the priest has not been excommunicated.

Undeterred, the Maciorowskis lodged a criminal complaint against Teczar, who was summoned back to Worcester in early 1991, where he was convicted on charges of supplying alcohol to minors and contributing to the delinquency of minors, and fined. He was not charged with sexual molestation.

Back in Texas, Bishop Delaney appointed Teczar the pastor of four rural parishes.

In early 1993, the Texas Rangers were investigating two of Fr. Teczar's close friends, Daniel Hawley and DeWilliam Bixler, on child molestation allegations. Both Bixler and Hawley were regular fixtures at the parish where Teczar resided.

According to the *Morning News*, Teczar heard about the investigation in time to tell his friend Hawley, a maintenance man at the rectory, to destroy any photographs he had of nude children.

Hawley subsequently told police that he and Bixler frequently engaged in sexual activities with Teczar at the rectory.

Both Hawley and Bixler, who were indicted in March, 1993 on child molestation charges, denied that Teczar had ever abused children, and police investigators in Texas were never able to produce

a victim to testify against the Worcester priest.

When Teczar was called before the grand jury, Sheriff Ronnie White told the *Morning News*, he "appeared with two attorneys and answered no substantive questions, invoking his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination.

"After the grand jury hearing, White said he and a police investigator told Fr. Teczar they would invite his parishioners to the indicted men's trials. He had vanished by the next day, the former lawman said.

"He left Texas pretty damn fast" and had his belongings shipped later, said his [White's] sister, Pat Ermitz. "He was afraid the police would be waiting for him at the airport."

The *Morning News* story continues: "White said that he wanted to arrest Fr. Teczar on a charge of failure to report child abuse. But when he asked the Fort Worth Diocese for help, officials wouldn't discuss the priest's personnel history and maintained that they didn't know where he was, he said."

At the bishop's Wednesday press conference, he read from a prepared statement, saying that in March, 1993, Teczar, accompanied by his two attorneys, visited him and "explained that he was being accused of not having reported the sexual abuse of a child to the authorities of Eastland County. . . ."

"His attorneys assured me they were in touch with the authorities there, who were willing to drop the investigation if Fr. Teczar left the state."

Pressed by reporters to elaborate, Delaney said: "They told me they had already spoken to the sheriff."

His account is disputed by Texas law enforcement officials who were involved in the case at the time.

### Fr. Magaldi

Fr. Magaldi's case is not connected to Teczar's, but his story does present an example of a high-living priest who apparently had an unlimited budget to indulge his fantasies.

According to Rhode Island authorities cited by the *Morning News*, Magaldi stole more than \$120,000 from his Providence parish, spending the loot on tropical vacations with adolescent boys.

Once, said authorities, Magaldi gave a teenager he met in a park enough money to buy a car.

"Fr. Magaldi was very reckless

with money," Bishop Delaney said. "He spent money on excessive church funds.

Bishop Delaney hired Magaldi, 62, in early 1990, but was under criminal investigation and suspended by the Diocese of Providence.

Magaldi, who accompanied Delaney to Rome this year for

(Continued from Page 1) he is: "That stuff he did with Monica was a private act and not a good President." When he said that this was obviously not a private act in the private quarters of the White House by a private citizen, but had taken place about the Oval Office — a room occupied by the most prominent citizen in the nation — he asserted that it's human nature to protect oneself as long as possible, even when that involves a private act in the private quarters of the White House. He was thinking of Hillary and wanting to embarrass her."

Even when it was pointed out that Monica Lewinsky is latest — that the public about, anyway — in a lot of women Clinton has used sexual gratification and that Hillary has known this for years was not swayed in his estimation of Clinton's moral code.

Another man lowered the level of acceptability even further was an honorable lie. He right to lie under oath to protect a mistress. I support him. I committed a crime for the reasons. He lied in the right way would have done the same his position." While his relationship to the young woman with him was not determined as singularly unperturbed assessment of both his and Clinton's moral code.

Down the fence a few feet of three young children just uttered his take on the incident: "He's scum. A burr uniformed Secret Service started running to a man stabbed himself in the thigh a screwdriver. "Forget what I'm doing in there. Remember the bleeding man told the man who quietly took the insurance from him. He was then handcuffed, and driven to ambulance.

In a glaring example of collective dissonance, a Clinton

A T. S. . . .

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with money," Bishop Delaney said. "He spent money on everybody." The bishop added, however, that Fr. Magaldi is not allowed to handle church funds.

Bishop Delaney hired Fr. Magaldi, 62, in early 1990, while he was under criminal investigation and suspended by the Diocese of Providence.

Magaldi, who accompanied Delaney to Rome this year for the in-

stallation of new cardinals — one of whom has been a close friend for 29 years — has more in his past than just embezzling money.

"Fr. Magaldi has called attention to friends in high places before," wrote Egerton of *The Morning News*.

"In a 1983 affidavit supporting Rhode Island socialite Claus von Bulow — who'd been convicted of trying to kill his wife and was

seeking a new trial — he called himself a personal friend of Rhode Island's governor and attorney general.

"In 1985, a subsequent attorney general won an indictment of Fr. Magaldi on charges of perjury and conspiracy to obstruct justice in the von Bulow case. The charges were dropped two years later because of what authorities called faulty evidence."

## Just Another Day

(Continued from Page 1)

he is: "That stuff he did with Monica was a private act and he's still a good President." When reminded that this was obviously not a private act in the private quarters of the White House by a private citizen, but had taken place in or about the Oval Office — a public room occupied by the most public citizen in the nation — the tourist asserted that it's human nature to protect oneself as long as possible, even when that involves a lie. "He was thinking of Hillary and didn't want to embarrass her."

Even when it was pointed out that Monica Lewinsky is only the latest — that the public knows about, anyway — in a long string of women Clinton has used for his sexual gratification and that Hillary has known this for years, he was not swayed in his esteem for his President.

Another man lowered the level of acceptability even further: "It was an honorable lie. He had the right to lie under oath to protect his mistress. I support him. He committed a crime for the right reasons. He lied in the right spirit. I would have done the same thing in his position." While his relationship to the young woman standing with him was not determined, she was singularly unperturbed by his assessment of both his own and Clinton's moral code.

Down the fence a few feet, a father of three young children had just uttered his take on the President: "He's scum. A bum," when uniformed Secret Service officers started running to a man who had stabbed himself in the throat with a screwdriver. "Forget what's going on in there. Remember Iran," the bleeding man told the officers who quietly took the instrument from him. He was then bandaged, handcuffed, and driven off in an ambulance.

In a glaring example of cognitive dissonance, a Clintonista ac-

cused Starr of doing something Starr would undoubtedly agree is accurate: "The President is being deflected from performing the skills he has spent a lifetime acquiring." He asserted that the issue is private sex, not "lying about sex," and held that it's wrong to put someone under oath when he has no choice but to lie. "You don't lie about ripping off someone's estate or hurting other people, but it's okay to lie about sexual pleasure. It's not a black lie. It's a white lie. Making people tell the truth all the time has risen to the level of terrorism against my rights in the future and my culture."

A boom box playing, "Let him be. Let him be. Let President Clinton alone. Let him be," provided background music. Fliers announced that "Neither the President nor any of his associates are responsible for this production." Events occurring inside the Executive Mansion were canceling out Clinton's seven-month effort to make the same statement.

Although he thinks that Clinton is one of our best Presidents because of what he has done for the economy, John Daugherty, a plumbing contractor from South Carolina, said that if it is proven that Clinton lied, he would then change his opinion and hold that he should be impeached. His wife, Mary, agreed, adding that "he has lied before when he said he didn't have affairs with other women. You can't trust somebody if he's going to lie to you. If they lie in the private sector, they're going to lie in the public sector." Both had a deep awareness of their responsibilities to their children and of the teachings in the Bible. When the *St. Matthew's Gospel* text for the day was cited, they admitted that although Clinton is human and "we all make mistakes," a higher standard must be set "for those in the spotlight."

In a plea for forgiveness for the

President, the Clintons' pastor, the Rev. J. Philip Wogaman of Foundry Methodist Church in Washington had related on CNN's *Both Sides With Jesse Jackson* on Sunday how "King David had done something much worse than anything that President Clinton is alleged to have done and been forgiven." As proof of the need to be forgiving, the Rev. Jackson added that God had given Samson another chance after his being tempted by Delilah. "Yet, the special prosecutor, I suppose, would have locked him up." Whether Samson had lied to God under oath about his relationship with Delilah was not addressed by Jackson, who then hid himself to the White House for yet another photo-op with the one who has retired that trophy. He spoke later of his prayers with the "devoted" first family.

There was no report from the White House as to whether a long-time Clinton friend and supporter, Fr. Leo J. O'Donovan, S.J., the president of Georgetown University, had offered any advice or relayed the message of the day's Gospel.

In one of those unfathomable codas to an inexplicable day, a lone Hispanic woman sitting against the wrought iron fence held a large picture of the Sacred Heart and said, in broken English, that she "loves Clinton. I pray to Sacred Heart for Clinton. He's the same as young John Kennedy. God is good lawyer. He will help Clinton."

A sudden rain squall sent all but the media and the most determined spectators running for cover. Clinton had, of course, already lost his cover, and although admitting in the four-minute statement he read that evening that he took "complete responsibility for my actions," no one was surprised when he blamed the resulting scandal arising from those actions on the independent counsel.