

MEMORANDUM

TO: His Eminence
FROM: Monsignor Statkus
DATE: September 11, 1980
RE: Reverend Raymond O. Leneweaver (1962)
Sick leave - Villa Saint John

Your Eminence:

The counsel and direction of Your Eminence is respectfully sought relative to the case of Father Raymond Leneweaver.

At the direction of Your Eminence, Father Leneweaver entered Villa Saint John on July 18, 1980. He was relieved of his assignment as Assistant Pastor, Saint Agnes Church, West Chester, because of his admitted patterns of at least a two-year duration while on assignment at Saint Agnes Church.

In accordance with the directive of Your Eminence, Father Leneweaver underwent psychological testing by Doctor Phillip Miraglia. The report of the testing was sent in by Doctor Anthony Zanni. The report states that Father Leneweaver is suffering from a long-term chronic depressive neurosis and from a personality disorder -- psychosexual immaturity.

This report makes generally the same conclusions as the report of Doctor Walter Afield, who treated him in Tampa, Florida, on a full-time basis from May 21, 1975 to August 22, 1975. (Doctor Afield was recommended by Bishop Charles McLaughlin, Saint Petersburg Diocese).

It is noted that both reports recommend long-term psychotherapy at developing insight and new methods of emotional adaptation.

Both the reports of Doctor Zanni and of Doctor Afield offer hope that Father Leneweaver could be a productive priest.

Aside from the psychological findings, the history of Father Leneweaver's priesthood (ordained May 19, 1962) gives clear evidence, by his own admission, that he is seriously beset throughout his priesthood with the unusual patterns.

The history shows, by his own admission, that the patterns existed for a two-year period between 1966 and 1968. At that time he was assigned as faculty member of Roman Catholic High School and Cardinal O'Hara High School. While assigned as Assistant Pastor, Saint Monica Church, Philadelphia, the pattern surfaced for a period of one year - 1974 - involving three students.

Despite full-time rehabilitation and follow-up therapy on a part-time basis, he has admitted the existence of the pattern for a period of at least two years involving one student while on assignment as Assistant Pastor, Saint Agnes Church, West Chester.

These patterns have caused grave scandal. Father Leneweaver was removed from the High School Apostolate because of them and assigned to the Parish

Memo from Chancellor Francis Statkus to Cardinal Krol. The memo recommends Fr. Leneweaver's transfer to another part of the archdiocese following his admitted abuse of a boy from St. Agnes parish in West Chester. GJ-2216

D-4a

Memorandum

Father Leneweaver
September 11, 1980
Page Two

Apostolate; from his appointment to Saint Monica Parish he was transferred to another part of the Diocese, namely, to Saint Agnes Church, West Chester, in the hope of avoiding scandal. The latest incident eliminates his usefulness in his ministry in the area of Chester County. We have evidence that word relative to his reputation is following him on his assignments.

Whether or not Father Leneweaver truly realizes the severity of his problem, although he states that he does, is questionable. While a patient at Villa Saint John, he invited a young teenage son of of Saint Agnes Parish, to play racquet ball with him.

The Chancery respectfully suggests to Your Eminence the following possible courses:

1. To insist that he continue at all times consultations with Catholic doctors and to appoint him in an area of the Diocese where he had previously not been assigned. The only areas left would be Northeast Philadelphia or Bucks County. In this assignment, Father Leneweaver would be advised that another lapse would result in the forfeiture of his assignment and of Diocesan faculties. He would be advised that we have exhausted all means of assisting him and because of the scandal still arising from his patterns, we cannot have him continue in the active ministry.
2. Because of the scandal already present in the Diocese, Father Leneweaver would be advised to seek an assignment in another Diocese. He would be advised that in this process, we would have to provide to the Bishop of another Diocese his background.

The observations and directives of Your Eminence are appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis J. Statkus
Chancellor

bj

P.S. The following comment is respectfully offered relative to Doctor Zanni's report. Doctor Zanni states in the latter part of the report that the testing provides no confirmatory evidence of deep-rooted homosexuality. Yet Father Leneweaver has at all times admitted to the presence of this pattern. Might one conclude that the testing is faulty if it does not uncover patterns to which the patient, himself, admits?