

Msgr. John Urell

To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Good morning Monsignor

my response

[REDACTED]
Thank you for your email to me. I will call you on your car phone either today or tomorrow...and I will put you in my prayers immediately for all that you are going through at this time. May the Lord give you peace.

Msgr. John Urell sent 3/5/2002 @ 11:45am

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2002 9:10 AM
To: msgrjurell@rcbo.org
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Good morning Monsignor

this e-mail

It was disheartening to read about Father Mike Pecharich this morning in the Orange County Register.

However, I need to tell you that while sad, Father Mike behaved the same way towards me (sexually) when I attended St. Edwards church in Dana Point. I was a young boy and very afraid and thus never came forward.

On two separate occasions, I went to his parents cabin (with Father Mike and another priest) near Mountain High to work for the weekend. There were events that occurred that left me feeling ashamed and alone. I once tried to confide in my mother, but my words and thoughts were jumbled and she was unable to understand what I was saying.

Looking back, I am even more ashamed of myself as maybe more occurrences such as the ones that became public may never had happened.

I was raised Catholic, attended Catholic school (at St. James the Less in La Crescenta and Our Lady of Fatima in San Clemente), and was raised by devote Catholic parents. My father's story was an exceptional one as he grew up very poor and neglected, but because of the love of a priest (Father Roghan, who died many years back on Christmas Day/Eve), my father was prodded into turning his life around. Until the day Father Roghan died, my family stayed in touch with him. We loved him so very much!

Please know that I have not gone to Catholic church for many years and I was married in a Baptist church, which broke many families heart. This was due in part to my experiences as a young man in the Catholic church, most importantly the events that occurred with Father Mike.

Believe it or not though, I forgive Father Mike. I believe he has a weakness, and I knew in my heart that it would eventually lead to his expulsion from the church but am only surprised it took so long.

The saddest thing about all this, is that my mom loved Father Mike so much. It is breaking her heart. I told my mom what had happened to me and she too forgives him. My father on the other hand expected all along and once even threatened to kill Father Mike over what he "thought was happening." Fearing for the safety of Father Mike I never said a word, as my dad would have carried out his threat.

If he was alive today he would go after Father Mike. My father was an honorable man and true to his word.

Again, I forgive Father Mike, but know he needs some help. Please be sure he receives it as I believe his life is salvageable. Behind this sin, lies a good man. May the Lord lead and give you the wisdom of King Solomon during this difficult time.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

Please feel free to contact me... [REDACTED]