



Off (312) 642-1837

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
VICAR FOR PRIESTS
800 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 311
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610

TO: File (R. Goedert)

DATE: July 10, 1990

RE: Mark Holihan

1. Ken Velo called. He said that Mark has submitted his letter of resignation and also the article for the bulletin. The Cardinal OK'd the article, but would prefer that the post script be dropped. He asked Ken to run the letter by me just to see what I thought. Ken read it and while there were parts that I probably would prefer not be there, I was reluctant to edit Mark's article. However, his closing sentence did upset me, as it did Ken and we agreed that it ought to be deleted. Mark was suggesting that his actions were wrongly interpreted by others and perhaps he had taken the role of father too seriously. This sentence was underlined. It sounded a bit self-serving to me. It was almost as though Mark was denying any sexual impropriety and claiming that because he was so much of a father to the children, his behavior was misinterpreted. If I were a parent of one of the boys molested, I would be quite upset at that kind of a remark. I would feel that no good father would do to my child what he had done. We agreed that that sentence would be dropped.

2. Jim Mezydlo was in the office with Ken at the time and he got on the phone. I suggested to Jim that he speak at all the Masses before he introduces the missionary preacher and simply make reference to three things:

1. The fact that Mark has submitted his resignation,
2. Request the people to read Mark's article in today's bulletin,
3. That if people wish to be in touch with Mark they may write to him at the rectory and Jim will see to it that the letters are forwarded to Mark.

3. This last item is what is in the post script and the Cardinal would prefer that it not be said that way. Mark had indicated that because he would be moving his things out over a period of weeks he will be in and out of the rectory and if people wish to contact him there they could. We do not want Mark around the rectory any more than necessary and we certainly don't want to call people's attention to it, as those whose children were involved again would be very upset if they do not think we are taking the whole matter seriously.