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January 27, 2004

Frederick Lenczycki R 27138
East Moline Correctional Center
100 Hillcrest Road
East Moline, IL 61244

Dear Fred,

Thanks for the letter you wrote me just before Christmas. I intended to write to you, but the holidays, as well as the holiday mail, prevented me from doing so. Then after you pleaded guilty I had to wait for an address for you. Deacon Chuck Peterson sent me your address.

Fred, first of all, I want to thank you for the sorrow and remorse you expressed in your December letter. I know the pain you have experienced over this whole situation. The newspapers were quick to point out that you did not express any remorse or regret at the time of your sentence. I know that your emotions would probably not allow you to say anything at that time and I also know the deep regret and remorse that you experience. Unfortunately, people who do not know you consider you as a hardened and unfeeling abuser. I know that is not the case.

As you probably know, the State's Attorney went after me pretty heavily, also. He accused me of moral failure in allowing you to be assigned to a parish in California where there are additional allegations by three young men. I was not aware of any of that until news of the allegations were reported several months ago. If they are true, I deeply regret that these things occurred after your therapy.

I do not know all of the details of the legal proceedings of the past several months. What is puzzling to me is that whatever information the State's Attorney had to convict you now, the State's Attorney also had in 1984 at the time of the situation. They were aware of what had taken place

January 27, 2004

2

and DCFS was also informed. The parents of the young men could have filed suit at the time, had they wished. If the State's Attorney office felt that a crime had been committed, they should have taken action at the time. I guess I just do not understand all of the legal ramifications and maneuvers.

I prayed so much for you in the days following your sentencing. I cannot imagine how traumatic it must have been to be imprisoned and to endure all that - that means.

Deacon Chuck Peterson and [REDACTED] both told me that they had seen you in Stateville. Hopefully their visit helped you. I do not know a great deal about East Moline, but I will find out something about it.

[REDACTED] wrote me and asked for your address, so I presume you will be hearing from him. Sister Camille did also.

Fred, I do not know if you want a visit from me or if such a visit would be allowed. In any case, I probably would not come until summertime, but if it is possible and if you wish, I could certainly come.

I pray that you will find some peace and comfort after you get settled in. I know that the Lord is not limited by prison walls and I am sure he will be present to you.

You are in my prayers each day and I know that you remember me also. A lot of people are praying for you. I am sure you know that.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Joseph L. Imesch
Bishop of Joliet