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SECRETARY FOR MINISTERIAL PERSONNEL

COPY

TO: The Congregation of the Passion
FROM: Sister Rita McCarthy, Co-Delegate of Cardinal Law
RE: Rev. Donald J. Keenan, CP
DATE: March 23, 1998

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came to the Boston Chancery on Saturday, March 21, 1998, at 10 a.m. to report a case of sexual abuse by a Passionist Father. The priest's name is Rev. Donald J. Keenan who was stationed in Malden, MA, in 1977 and later served at St. Anthony Parish in Revere, MA.

According to Father Keenan was a chaplain for either the police or fire department in Malden. However, no priest of the Archdiocese was officially assigned as such. After researching the case, the possibility of Father Keenan fulfilling this role became apparent. recalls that Father had a CLERGY card which he put on his car window whenever he wanted to park somewhere.

Father Keenan (according to had a sister named Anna who lived on Russell Park, off Russell Street, in Malden. Father used to take and another boy (who was retarded) to this home quite often. It seems that Father Keenan was friendly with parents and their 12 children.

said that his parents would never have believed him if he told them the things that Father was doing to him. was 13 years old at the time. Father often gave him liquor and money. He would take them to his sister's home where he would have and the other boy undress to use the sun lamp. Then Father would fondle and masturbate them, insisting they do the same to him.

parents thought that Father was trying to help him, so they never suspected anything. started getting into trouble, stealing and skipping school. He was known as a trouble maker. Only through his parents' insistence did he manage to graduate from n 1981.

continued in his deviant behavior spending time at Dartmouth, the House of Correction, Concord State, and a Halfway House in Norton. He ran from the Halfway House because a man there tried to do the same things to him that Father did. Every time that the question of abuse came up in his counseling sessions, he would close down or run away. Through his AA Program, which he entered into 3 months ago, he is finally ready to face the issue and receive counseling for it as part of his 4th Step. He is presently living with Mrs. whom he met at AA. She came with him for the interview, along with Bruce, his sponsor.

has not had much to do with his own family. He says they consider

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him a "bad apple." One sister befriends him and he sees her occasionally. seems very much like a little boy in a 34-year old body. He initially had great difficulty looking at me and talking during the interview. I asked to come in while I interviewed him. He relaxed after awhile and said that he would talk to me alone. He said that he was afraid of getting the priest into trouble, if he is still alive.

As is our policy, I offered counseling. This is why he came to the Chancery because he cannot afford to pay himself. He works at the Stop and Shop and has little money. He suggested a woman therapist might be helpful, since he now felt as ease talking to me about his problem. He and went over my list of therapists and indicated some that lived conveniently near their home.

I have a call in to an excellent therapist who works at Catholic Charities. The charge for our clients is minimal. If the Passionist Community wishes I could arrange to have the bills sent to them. The attached waiver could easily be adapted to your Community if so desired.