

File
M. F. B.

BISHOP'S HOUSE
52 WILLIAMS ST.
BURLINGTON, VERMONT

February 14
19 58

The Most Reverend Matthew F. Brady, D.D.
657 River Road
Manchester, New Hampshire

Your Excellency:

Only this week I learned from Father Omer Dufault that Father Sullivan, about whom we corresponded several months ago, has been staying with him at Morrisville since about the first of this year.

I have no objection to that, if you do not, but want you to know that he has been given no faculties, and that he says Mass privately, never for the parish, even while Father Dufault was sick. Apparently, Father Dufault is only giving him shelter as a friendly act. If that does not conform with any directions you have given Father Sullivan, please let us know.

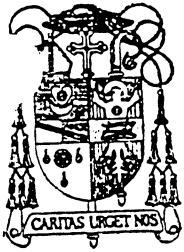
Could you tell me whether there is the practice of dispensing students from the Lenten fast in secular colleges, because of the difficulties in dining halls, fraternity houses, etc.? I never heard of it, but was told recently that it is done in some parts of the country.

Hoping you are well and that you will get a Florida vacation (I had two weeks there), and asking God's blessings for you and your work, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Robert F. Joyce*
Bishop of Burlington.

Answered
Feb. 20, 1958
+ M. F. B.

File

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF STEUBENVILLE
 422 WASHINGTON STREET
 P. O. Box 969
 STEUBENVILLE, OHIO

February 17, 1958

My dear Bishop Brady:

One of your priests, Father J. E. Sullivan, has written me asking an opportunity to serve in this diocese. He has explained fully his predicament, and asks merely that he be allowed to come here to work on trial.

I realize that you are not in a position to recommend Father Sullivan, but I write this letter to inquire whether or not you would have any objections to my allowing Father Sullivan the opportunity of a trial.

Thanking you for your kind graciousness of the matter of this communication, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ John Paul Mursio
 Bishop of Steubenville

His Excellency
 Most Reverend Matthew F. Brady, L.D.
 Bishop of Manchester
 657 River Road
 Manchester, New Hampshire

*Answered 1/58
 Feb. 24 '58
 + MFB.*

A

February 24, 1958

His Excellency
Most Rev. James J. Sweeney, D.D.
Bishop of Honolulu
1184 Bishop Street
Honolulu 13, T. H.

Dear Bishop Sweeney:

It is good of you to consider the case of Father John T. Sullivan for whom I have profound sympathy. Naturally, he may go with my blessing to any Bishop who is willing to receive him. His possible usefulness in any section of the diocese is at an end.

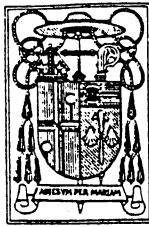
My conscience will not allow me to recommend him to any Bishop and I feel that every inquiring Bishop should know some of the circumstances that range from parenthood, through violation of the Mann Act, attempted suicide and abortion.

Father Fitzgerald of Via Coeli would accept him only as a permanent guest to help save his soul but with no hope of recommending him to a Bishop. He considers him a schizophrenic and from experience believes that a new diocese would only mean new pastures.

With most cordial good wishes, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF HONOLULU
CHANCERY OFFICE

1184 BISHOP STREET
HONOLULU 13. T. H.

5979

February 12, 1958

His Excellency
Most Reverend Matthew F. Brady, D.D.
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop Brady:

A Father J. T. Sullivan of the Diocese of Manchester wrote to me, asking to be affiliated with the Diocese of Honolulu or at least to give him a trial here. However, before communicating with him in any way, I would like your advice and if you think there is a strong hope for rehabilitation.

With every kind wish, I remain

Faithfully yours,

+ James J. Sweeney

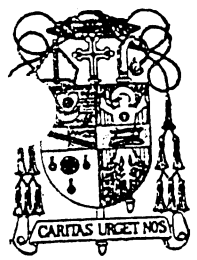
JAMES J. SWEENEY
Bishop of Honolulu

JJS:tnm

*Usual letter - Send it to
me and I shall sign it.
+ M.F.B.*

7. 11. 1953

5980



DIOCESE OF STEUBENVILLE
422 WASHINGTON STREET
P. O. Box 969
STEUBENVILLE, OHIO

February 26, 1953

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

My dear Bishop Brady:

I am most grateful to you for your frank and kind letter in reference to Father Sullivan. I understand your position, and appreciate all the more your concern for this unfortunate priest.

I shall consider prayerfully his petition and let you know what I have decided. If he is really sincere, I should like to give him a chance in this small diocese where we can watch him closely.

Again thanking you for your understanding and gracious reply to my inquiry, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *John Paul Massio*
Bishop of Steubenville

His Excellency
Most Reverend Matthew T. Brady
Bishop of Manchester
257 River Road
Manchester, New Hampshire

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST RECTORY
72 SOUTH MAIN STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

5981

March 2, 1958

Most Rev. Matthew F. Brady, D. D.
Bishop of Manchester
Manchester, N. H.

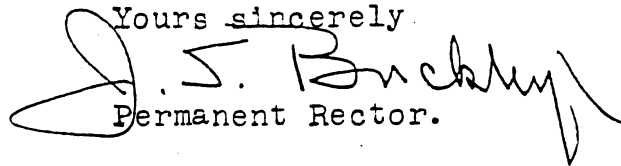
Your Excellency:

I believe it is my duty to give you
the following information.

Some time before Christmas I told Father John Sullivan that while I had been glad to give him the hospitality of the Rectory for his own welfare and the peace of mind of his good mother the situation could not continue indefinitely. He asked to remain until after Christmas when he planned to visit Father Dufault and then make arrangements to go to Via Coeli. He left here the Sunday following Christmas to go to Morrisville, Vt. As far as I know he is still there. I have not seen or heard from him since that time.

With respectful best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,


Permanent Rector.

J. I. Sullivan

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST RECTORY
72 SOUTH MAIN STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

5982

March 2, 1958

Most Rev. Matthew F. Brady, D. D.
Bishop of Manchester
Manchester, N. H.

Your Excellency:

I believe it is my duty to give you
the following information.

Some time before Christmas I told Father
John Sullivan that while I had been glad to give him the
hospitality of the Rectory for his own welfare and the peace
of mind of his good mother the situation could not continue
indefinitely. He asked to remain until after Christmas when
he planned to visit Father Dufault and then make arrangements
to go to Via Coeli. He left here the Sunday following
Christmas to go to Morrisville, Vt. As far as I know he is
still there. I have not seen or heard from him since that
time.

With respectful best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely

J. S. Buckley
Permanent Rector.

March 6, 1958

His Excellency
Most Rev. Thomas A. Connolly, D. D.
Archbishop of Seattle
907 Terry Avenue
Seattle 4, Washington

Dear Archbishop Connolly:

It is good of you to consider the case of Father John T. Sullivan for whom I have profound sympathy. Naturally, he may go with my blessing to any Bishop who is willing to receive him. His possible usefulness in any section of the diocese is at an end.

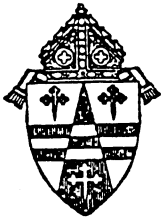
My conscience will not allow me to recommend him to any Bishop and I feel that every inquiring Bishop should know some of the circumstances that range from parenthood, through violation of the Mann Act, attempted suicide and abortion.

Father Fitzgerald of Via Coeli would accept him only as a permanent guest to help save his soul but with no hope of recommending him to a Bishop. He considers him a schizophrenic and from experience believes that a new diocese would only mean new pastures.

With most cordial good wishes, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

907 TERRY AVENUE
SEATTLE 4, WASHINGTON

February 26, 1958

IN REPLYING REFER TO

810/258

5984

His Excellency
Most Rev. Matthew F. Brady, D.D.
657 River Road
Manchester
New Hampshire

Dear Bishop Brady:

I recently received a letter from Father J. T. Sullivan in which he volunteered for service in the Archdiocese of Seattle. He explained in a rather general fashion the reasons that prompted his petition but before communicating with him further in the matter, I would appreciate having your estimate of his general moral character and habits.

I am interested in knowing particularly whether or not the predicament in which he finds himself at the moment was occasioned by a single set of circumstances or whether his conduct has been open to criticism for the same reason during the years of his priesthood.

I would deeply appreciate your helpfulness in enabling me to form a judgment in the matter.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Thomas A. Connolly
Archbishop of Seattle

March 18, 1958

His Excellency
Most Rev. Allen J. Babcock, D.D.
Bishop of Grand Rapids
265 Sheldon Ave., S. E.
Grand Rapids 3, Michigan

Dear Allen,

It is good of you to consider the case of Father John T. Sullivan for whom I have profound sympathy. Naturally, he may go with my blessing to any Bishop who is willing to receive him. His possible usefulness in any section of the diocese is at an end.

My conscience will not allow me to recommend him to any Bishop and I feel that every inquiring Bishop should know some of the circumstances that range from parenthood, through violation of the Mann Act, attempted suicide and abortion.

Father Fitzgerald of Via Coeli would accept him only as a permanent guest to help save his soul but with no hope of recommending him to a Bishop. He considers him a schizophrenic and from experience believes that a new diocese would only mean new pastures.

With most cordial personal good wishes, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

GRAND RAPIDS 3, MICHIGAN

March 13 1958

Most Rev. Matthew Brady S.D.
Manchester N. H.

Dear Matt:

A ~~friend~~ J. T. Sullivan wrote me the full story of his difficulties in the priesthood and of his desire to reestablish himself as a good priest. I am desperate for priests and am considering giving him a chance. Do you think he can be relied upon for making an honest effort? He told me you would have no objection to his finding a Bishop who would give him work.

I would appreciate your opinion about this.

I hope this finds you well. Reports indicate you had a heavy winter.

Kindest regards.

Cordially yours,

+ Allen J. Babcock



5887

Arzobispado de la Habana

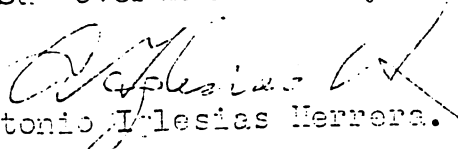
La Habana, 31 de enero de 1958.

Most. Rev. Matthew F. Brady,
Manchester.
Estados Unidos.-

Muy Reverendo Señor:
al Eminentísimo Señor Cardenal recibí
la carta de fecha 16 de los corrientes relacionada con el
"caso Sullivan".

Su Eminencia me ordena manifestarle
que vió con todo interés dicho caso, aunque lamenta tener
que comunicarle que de momento al menos no existen posibili-
dades de encontrar en esta Arquidiócesis un oficio acomodo-
ado a las circunstancias. El agradece sumamente los buenos
deseos de colaboración en las labores de la Arquidiócesis y
me encarga le trasmita a Su Reverencia y a él una especial
Bendición.

De Su Reverencia afno y s.f.


Antonio Iglesias Herrera.

No. 1154-58

November 11, 1958

Present address of

Rev. John T. Sullivan
Parish of the Holy Spirit
2164 Lake Michigan Drive, N. W.
Grand Rapids 4, Michigan

DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

265 SHELDON AVENUE S. E.
GRAND RAPIDS 2, MICHIGAN

Rev. John T. Sullivan
St. Patrick's Rectory
812 Fulton St.
Grand Haven, Michigan

Reverend and dear Father:

It looks as if the time has come when we no longer can use your services in the diocese. Without attempting to place the blame on anyone you have been unable to live peacefully with three of our pastors. I cannot find another who is willing to have you as an assistant. Perhaps your new Bishop in Manchester will be willing to help you.

I had hoped that we could help you rehabilitate yourself but maybe the mentality of priests in the midwest is different from that of priests back east.

I hereby withdraw the faculties of the diocese upon the receipt of this letter by you and ask that you leave the diocese without delay.

Thanking you for your work here and asking God's blessing for you, I am,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Allen J. Babcock
Bishop of Grand Rapids

March 24,
1960

DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

265 SHELDON AVENUE S. E.
GRAND RAPIDS 2, MICHIGAN

5990

Rev. John T. Sullivan
St. Patrick's Rectory
812 Fulton St.
Grand Haven, Michigan

Reverend and dear Father:

It looks as if the time has come when we no longer can use your services in the diocese. Without attempting to place the blame on anyone you have been unable to live peaceably with three of our pastors. I cannot find another who is willing to have you as an assistant. Perhaps your new Bishop in Manchester will be willing to help you.

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Thanking you for your work here and asking God's blessing for you, I am,

Yours sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend Allen J. Babcock
Bishop of Grand Rapids

March 24,
1960

Villa Redeemer



PHONES

GLENVIEW, ILLINOIS

March 29, 1960

CHICAGO
COrnelia 7-323SUBURBAN
PArk 4-0425

Most Reverend Ernest Primeau, D. D.
Chancery Office
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, N. H.

Your Excellency:

This letter will not carry to you all the things that it would please me to state. However, I will attempt to bring out the most important matters trusting that a personal interview can be arranged whereby other important details relative to my case might be discussed in detail.

The Manchester Chancery contains the just and weighty reasons for which the late good Bishop Brady suspended me. Such an action taken by him, I know, was most painful yet I realize that he was forced into it for the good of souls. It is only the Rev. O. L. Dufault, classmate and pastor of Holy Cross Church, Morrisville, Vt., who is completely aware of the difficulty I had in procuring a Bishop and it was only he who witnessed my self-inflicted suffering during the lengthy time of my suspension and the determination I had in proving myself a good priest with the strong resolve of rehabilitating myself.

It was after a year and a half of priestly inactivity that I was finally accepted into the diocese of Grand Rapids through the intercession of the late Cardinal Mooney. This invitation came to me from Bishop Babcock in March of 1958. Upon my arrival into the diocese of Grand Rapids until my dismissal this past week, I saw him only once. During that time I was given three assignments and now I find myself in difficulty once more as the enclosed letter will indicate (kindly save).

Upon my dismissal from the diocese of Grand Rapids, I acquainted the Rev. C. G. Nugent with my problem. He is a diocesan priest in the same diocese, who, in turn, directed me to his brother, the Reverend Father Liguori, C. SS. R., Rector of Villa Redeemer, Glenview, Illinois.

This afternoon Father Liguori arranged an interview for me with the Most Rev. Raymond Hillinger, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago. After having discussed my difficulty with His Excellency, he advised me to write you for an appointment; that

Villa Redeemer



PHONES

GLENVIEW, ILLINOIS

CHICAGO
Cormelia 7-323
SUBURBAN
Park 4-0425

Needless to say Bishop, this blow has caused me much pain and much unrest. Presently, I am not too well as it was only two weeks this time that I underwent surgery and was advised by my physican to go slow for six weeks. Even this did not hamper my priestly work. However, in the excitement and strain of the packing of my personal belongings such caused my incision to weep and therefore, I will remain at the Villa until this condition rights itself.

It certainly would give me a tremendous amount of pleasure and great happiness to be able to discuss this matter with you in detail as I feel that this letter is a far cry from a full explanation of the case. In closing, might I add, that the late Bishop Brady, about a month or so before his death, mention to a priest in the Manchester Diocese that he "was thinking seriously of recalling me to my own diocese."

Praying that His Excellency will have a most fruitful and happy stay in the diocese of Manchester and assuring His Excellency that whatever decision he arrives at will be 'God's Holy Will' and whatever that is that is what I will want to do.

With every sincere warm wish I remain,

Obediently yours in Christ,

Rev. J. J. Sullivan

Villa Redeemer



PHONE:

CHICAGO
Cormelia 7-323
SUBURBAN
Park 4-0425

GLENVIEW, ILLINOIS

Needless to say Bishop, this blow has caused me much pain and much unrest. Presently, I am not too well as it was only two weeks this time that I underwent surgery and was advised by my physican to go slow for six weeks. Even this did not hamper my priestly work. However, in the excitement and strain of the packing of my personal belongings such caused my incision to weep and therefore, I will remain at the Villa until this condition rights itself.

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Praying that His Excellency will have a most fruitful and happy stay in the diocese of Manchester and assuring His Excellency that whatever decision he arrives at will be 'God's Holy Will' and whatever that is that is what I will want to do.

With every sincere warm wish I remain,

Obediently yours in Christ,

(Rev) J. A. Redemptorist

April 1, 1960

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Charles W. Popell, Chancellor
Diocese of Grand Rapids
265 Sheldon Ave., S. E.
Grand Rapids 3, Michigan

Dear Monsignor Popell:

We have received word from Father John T. Sullivan of this diocese who has been working in Grand Rapids to the effect that he has been released by Bishop Babcock. Since he has written to our new Bishop about this, I have been directed to ask for details of his conduct and the reasons for his discharge. Will you please send these at your earliest convenience.

With regret that New Hampshire could not do better by Michigan and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry,
Chancellor

DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

265 SHELDON AVENUE, S. E.
GRAND RAPIDS 2, MICHIGAN

5995

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry, Chancellor
Diocese of Manchester
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, N. H.

Dear Monsignor Hansberry:

Your files, I am sure, will give the history of Father John T. Sullivan up to the time he requested work in this diocese in 1958. Because of dire need for priests and because Father Sullivan had been recommended by a priest with whom he had been living for over a year, I gave him an opportunity of rehabilitating himself. He had three different appointments in the year and a half he was with us, but he could not get along with any of the three Pastors to whom he was assigned. I honestly believe Father Sullivan is a psychopath. He makes a very good impression. He seems to be sincere in his efforts to amend the past, but his judgment is far from what is desirable. I honestly do not think he is aware of the disturbing influence that he is in a parish and in the rectory. Someone else is always to blame, not he. While nothing of an immoral nature came out in the open while he was with us, there were indications of danger of this in his conduct with children.

The above is a conscientious analysis of his time with us. I have no bitter feeling toward Father Sullivan but feel obliged to write to you as I have in regard to him. If there is any further information you desire, please do not hesitate to write.

With kindest personal regards to you and my sincere good wishes to Bishop Primeau, I am

Yours most sincerely in Christ,

Allen F. Bebeau
Bishop of Grand Rapids

April 4,
1960

J. J. Hansberry

5995

April 19, 1960

4/18/60

His Excellency
Most Rev. Allen J. Babcock, D.D.
Bishop of Grand Rapids
265 Sheldon Avenue, S. E.
Grand Rapids 2, Michigan

*Bishop Primeau had
a phone call from the
Villa Redeman about
Fr. Sullivan and gave
permission for him to
come home to visit his
mother -
J. J. H.*

Dear Bishop Babcock:

Allow me to thank you most sincerely
for your letter concerning Father John
T. Sullivan. I have given it to Bishop
Primeau who will take care of the matter.

With appreciation and best wishes,

I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry
Chancellor

June 10, 1960

Rev. John T. Sullivan
166 Rumford Street
Concord, N. H.

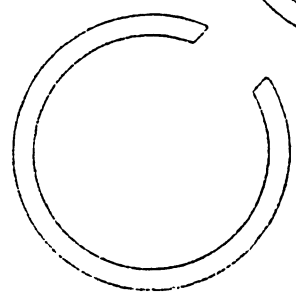
Dear Father Sullivan:

Would you kindly come in to see me on
Friday, June 17th, at 11:15 A.M.

With warmest personal good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester



On way home from Mass - Feast of ~~St. John~~
 Priest sat in sanctuary -
 Called to her - "Are you waiting for Mass?"
 Walked home - Can show by - turned
 around, came back - asked name + of
 any vocation. Offered with home - He walked
 into house - talk - looked at paintings -
 talked of Carmelites - He didn't give his name -
 Her sister + brother @ home - Mentioned his
 name as Fr. Sullivan -

(Anna. Hunt).

Saw him three times later on way home
 from church - She gone for a walk - Saw him
 last week - He came to house - talked of
 Carmelites - said he had studied to be doctor -
 to her - priest, doctor, father + friend -
 asked about her health - spoke her to request my
 touched her near heart - ^{she said "He's thin"}
 by name -

Visited Carmel -

Brought her home - Riding one night -

Saw her every day Tue - Sun -

Brought her to house on Monday -

+ then to Marlborough -
 stopped on side road -

Tue + Wed

Monday -

Made love to her - Molested her sister.

CHANCERY OFFICE
145 LOWELL STREET
MANCHESTER, N. H.

August 19, 1960

On this day, Bishop Primeau interviewed Father John T. Sullivan concerning his request for an assignment in the diocese. He told him it would not be possible because of his past history and present involvements. He gave Father Sullivan permission to spend two weeks seeking a benevolent Bishop who might accept him. After that period, he is to go to Via Coeli or some other institution of its type or be laicized.

Father Sullivan was informed by Bishop Primeau that the diocese would not give him a recommendation.

Thomas A. Hausling

• Chancellor

August 18, 1960

1. The Dean of Cheshire County, Father F. J. Maney, called at the Chancery Office on Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 P.M. on a confidential matter which he felt must be known by the Chancery. He stated that his mission was personally distasteful to him but felt it a matter of duty since he is the Dean of his area.
2. The gist of his information as given to Father Olkovikas is this:
 - a) Tuesday evening, August 16, 1960, a young lady called on Father Desclos, curate at St. Bernard Keene and complained that ~~she had been molested~~ by a priest now residing in the Concord area. She added further that her younger sister had also been so molested in the recent past. The girl making this complaint is seventeen years old. She stated that the accused priest told her that he would soon be settled in this state; that he was also a doctor and that he would explain to her the facts of life.
 - b) Father Desclos informed his pastor who is also the Dean of Cheshire because the girl wanted to register this complaint. Father Maney said that the girl is willing to come to the Chancery Office to make her complaint but is nevertheless somewhat fearful about doing so. Father Maney thinks that this girl will, however, present herself to the Chancery Office within a week.
 - c) The name of the girl-plaintiff is not yet known by the Chancery Office because Father Maney took pains not to inquire -- he felt that she should identify herself when she makes her formal complaint to the Chancery. It appears that Father Desclos knows the name of this person.
 - d) The name of the Accused priest: Fr. John T. Sullivan.

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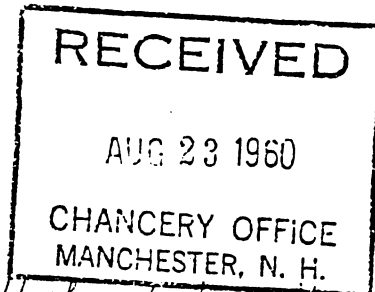
F. W. Olkovikas

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH
180 LOUDON ROAD
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

6004

August 21, 1960

Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Hannesberry
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, N. H.



Dear Tom,

Thank you for your interested and discreet telephone call of yesterday. In your request I am enclosing the facts of the case which were prepared for me by Father Doud and opened in the presence of Fr. Sullivan and [REDACTED] at a meeting after the enjoyable day we had together at Camps Fatima and Bernadette.

Fr. Sullivan admitted every fact as given by [REDACTED] and written down for my information by Fr. Doud. Early into the morning, I talked with Father Sullivan and expressed my sincere regret that he used such poor judgement in the parish. I advised that he see an excellent psychiatrist as he was mentally sick, and I told him as I was not his confessor, I thought as a pastor that he had used poor judgement; which he had used before.

The fourteen year old daughter, which is the younger sister of the girl being entertained by Father Sullivan was greatly shocked at being "tangere vel tentare", by him on a couch. The mother is unaware of Fr. Sullivan's past add as her oldest daughter is supposed to be entering the convent in the fall felt as she did.

These are all the facts that I am able to give you. Fr. Sullivan's mother and sister told me after Mass this morning that he had left for the West and I have advised Fr. Doud of your direction from the Bishop regarding his presence in the parish.

May I assure you that I have been very generous to Fr. Sullivan financially and I have done all I could to help him and am quite disturbed that he should tie-up with this new family who just moved into the parish.

Thank you for your confidence and interest and I await any further advice that you or the Bishop wish to convey to me.

Sincerely yours in the interest of the Priesthood and awaiting your further advice, I remain,

your grateful friend
Ditch

Rev. Richard O. Boner
Pastor

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH
15 GATES STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

6003

On Tuesday I was approached in the afternoon by a [redacted] relative to her son's being placed in an orphanage. Later she called me and told me that Fr. Sullivan had been seeing quite a bit of her daughter and that he ~~th~~ had been taking her out and keeping her quite late. She felt that although there was nothing intrinsically wrong that it did not look good for her daughter or for Fr. Sullivan. She explained that also he had been taking her daughter home after Mass in the morning. One morning when they overslept ~~xxx~~ she drove her daughter to church at about 8:30AM and that they had passed Fr. Sullivan at the barber shop down the road. The daughter said that he had been waiting for her. She could not understand why he waited there. On another occasion (the previous Sunday) she said that he had called when she was supposed to have been ~~at~~ at the hospital, she delayed purposely and when answering the phone he mentioned that he thought she was to be out.

She also told me that he had been at the house several times when she had been out, and that she did not think this looked right at all.

She mentioned that he had been at the house when her younger 14 year old daughter was there and that something had happened which greatly disturbed the child. She did not wish to say what over the phone.

I told her that I would call Fr. Boner and ask his advice as she had asked. I spoke with Father and he agreed that the mother's original idea of forbidding her daughter to see Fr. Sullivan or to have him at the house would be the best thing. I called [redacted] and she came to the rectory where I simply told her what Fr. Boner had said.

She told me that her daughter was then in Keene with her Father and that her father was to be away and that she thought Fr. Sullivan was going up to see the daughter there from a conversation he had had on the phone with [redacted]. She asked me what she should do. I told her that if she could she would be wise to have her daughter come home or to call her and tell her not to see Fr. Sullivan for the sake of both of their reputations. I agreed with her that although there was ~~not~~ nothing bad going on that it did not look right for appearances sake for them to be seen together so frequently.

In a later conversation she mentioned that one one occasion Fr. Sullivan and her daughter had gone out in the early afternoon and were to have gone to a live-in that evening, but that upon questioning her daughter when she got home she found ~~that~~ that they did not go so and that they only rode around all day ~~until~~ ^{late in the} evening.

Today (August 18) I replied to a message left by [redacted] with the answering service. She told me that Fr. Sullivan had been over to see her and wondered why her daughter had not been at home and ~~why~~ she told him that she

thought that it was best that they did not see each other. She explained that she had received this advice from Fr. Boner. She called me because she ~~felt~~ said that Fr. Sullivan had called Fr. Boner and seemed to think that he had called [redacted] and not that [redacted] had contacted him. [redacted] had not mentioned that Fr. Doud was the one through whom she received the ~~message~~ advice from Fr. Boner---perhaps because I had presented the advice as coming directly from Father Boner which was what she had sought. She told me that Fr. Sullivan had agreed not to see her daughters again or to come to the house.

[redacted] phone number is [redacted]

(Rev.) *Karl [unclear]*

RECEIVED
AUG 23 1960
CHANCERY OFFICE
MANCHESTER, N. H.

September 20, 1960

Rev. John A. Lee, S.P., Superior
Our Lady of the Snow (Via Coeli)
Route 2
Nevis, Minn.

Dear Father Lee:

Allow me to thank you most sincerely for your letter of September 16th concerning Rev. John T. Sullivan of this diocese. I am pleased to know that he has sought refuge at Via Coeli, although he did this of his own accord and was not assigned there by diocesan authority. I note that you speak of possible week-end work for him. May I suggest that you use extreme caution in giving him such assignments. His past history is such that my predecessor, Bishop Brady, would not recommend him to any Bishop and he recently left the diocese under a dark cloud after becoming involved with two young girls.

Father Sullivan's case was referred to Father Gerald at Via Coeli in New Mexico in 1957 and he said that he would be "willing to shelter Father with a program that will help him save his immortal soul — but it should not be with any hope that he will be recommended to another Bishop even after he has spent some months with us." Bishop Brady felt that "the only possible solution of his case seemed — that he become a permanent guest at Via Coeli or that he be laicized."

I suggest that you consult Father Gerald about the 1957 correspondence between him and Bishop Brady concerning Father Sullivan. You may add to this a continuing history of escapades with young girls since that time. These have occurred even during the time that we were trying to assist him in getting back on his feet.

The diocese will be pleased to assume the cost of Father's board and room at Via Coeli, so I suggest that you bill the Chancery periodically. If there is any further information you wish to have, please let me know.

With appreciation and most cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

OUR LADY OF THE SNOW

6008

Route 2 — Nevis, Minnesota

Servants of the Paraclete

(Via Coeli)

Phone — Park Rapids 410

September 16, 1960.

His Excellency,
The Most Rev. Ernest J. Primeau, D.D.,
Bishop of Manchester,
145 Lowell Street,
Manchester, New Hampshire.

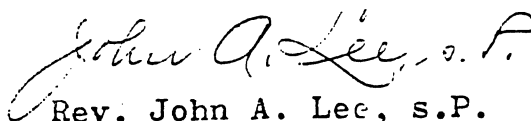
Your Excellency:

The Rev. John T. Sullivan, a priest of the Diocese of Manchester, arrived here on September 9. He now feels more at home and follows our daily program very well. He seems to be happy but most anxious to be active in his priestly work. With the vacation season over, our calls for help over the weekend are few. I pray he will not become discontented.

Father has told me his story and I feel a kind sympathy for him. Whatever his difficulty we shall try to help him and, if possible, secure him an appointment in parish work. From what he told me I judge there has been a personality problem which causes resentment in others. It would be very helpful if Your Excellency would give me a few suggestions and perhaps the psychiatrist whom Father tells me he consulted on Your Excellency's advice might be able to help also.

Asking Your Excellency's Blessing,
I am,

Your servant in the Holy Spirit,



Rev. John A. Lee, s.P.
sup'r.

September 20, 1960

Rev. John T. Sullivan
Our Lady of the Snow
Route 2
Nevis, Minn.

Dear Father Sullivan:

Thank you for your good letter telling me of your arrival at Via Coeli in Minnesota. I am pleased to know that you arrived safely and I shall be interested to learn of your progress there.

I shall continue to remember you at ~~Mass~~ and in my prayers and will contact Father Fitzgerald about financial arrangements during your stay at Nevis.

With a blessing and most cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

OUR LADY OF THE SNOW

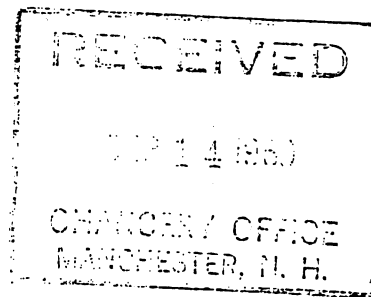
6010

Servants of the Paraclete

(Via Coeli)

Route 2 — Nevis, Minnesota

Most Reverend Ernest J. Primeau, S. T. D.
745 Lowell Street
Manchester, New Hampshire.



Your Excellency:

The late Father Liguori Nugent, C. S. S. R., who dropped dead September 3rd, and who had been rector of Villa Redeemer, in Glenview, Illinois, had arranged an appointment for me with the Reverend Joseph Hill, S. P., rector of the Paraclete Fathers at West 19th Street, Chicago. After having spent two days with him contact had been made with Father Fitzgerald, S. P., Superior General of the Paraclete Fathers, at Jemez Springs. It was, at his instructions, that I was to report to the Superior of Our Lady of Snow, at Nevis. This I did yesterday.

I am most grateful to you for your patience, advice, understanding and sincerely ask for a place in your prayers each day for my intentions. I do hope that your stay in Manchester will be long and most fruitful as both the priests and the laity look upon you with much love, esteem and admiration.

With every personal good wish I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

(Rev.) J. T. Sullivan
(Rev.) J. T. Sullivan

ote: After his suspension in July, 1956 (he had been previously suspended in June, 1952), Father Sullivan made application to some 17 dioceses in the hope of continuing his ministry elsewhere.

- I. " From our long experience with characters of this type, and without passing judgment on the individual, most of these men would be clinically classified as schizophrenic. Their repentance and amendment is superficial and, if not formally at least sub-consciously, is motivated by a desire to be again in a position where they can continue their wonted activity. A new diocese means only green pastures. To sum up: we are willing to shelter Father with a program that will help him save his own immortal soul . . . but it should not be with any hope that he will be recommended to another Bishop even after he has spent some months with us."
— (Sept. 26, 1957) Father Gerald (Via Coeli) to Bishop Brady
- II. " At this particular time I feel that I am unable to accept the offer of Father Fitzgerald. However, I am very grateful to him for his kindness in willing to help me and also to you for writing to him. I have been advised to seek a diocese "
— (Oct. 5, 1957) Rev. J. T. Sullivan to Bishop Brady
- III. " I beg to acknowledge your kind inquiry relative to Father John T. Sullivan of this diocese. I have strong doubts as to his possible reform. The only possible solution of his case seemed to me that he become a permanent guest at Via Coeli or that he be laicized. "
— (Oct. 28, 1957) Bishop Brady to Archbishop Rummel, New Orleans
- IV. " It is good of you to consider the case of Father John T. Sullivan for whom I have profound sympathy His possible usefulness in any section of the diocese is at an end. My conscience will not allow me to recommend him to any Bishop and I feel that every inquiring Bishop should know some of the circumstances that range from parenthood, through violation of the Mann Act, attempted suicide and abortion. Father Fitzgerald (Via Coeli) . . . considers him a schizophrenic and from experience believes that a new diocese would only mean new pastures. "
— (Mar. 18, 1958) Bishop Brady to Bishop Babcock, Grand Rapids
- V. " Because of the dire need for priests and because Father Sullivan had been recommended by a priest with whom he had been living for over a year, I gave him an opportunity of rehabilitating himself. He had three different appointments in the year and a half he was with us, but he could not get along with any of the three Pastors to whom he was assigned. I honestly believe Father Sullivan is a psychopath. He makes a very good impression. He seems to be sincere in his efforts to amend the past but his judgment is far from what is desirable. I honestly do not think he is aware of the disturbing influence he is in a parish and in the rectory. Someone else is always to blame, not he. While nothing of an immoral nature came out in the open while he was with us, there were indications of danger of this in his conduct with children. "
— (April 4, 1960) Bishop Babcock to Bishop Primeau, Manchester

EXCERPTED COMMENTS IN THE CASE OF THE REV. JOHN T. SULLIVAN

Note: After his suspension in July, 1956 (he had been previously suspended in June, 1952), Father Sullivan made application to some 17 dioceses in the hope of continuing his ministry elsewhere.

I. " From our long experience with characters of this type, and without passing judgment on the individual, most of these men would be clinically classified as schizophrenic. Their repentance and amendment is superficial and, if not formally at least sub-consciously, is motivated by a desire to be again in a position where they can continue their wonted activity. A new diocese means only green pastures. To sum up: we are willing to shelter Father with a program that will help him save his own immortal soul . . . but it should not be with any hope that he will be recommended to another Bishop even after he has spent some months with us."
— (Sept. 26, 1957) Father Gerald (Via Coeli) to Bishop Brady

II. " At this particular time I feel that I am unable to accept the offer of Father Fitzgerald. However, I am very grateful to him for his kindness in willing to help me and also to you for writing to him. I have been advised to seek a diocese"
— (Oct. 5, 1957) Rev. J. T. Sullivan to Bishop Brady

III. " I beg to acknowledge your kind inquiry relative to Father John T. Sullivan of this diocese. I have strong doubts as to his possible reform. The only possible solution of his case seemed to me that he become a permanent guest at Via Coeli or that he be laicized. "
— (Oct. 28, 1957) Bishop Brady to Archbishop Rummel, New Orleans

IV. " It is good of you to consider the case of Father John T. Sullivan for whom I have profound sympathy His possible usefulness in any section of the diocese is at an end. My conscience will not allow me to recommend him to any Bishop and I feel that every inquiring Bishop should know some of the circumstances that range from parenthood, through violation of the Mann Act, attempted suicide and abortion. Father Fitzgerald (Via Coeli) . . . considers him a schizophrenic and from experience believes that a new diocese would only mean new pastures."
— (Mar. 18, 1958) Bishop Brady to Bishop Babcock, Grand Rapids

V. " Because of the dire need for priests and because Father Sullivan had been recommended by a priest with whom he had been living for over a year, I gave him an opportunity of rehabilitating himself. He had three different appointments in the year and a half he was with us, but he could not get along with any of the three Pastors to whom he was assigned. I honestly believe Father Sullivan is a psychopath. He makes a very good impression. He seems to be sincere in his efforts to amend the past but his judgment is far from what is desirable. I honestly do not think he is aware of the disturbing influence he is in a parish and in the rectory. Someone else is always to blame, not he. While nothing of an immoral nature came out in the open while he was with us, there were indications of danger of this in his conduct with children."
— (April 4, 1960) Bishop Babcock to Bishop Primeau, Manchester

1 " From our long experience with characters of this type, and without passing judgment on the individual, most of these men would be 6013

initially classified as schizophrenic. Their repentance and amendment is superficial and, if not formally at least sub-consciously is motivated by a desire to be again in a position where they can continue their wonted activity. A new diocese means only given pastures. To sum up: we are willing to shelter Father with a program that will help him save his own immortal soul. ... but it should not be with any hope that he will be recommended to another Bishop even after he has spent some months with

1) 9/26/57 Fr. Gerald, Via Coeli to Bishop Brady of Marshfield

2) " I beg to acknowledge your kind inquiry relative to Father John J. Sullivan of this diocese. I have strong doubts as to his possible reform. The only possible solution of his case seemed to me that he become a permanent guest at Via Coeli or that he be ~~transferred~~ laicized.

10/28/57 Matthew F. Brady, Bishop of Marshfield to Archbishop Rummel, New Orleans

" At this particular time I feel that I am unable to accept the offer of Father Fitzgerald. However, I am very grateful to him for his goodness in willing to help me and also to you for writing to him.

2) I have been advised to seek a diocese.

10/5/57 Rev. J. T. Sullivan to Bp. Brady of Marshfield

Made application 17 dioceses

6014
" Because of the dire need for priests and because Father Sullivan had been recommended by a priest with whom he had been living for over a year, I gave him an opportunity of rehabilitating himself.

5) He had three different appointments in the year and a half he was with us, but he could not get along with any of the three Pastors to whom he was assigned. I honestly believe Father Sullivan is a psychopath. He makes a very good impression. He seems to be sincere in his efforts to amend the past but his judgment is far from what is desirable. I honestly do not think he is aware of the disturbing influence he is in a parish and in the diocese. Someone else is always to blame, not he. While nothing of an immoral nature came out in the open while he was with us, there were indications of danger of this in his conduct with children

4/4/60 — Allen J. Babcock, Bishop of Grand Rapids
to Bishop E. J. Sweeney

" It is good of you to consider the case of Father John T. Sullivan for whom I have profound sympathy . . . His possible usefulness in any section of the diocese is at an end.

6) My conscience will not allow me to recommend him to any Bishop and I feel that every inquiring Bishop should know some of the circumstances that range from parenthood, through violation of the Mann Act, attempted suicide and abortion. Father Fitzgerald . . . considers him a schizophrenic and from experience believes that a new diocese would only mean new pastures.

3/13/58) — Matthew F. Brady, Bishop of Manchester
to Bishop Babcock

Our Lady of the Snow

Route Two

Nevis, Minnesota
September 23, 1960

0015

Most Reverend Ernest J. Primeau, S. T. D.
745 Lowell Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

Your Excellency:

Your very kind and thoughtful letter gave me much joy and happiness as it helped to calm the pangs of natural unwantedness that oftentimes accompanies a guest-priest who is striving to reclaim the constant friendship of God, and at the same time, to give solid evidence of abiding priestly self-discipline. Your warm letter served as a tonic when most needed. It will be my prayer and desire, during my retreat at Nevis, to effect these ends so that I will no longer prove a disappointment to the Good Lord nor to the good Bishop, God willing, who will give me an opportunity to activate my ministry and prove myself a good priest.

It is my intention to reimburse the diocese of Manchester for sustaining me during my stay at Nevis. Presently, I find myself unable to do so. Week-end ministry to the parishes neighboring Nevis has ceased as all of it served only the convenience of the vacationers in this area. However, should my services be requested, I will place the stipend towards this end.

Reaffirming once more a long, happy and fruitful jurisdiction in the diocese of Manchester and offering my prayers to the realization of this end I remain,

Obediently yours in Christ,

(Rev.) J. T. Sullivan

(Rev.) J. T. Sullivan

Our Lady of Snow

ROUTE NO. 2
NEVIS, MINNESOTA

Most Reverend Ernest J. Primeau, D. D., S. T. D.
Bishop's House
657 River Road
Manchester, New Hampshire

My dear Bishop Primeau:

It gives me much joy and happiness to write you this letter and I know that you will rejoice with me in its contents.

On the 10th of October, Father Lee, S. P., Superior of this house, very kindly favored me with an assignment to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Pine River, Minnesota, meeting the request of the pastor, the Rev. Harry Larkin, who absented himself from his parish for a month for well deserved vacation purposes. Father Lee gave me to understand that a favorable report from Father Larkin relative to both my conduct and work reached him and this pleased him very much.

During my absence from Nevis, a request came to Father Lee from a Monsignor Baer, pastor of St. Vincencius' Church, Eastman, Wisconsin, in the Diocese of LaCrosse. Father Lee briefed me on the knowledge he had pertaining to this appointment specifically mentioning it would consist chiefly of rural work. Upon the advice of my Superior, Father Lee, I am accepting this assignment realizing that it will be purely "ad experimentum" and the possibility of incardination upon the findings of my conduct after a given time will be considered.

Once more, dear Bishop, I am sincerely grateful to you for directing me to Nevis and always will I hunger for a remembrance in your good prayers that all will go well with me on this assignment.

With warm and personal good wishes I remain,

*Obediently yours in Christ,
(RW) J. T. Sullivan
(Rev.) J. T. Sullivan*

November 10, 1960

December 28, 1960

Very Rev. Msgr. James P. Finucan, Chancellor
Diocese of La Crosse
P. O. Box 982
La Crosse, Wisconsin

Confidential

Dear Monsignor Finucan:

Allow me to acknowledge your recent letter concerning Rev. John T. Sullivan of this diocese who has sought work in your diocese. He has been in bad odor in this diocese for several years, is suspended and is not permitted to say a public Mass in the diocese. The Most Reverend Bishop is not able to recommend him for service in any diocese because of his scandalous actions which have extended over many years. He left New Hampshire a few months ago ostensibly to enter Via Coeli on his own initiative and we viewed with alarm the thought of the authorities there to recommend him even for week-end work because of his past history. He is known throughout the State of New Hampshire for his efforts to seduce teen-age girls and he left here in the nick of time after his last escapade. I suggest that Monsignor Baer keep a close watch on him during the period of his visit in his parish.

As regards the Insurance Fund Program, it would perhaps be well for Father Sullivan to continue his membership in our Blue Cross-Blue Shield Plan because I doubt that he will remain in one diocese long enough to warrant a transfer to another. We have been paying for his board and room at Via Coeli and are willing to carry him on Blue Cross as long as he is unable to pay for it himself.

The first paragraph of this letter may sound a bit strong but I feel that you should know the facts in order to be able to protect yourself. We have done everything in our power to help Father Sullivan over a period of many years. Our efforts have always been in vain. I pray for him every day and I know that many others do also.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Thomas S. Hansberry,
Chancellor

CHANCERY OFFICE, DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE

114 NORTH FOURTH STREET - P. O. BOX ~~1000~~ 982
LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN

6018

4-8700

December 19, 1960

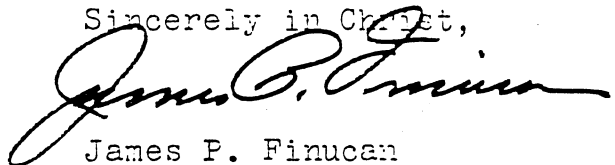
Very Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry, S.T.L.
Diocese of Manchester
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, N. H.

Dear Monsignor Hansberry:

We have a Father John T. Sullivan of your Diocese asking for priestly work in the Diocese of La Crosse. He is presently the guest of one of our distinguished Monsignors, Monsignor Urban Baer of Eastman, Wisconsin. We have temporarily given Father Sullivan the faculties of the diocese at the request of Monsignor Baer. Father Sullivan has just requested now that he be admitted to the St. Joseph's Priests Fund Insurance Program of our diocese. He claims that the insurance carried on his health by your diocese expires January 1st, and that he would like to join our Priest Fund and carry his health and medical insurance with us. We have written Father Sullivan to inform him that we cannot admit him to our Priest Fund until we know what his situation is in regard to his home diocese of Manchester. Could you give us some information?

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely in Christ,



James P. Finucan
Chancellor

JPF:lr

CHANCERY OFFICE, DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE

114 NORTH FOURTH STREET — P. O. BOX 982
LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN

6019

L 4-8700

January 6, 1961

Very Rev. Msgr. Thom as S. Hansberry
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

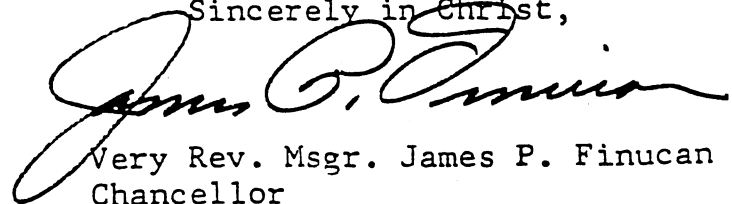
Dear Monsignor Hansberry:

Thank you for your very honest analysis of the problems of Father John T. Sullivan who is now seeking refuge in the Diocese of La Crosse. We cannot tell you how grateful we are for your honesty. It has been our sad experience that we get excellent recommendations for gentlemen of the cloth who do not deserve them!

We have sent a copy of your letter to Monsignor Baer and we hope that he will take whatever steps are necessary to protect his people and to assist Father Sullivan if that is possible. Again, our sincere gratitude to you.

Wishing you God's choicest blessings for the new year, I remain

Sincerely in Christ,



Very Rev. Msgr. James P. Finucan
Chancellor

JPF:mk

February 14, 1961

His Excellency
Most Rev. John L. Morkovsky, S.T.D.
Bishop of Amarillo
P. O. Box 2009
Amarillo, Texas

Dear Bishop Morkovsky:

I recently received word from Rev. ~~John T. Sullivan~~ of this diocese that you had given him an assignment in Amarillo. I have been very much worried about this because I am sure you are not acquainted with his past history. It was my understanding that he was headed for Via Coeli as a permanent guest when he left here under a dark cloud. I did not realize that he would be recommended for parochial work.

Frankly, I cannot in conscience recommend Father Sullivan to any Bishop. He has been in very serious trouble all during his career and I would advise extreme caution on the part of the pastor to whom he has been assigned, especially as regards his relations with teen-age girls.

With most cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

February 14, 1961

Rev. John T. Sullivan
St. Joseph's Church
4122 Bonham Street
Amarillo, Texas

Dear Father Sullivan:

Thank you for your letters informing me of your progress and of your assignment to a parish in Amarillo. I hope that you will persevere in your good resolutions and that God will give you the grace to avoid the pitfalls which have caused disaster in the past.

With a blessing and most cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

CHANCERY OFFICE

N. E. 18TH AND SPRING STREETS
AMARILLO, TEXAS



DIOCESE OF AMARILLO

6022

P. O. BOX 2009

PHONE DR 3-8359

P. O. BOX 5644

Most Reverend Ernest J. Primeau
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop Primeau:

It was not until the week before Christmas did I learn that my assignment to St. Wenceslaus' Parish, Eastman, Wisconsin, was personal to the pastor, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Urban Baer, and not to the Diocese of La Crosse. At the time the request was made to Nevis, Msgr. Baer was not well. However, he has regained much of his health and is able to carry on the parochial affairs alone. It is an extremely small parish having only 140 families and only two Masses on Sunday.

During my stay with Msgr. Baer, my work proved most satisfactorily to him and sincerely he became much interested in me. On the 9th of this month, he accompanied me to Nevis, Minnesota, to see the Superior, Father Lee, to whom he gave an excellent report and was most anxious that Father Lee find an assignment for me that would carry with it some stability and security. It just so happened that there were no petitions made to Nevis for priestly assistance and also the house in Nevis was filled with guests. Msgr. Baer was extremely kind to me and I was most grateful for my two months' stay with him as I am certain that a good friendship has resulted.

In returning to Eastman with Msgr. Baer, I had informed Father Lee that I was presenting myself to Father Fitzgerald at Jemez Springs for admittance. Upon the recommendations of Father Larkin, Pine River, Minnesota, whose parish I tended for a month in October while he was away and my assignment at Eastman also carried a very favorable report, Father Lee gave me permission to present myself to any Bishop on the way to Via Coeli and that he would recommend me.

This I have done to Bishop DMorkovsky of Amarillo. I have been his guest for the last three days and this morning he informed me that he will give me an assignment to-morrow "some place in the City of Amarillo." Needless to say, I am most grateful and most happy.

Trusting that this New Year will be filled with many blessings and happinesses for you and asking for a remembrance in your kind prayers I remain,

Obediently yours in Christ,

(Rev.) J. T. Sullivan

Saint Joseph's Church

6023

4122 Bonham Street

Amarillo, Texas

Most Reverend Ernest J. Primeau, S. T. D.
745 Lowell Street
Chancery Office
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop Primeau:

It is with much happiness that I write this letter to you informing you that yesterday, His Excellency, Bishop Monkovsky, assigned me to the above parish. Needless to say, I am most grateful for this opportunity to exercise my priesthood and I know that you will share in the happiness that this appointment gives me.

Asking for a continuance of your good prayers and with every warm wish I remain,

Obediently yours in Christ,

(Rev.) J. T. Sullivan

(Rev.) J. T. Sullivan

Jan. 29
1961

June 28, 1961

Most Rev. John L. Morkovsky, D.D.
Bishop of Amarillo
Box 5644
Amarillo, Texas

Dear Bishop Morkovsky:

Allow me to thank you for your letter of June 5th concerning Rev. John T. Sullivan of this diocese. I had been very much worried over the news that you had given him an assignment in your diocese because he has been suspended here for some time.

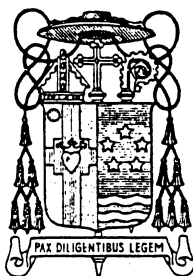
I have received word from Father Gerald at Via Coeli that Father Sullivan is now in residence there.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

6025



5644
P. O. BOX ~~2500~~
AMARILLO, TEXAS

June 5, 1961.

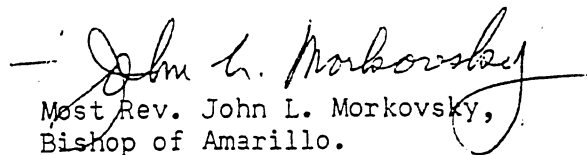
Most Rev. Ernest J. Primeau, D.D.,
657 River Rd.,
Manchester, New Hampshire.

Your Excellency:

Today, just before our annual retreat, I have asked Father John T. Sullivan to proceed to Via Coeli, in keeping with his Bishop's original plan. During the past several months he has done much good work. However, the problem which has pursued him - which he divulged to me on his arrival, and about which you wrote on February 14 - if it had not yet cropped up, seemed to be in imminent danger of doing so. He had ceased to take kindly to the careful supervision of his pastor.

He is a man of zeal and talent, and we certainly gave him a good opportunity to make a fresh start on his priestly work, but the common good demands that we send him on; I am sorry to say that I cannot recommend him for any length of service anywhere. We wish him well and will pray for him.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Most Rev. John L. Morkovsky,
Bishop of Amarillo.

June 26, 1961

Very Rev. Gerald M. C. Fitzgerald, s. P., Superior General
Servants of the Holy Paraclete
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Dear Father Gerald:

Allow me to thank you for your letter of June 9th concerning Rev. John T. Sullivan of this diocese. I am sure that you are acquainted with details of his case from correspondence with Bishop Brady several years ago. This probably gives you a better picture of the situation than Father Sullivan would paint for you himself. At that time, you expressed the opinion that he should plan to remain at Via Coeli for life or be laicized.

During the past few years, there has been no evidence of a change for the better in Father Sullivan. He worked for a while in Grand Rapids diocese and was released. Although I have no official confirmation of the basic reason, I have heard from good authority that it was the same as in previous cases. He returned to the diocese of Manchester for a brief period and immediately became involved with two teen-age girls. He left under a cloud and went to your Minnesota house on his own. In spite of our warning to the Superior, he was permitted to take outside work but apparently did not keep it for long. He next turned up in Amarillo and Bishop Morkovsky gave him parish work without consulting us. He has now arrived at Jemez Springs.

I must say that I am very much disturbed over this errant padre. He has been in very serious difficulties in every parish in which he has served. Priests who have known him are of the opinion that he should have been laicized years ago. The scandals in which he has been involved have been most serious and it is amazing that he has escaped civil prosecution.

In view of your broad experience, I wish that you would give this case your careful attention and advise me as to what you think should be done. In the meantime, please bill our Chancery Office for expenses involved in the care of Father Sullivan because we shall want to take care of them.

With appreciation and most cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

Via Coeli

MONASTERY OF THE SERVANTS OF THE PARACLETE

6027

OF THE SERVANT GENERAL

Jemez Springs, New Mexico

June 9th 1961

His Excellency
The Most Rev. Ernest J. Primeau, D.D.
Bishop of Manchester
657 River Road
Manchester, New Hampshire

Most Reverend and dear Bishop:

This will advise Your Excellency of the safe arrival here of Father John T. Sullivan who came to us in accordance with the instructions of Bishop Morkovsky of Amarillo.

We wish to assure Your Excellency that we will do anything we can in order to help this priest regain his priestly stature and will welcome any suggestions or instructions which Your Excellency may wish to give us.

I.D. in whom Your Excellency is interested is in our opinion, "a good bet"

Most cordially in Spiritu,

Fr. Gerald of the Holy Spirit

Servant General

July 10, 1961

Ver, Rev. Gerald Fitzgerald, Servant General
Servants of the Paraclete
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Dear Father Gerald:

Thank you for your good letter on J.T.S.

I shall give the matter consideration and discuss it with
the right people.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester