

MEMORANDUM

TO: File of Father Romano J. Ferraro
FROM: Monsignor Bevilacqua
DATE: January 7, 1977
RE: Rev. Romano J. Ferraro

REPORT OF - Rev. Douglas Brown

Conversation by phone with Father Francis McCormack, pastor of St. Joseph's, Kings Park, on January 7, 1977 provides the following information:

He has been working in St. Joseph's full time for 1 and 1/2 years-- receiving full salary and automobile allowance. Father McCormack also loaned him \$4400 to purchase a new car (\$3000 has since been paid back). There was no official check with our Chancery on his status. Father McCormack did speak with Fathers Martin Bannon and John Mahoney about him. Both Fathers Bannon and Mahoney advised Father McCormack of his difficulties. Father Mahoney indicated that according to Dr. Elbert, Father Ferraro's condition was cured and the Brooklyn diocese was considering reassignment upon Elbert's recommendation. Father Mahoney also indicated that since Father Ferraro was doing so well there it might be good for him to remain at St. Joseph's. Father McCormack informed Father Ferraro of his conversation with Father Mahoney and offered him the hospitality of St. Joseph as well as his own help and support should Father Ferraro feel the need.

Father Ferraro was told that he could not have youngsters in the rectory. The prohibition was violated on a number of occasions and he was confronted by Father McCormack.

While he was very popular in the parish and worked very hard, there were areas of irresponsibility (failure to lock doors, carelessness with money, etc.).

The incident leading to the discharge of Father Ferraro took place following a home Mass celebrated by Father Ferraro. After Mass Father Ferraro, according to the accusation, grabbed one of the young boys twice and then tried to engage 2 of the other boys in a conversation and discussion on their masturbatory practices. This was reported to Fathers McCormack and Freeman.

Upon confrontation by Fathers McCormack and Freeman, Father Ferraro denied having any recollection of this incident.

Father McCormack contacted Monsignor Bannon who recommended that the matter be brought to the attention of Father Brown.

Father Ferraro was dismissed from St. Joseph's on January 5, 1977 with the recommendation by Father McCormack that he call Father Brown.

Father Ferraro called Father Brown on January 6, 1977 and arranged an appointment for January 10, 1977 at 10:00 A. M. in the Personnel Office.