

Foundation House
Servants of the Paraclete
Jemez Springs, NM 87025

September 10, 1990

Rev. Msgr. Francis Christian, Ph.D.
Diocese of Manchester
P.O. Box 310
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105

Dear Frank,

This letter is long overdue, but I wanted to let you know that I appreciated your visit here in April. The meeting with the staff of Villa Louis Martin and your discussions with me were very helpful to me. I know that the staff of VLM was also very pleased with your visit.

Frank, when I left Villa Louis Martin at the end of March my intention was to seek employment in the Albuquerque area. Because I was going through a difficult adjustment to the large amount of medication I have been taking for the seizure disorder some of the staff questioned whether I should try to manage full time work right away. I have been feeling increasingly better, and want to begin planning to obtain a full time position.

Last week the Minister General of the Servants of the Paraclete, Very Reverend Liam Hoare, s.P., presented me with the proposal of a permanent position on the staff of one of the therapeutic programs. The position he proposed to me was that of Assistant to the Director of Foundation House, the sister program of Villa Louis Martin in Jemez Springs. In addition to his responsibilities as Minister General and Executive Director of Therapeutic Programs, Father Hoare is also Program Director of Foundation House. His proposal intended that, if I accept this position, it would begin on a full time basis at the beginning of January. At that time I will have been out of my own treatment program for almost a year. Between now and then it was suggested by Father Hoare that I work in his office on a part time basis to familiarize myself with the responsibilities.

The general job description for this position would be to assist Father Hoare in the day to day administration of Foundation House, the Minister General's Office, and the development of other Servants of the Paraclete programs. This position would be contracted for one to three years, and subject to review after that period. Because the Servants of the Paraclete Community is small they occasionally invite diocesan priests, usually former residents of their programs, to work in association with them. I do not plan to seek or accept any pastoral responsibility outside of Foundation House.

September 10, 1990

page two

The legal probation which I am now under will expire in about eight weeks. Father Hoare is aware of all the issues involved in my coming to Jemez Springs, the developments in my treatment process, and the aftercare recommendations made by Villa Louis Martin. He is also aware that I am receiving treatment from a neurologist, and that I continue to see Dr. Ellis for weekly therapy. He has already consulted with Dr. Ellis about this.

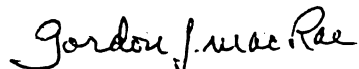
Frank, I would very much like to accept this position. In addition to regaining a sense of dignity and responsibility, the therapeutic and spiritual environment would be very beneficial to me. I would continue to live in an apartment in Rio Rancho as I have been, and commute with another staff member from Foundation House who lives nearby.

There is another matter which I also want to bring to your attention. I have been very appreciative of the financial help the Diocese has given me in the form of salary and assistance with living expenses since I left Villa Louis Martin. I anticipate that after January I will no longer need this assistance. The financial bind that I got myself into is slowly dissolving. I would ask that I be permitted to remain on Diocesan health and auto insurance after January. I should be able to reimburse the Diocese for these monthly, but that may not be possible right away. After recent blood chemistry tests I had to increase daily medication again. Because of this illness I have been told that it would be very difficult and costly for me to find another insurance carrier for medical insurance.

I did tell Father Hoare that I have been very concerned with the financial burden I have placed on my Diocese because of the length of time I was in treatment and the assistance I have had to utilize since my release. He acknowledged this and suggested that he would be interested in offering the Diocese a full scholarship for a priest of the Diocese who may be able to benefit from one of the Servants' programs. He said that he would be in touch with you or the Bishop about this further. He also indicated that he would write to you and the Bishop to discuss with you the position he wishes me to assume.

I remain indebted to the Diocese for the understanding, care and concern that has been extended to me since I have been here. I would appreciate it if you would extend my gratitude to Bishop O'Neill. I would also appreciate Bishop Gendron's address if you could send that to me.

Sincerely in Our Lord,



(Reverend) Gordon J. MacRae