Bishop Leipzig

Despite Dangers, Hardships, Early-day Priests Lived Long

BY BISHOP FRANCIS P. LEIPZIG

Thirty-five years passed before Archbishop Blanchet lost a priest by death, namely Father Julian De Creane in Salem, Sept. 12, 1873. He had been appointed pastor of the Catholic Parish merely four months before he was called to his Maker. His death was caused by inflammation of the brain. He was buried in St. Paul Cemetery.

Considering the tremendous hardships of the early missionaries in their travels by horseback, nearly impassable roads, by canoe and with fasting before Masses, this seems almost impossible. History records however many narrow escapes in their travels, from 1838 to 1873.

The longevity of these early missionaries astounds one. It may be true that some of them were young priests; others who were older worked here for a time and then returned to their native lands in Canada and Europe.

Behold the life span of 85 years of Archbishop Blanchet, and 61 years as a priest and archbishop. Consider the years of the first two ordained priests in St. Paul in 1847, Father J. F. Jayol was ordained as a diocesan priest, but shortly after his ordination joined the Oblate Order. His death was at 82, after 69 years in the priesthood.

The second priest ordained in the fall of 1847 was Father B. De Lorame at the age of 22. He served in the Archdiocese until a few years before his death in France. He was 70 years of age at death and was a priest for 44 years.

HOLLYWOOD could well depict on screen the arduous labors of Msgr. Adrian Croquet in his work among the Indians at Grande Ronde and Siletz. Yet he lived to the age of 82 with a record of 58 years as a priest.

While on the subject of death of priests, the records show the youngest priest to die was Father Patrick Madden, age 26. He drowned in Ireland while visiting his family, July 12, 1956. Father Hermann Ostermann had the privilege of the priesthood only one year and six days. He was ordained with Father V. L. Moffenheimer Jan. 6, 1927, and died on Jan. 12, 1928.

Of the Archdiocesan deceased priests Msgr. Peter De Roo has the longest period in the priesthood, 61 years. He died at the age of 87, Sept. 7, 1928.

Father Charles Keveny lived to the ripe old age of 83 years and six months, followed closely by Father H. J. McDevitt with 89 years and two months.

Of the living priests, Father J. P. O’Flynn will observe his 64th year in the priesthood next month and will be 89 years of age this fall. May he outlive all of those who have gone before him, in number of years of life.

In the narrative of ages and years in the priesthood the writer would be brought to task if he did omit the age of 96 and 68th year in the priesthood of the retired Archbishop Howard. In the history of prelates he is second only to the late Bishop John McGinley who died at the age of 96. This record takes in all the prelates serving in the United States since 1790. If the writer were a betting man he would lay a wager that Archbishop Howard will surpass the age of Bishop McGinley.

Just a passing thought to the pastors who have served long in one parish: you have a long way to go to exceed the record of the late Msgr. Anthony Hillebrand, pastor of St. John’s Parish in Oregon City for 52 years.
Fr. James Flynn To Observe 63rd Ordination Jubilee

By BISHOP FRANCIS J. LEIPZIG
Retired Bishop of Baker

Father James P. O'Flynn, retired, will be the first diocesan priest of the Archdiocese of Portland to serve 63 years in the priesthood when he celebrates the anniversary of his ordination July 25. He now resides at Mt. St. Joseph residence in Portland.

Only two priests of western Oregon have observed the 60-year marks: Msgr. Peter De Roe (62) and Father H. J. McDevitt (61).

Father O'Flynn was born in Ireland, Sept. 14, 1855, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan O'Flynn. He attended the National School for six years; preparatory work for five years and philosophy for three years, both at the Jesuit college, Limerick, and four years of theology at St. Patrick's Seminary, Thurles, all in Ireland.

He received his minor orders, subdiaconate and diaconate from Archbishop Fennelly at St. Patrick's Seminary, Thurles, and was ordained to the priesthood at Skibbereen, Ireland by Bishop Kelly, June 25, 1910.

Following are his appointments, by the late Archbishop Alexander Christie: assistant, St. Lawrence, Portland, September, 1910; parson, St. Cecilia, Beaverton; March, 1912; St. Charles, Portland, March, 1919; St. Peter, Portland, March, 1922.

ARCHBISHOP Edward D. Howard appointed him to the following positions as parson: St. Rita, March 25, 1930; Assumption, 1948; St. Lawrence, Feb. 1, 1952; and Blessed Sacrament, Sept. 1, 1960. He retired in August of 1960.

Father O'Flynn was one of the early directors of the Catholic Truth Society of Oregon, having been selected for this work as early as April 24, 1924, only two years after the founding of the organization.

Msgr. Edmund J. Murnane, Veneta, and the writer had the pleasure of visiting Father O'Flynn a few weeks ago. He was pacing up and down the garden of Mt. St. Joseph Residence. His knowledge of the past 63 years, will be invaluable for the historical committee of the Archdiocese.

An endeavor had been made for some time to secure the history of Father James P. Donovan, assistant at St. Francis Parish and St. James Parish, McMinnville, in 1919. Father O'Flynn in his visit to Ireland in 1919 met Father O'Donovan in a hospital, where he had been for some time with a brain injury incurred by being struck on his bicycle in Ireland. Father O'Donovan never returned to this part of the country but decided to remain in Ireland.

Father O'Flynn's narrative of his difficulties in returning to Oregon in 1920 was interesting. With his Irish humor, he stated "My passport was taken up by the police and was held for a long time. It had, as many stamps (seals) on its face as hairs on your head."

"The offices of the American consuls were besieged with hopeful emigrants and berths had been booked months in advance. Finally I sailed on April 10, 1920, on my way to New York."

Explaining why he joined the Archdiocese of Portland, Father O'Flynn said, "The late Father George Thompson, former pastor of the Madeleine Parish of Portland, was in Ireland representing the late Archbishop Christie in securing vocations for the priesthood. At that time, Father Thompson was assistant at the Cathedral in Portland.

"I had heard of reaching out of your windows to pluck roses at Christmas time; also the thought of fishing, hunting and horses attracted me to this section of the West."
Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel—1870-1938

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Four priests and a bishop who were serving in the archdiocese of Portland when Archbishop Edward O. Howard was appointed to head the See in 1926, were hosts to the Archbishop at a luncheon Feb. 8 in Portland. Left to right are Msgr. T. J. Bernards of Oregon City, pastor at Lebanon in 1926; Msgr. Edward J. Murnane of Eugene, pastor at North Bend in 1926 (I have the impression that Msgr. Murnane was at Monroe when Archbishop Howard came and shortly after Archbishop Howard appointed him to North Bend, Bishop, Leipzig); Archbishop Howard; Bishop Francis F. Leipizig of Baker, pastor at Corvallis in 1926; Msgr. Thomas J. Tobin, pastor of All Saints parish, Portland, who was assistant at the Madeleine parish, Portland, in 1926; and Father Martin Doherty, pastor at Albany, who was assistant in St. Andrew parish, Portland, in 1926. Seven other priests were serving in the archdiocese when Archbishop Howard arrived and were unable to attend the luncheon. They were Father Charles J. Keeny, retired; Father J. P. O'Flynn, retired; Father George Sniderhon, chaplain at Mercy hospital, Roseburg; Father John D. Neelon, chapel at Christi school; Father Michael Wallace, retired; Father John Mitchell, retired; and Father Lucian Lauerma, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Files:

When several archbishops are mentioned in an account—expect on separate forms.

Archbishop Howard

Msgr. T. J. Bernards
Msgr. E. Murnane
Bishop Francis Leipizig
Msgr. Thomas Tobin
Father Martin Doherty
Father Charles J. Keeny, retired; Father J. P. O'Flynn, retired; Father George Sniderhon, chaplain at Mercy hospital, Roseburg; Father John D. Neelon, chapel at Christi school; Father Michael Wallace, retired; Father John Mitchell, retired; and Father Lucian Lauerma, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Lebanon
Oregon City
St. Mary, Eugene
North Bend
Monroe
Corvallis
Madeleine, City
All Saints, City
Albany
St. Andrew, City
Retired Priest (4)
Mercy Hosp., Roseburg
Christie Home
Father James P. O'Flynn, oldest active priest in the Portland archdiocese, has announced his retirement as pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish in Portland.

To be 81 years old this fall, the Irish-born priest said he plans to live in retirement in an apartment in Madeleine parish, travelling occasionally to the coast, where fishing is one of his favorite pastimes.

Father O'Flynn, ordained in Ireland in 1910, on the feast day of his patron, St. James, began his ministry as an assistant pastor at the former parish of St. Lawrence, in southeast Portland. He was pastor there in 1950, when the once-large parish was dissolved in the path of urban renewal.

Father O'Flynn first served at St. Lawrence parish for two years, and then became pastor of St. Cecilia parish in Beaverton the year before the old St. Lawrence church was built in 1913. When several subjects are mentioned in an account—repeat on separate forms.

He returned to the parish in 1953, after service at Assumption, St. Charles, St. Peter and St. Rita parishes in Portland.

Father O'Flynn's 50th anniversary of ordination coincided with closure of the St. Lawrence parish school. In the fall of 1960, he was assigned as pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish.

Father O'Flynn is the second oldest priest in the archdiocese in the number of years as a priest. Father Charles D. Keveny, who retired as pastor of St. Lawrence in 1952 and now lives at Mercy hospital in North Bend, was ordained in 1909.

Files:

Father J. P. O'Flynn
Retirement of Priests
Blessed Sacrament, Portland
Madeleine, Portland
St. Lawrence, Portland
St. Cecilia, Beaverton
Assumption, Portland
St. Charles, Portland
St. Peter, Portland
St. Rita, Portland
Jubilee of Priests
Father Charles D. Keveny
Mercy Hospital, North Bend
Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country to 1915, historic events or persons of Catholc.

SPECIALTY: Biographies, ordinations, apostolates, histories of diocese, priests, churches, schools, associations, hospitals, etc., life of seals.

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<td>General Scope of Information Given</td>
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ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Blessed Sacrament parish will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the dedication of its church Sunday April 19, at a special Mass at 6:30 p.m.

Blessed Sacrament parish was established in September of 1913. Mass was celebrated in a store building until a church could be built.

On April 19th, Archbishop Alexander Christie blessed the new parish church, Father B. V. Kelly, first pastor of the parish, celebrated the Mass on the day of dedication.

There have been five pastors at Blessed Sacrament. Father Kelly, Father F. W. Black, Father J. M. O'Farrell, Father Henry Orth and the present pastor, Father J. P. O'Flynn who was appointed to the parish in September of 1960.

The parish was served by two administrators after the deaths of two of the pastors. Father Patrick Dooley became administrator at the death of Father O'Farrell. Father James Mosley served as administrator after the death of Father Orth.

The present rectory was built by the parishioners in 1917. A combination school and convent was constructed in September of 1922. Additions to the school were made in 1950 and 1955. A separate convent was built in November 1957.

Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque served in the parish from 1922 until June of 1942. In August 1942, Sisters of St. Francis of Glen Riddle PA replaced them. Among the Sisters arriving in August of 1942 was Sister Raphael, now principal and superior of Blessed Sacrament school and convent.

Among the young men of the parish who became priests are Father Cornelius Linehan, Father Jeremiah Linehan, Father Joseph Crowe, Father Joseph Vanderbeck, Father Francis Maloney, Father James Farrell and Father Joseph Bosch.(Then they include a large number of sisters that came from this parish Leipsig).

Files:
Blessed Sacrament, Portland
Jubilee - Parishes
Blessing of Churches
My File
Cheryl
Father B. V. Kelly
Father Francis Black

Father J. M. O'Farrell
Father Henry Orth
Father J. P. O'Flynn
Father Patrick Dooley
Father James Mosley
Sisters of St. Francis of Dubuque

Father Cornelius Linehan
Father Jeremiah Linehan
Father Joseph Crowe
Father Joseph Vanderbeck
Father Francis Maloney
Father James Farrell
Father Joseph Bosch

CONFIDENTIAL
IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, charities of Bishop, Priests, Churches, Schools, Associated Hospitals, etc., City of note.

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ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Father J. P. O'Flynn, pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish, announced to his congregation that it had paid off the entire parish debt, which was $39,000 when Father O'Flynn became pastor in September, 1960.

The debt was paid through ordinary offertory collections and no special drive for funds was made. In addition to the debt payment the parish spent more than $20,000 in improvements, Father O'Flynn reported.

The accomplishment was in spite of the fact of the handicap of loss of 70 families who were forced to move from the parish to make way for the Minnesota freeway.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Files:

Blessed Sacrament, Portland

Father J. P. O'Flynn

Human Interest File
Pastors, Assistants Named For Archdiocese Parishes

Archbishop Edward D. Howard this week announced new appointments for 14 pastors and 13 assistants in parishes of the archdiocese and named a new vice principal for Central Catholic high school in Portland.

Father Francis J. Schaefer, now pastor at St. Thomas More, Portland, will become pastor of Cathedral parish Aug. 31. Father Alan J. Kennedy has been administrator of the Cathedral parish since the death of the parish's very Rev. Father J. Sullivan, last December. Father Kennedy will continue as assistant to Father Schaefer in the parish.

Father Schaefer's first assignment after his ordination by Archbishop Howard on June 10, 1933, was an assistant at the Portland Cathedral. Next he became pastor of St. Thomas More, then principal of Central Catholic high school. After service as principal, he returned to St. Thomas More until his new appointment as cathedral pastor.

Monsignor Edmund G. Van der Zanden, pastor of St. Andrew parish, Portland, and chancellor of the archdiocese, has been appointed pastor of St. Thomas More parish. He has been parish priest at St. Andrew since Feb. 1, 1947. Previously he had served as assistant at the Madeleine parish and at St. Lawrence parish. He also served for a time as secretary to the archbishop.

Father Thomas Cadleho, pastor of St. Paul parish at Silverton, since 1955, will succeed Msgr. Van der Zanden as pastor of St. Andrew in Portland. Since his ordination in 1938, he has served as an assistant at the Cathedral in Portland and at the Madeleine parish, at St. Rose, Portland and Astoria, and as pastor at Sheridan and North Bend.

Father Pius Baur, pastor at St. Edward parish, Lebanon, since 1951, will go to St. Paul parish, Silverton. Father Baur has served at Sela, Jefferson, Jordan, Lyons, Mill City and as pastor at Ashland.

Father William Dooley, pastor at Holy Name parish, Coquille, since 1955, will become pastor at Lebanon. He has served as assistant and administrator at St. John, Milwaukie, and at St. Peter parish in Portland and on the faculty of Central Catholic high school.

Father Michael Fleming, assistant at St. Cecilia, Beaverton, has been appointed pastor of Holy Name parish, Coquille. He has (Continued on page 5)
Father James Mowry, assistant at Blessed Sacrament parish, Portland, since 1933, is new pastor of St. Augustine parish, Oceanlake. He has served as assistant at All Saints and St. Lawrence parishes.

Father Leland A. DeJardin, formerly of the staff of Central Catholic high school and chaplain at Jeanne d’Arc residence, becomes pastor of St. John Fisher parish in Portland. He has served as chaplain at St. Mary’s residences and as an assistant at Blessed Sacrament parish.

Father Lawrence Sanfield, faculty member at Central Catholic since 1955, becomes pastor of Immaculate Conception parish in Stayton. Father Sanfield has served as an assistant in St. Patrick parish, Portland, and as chaplain at the Sisters of the Holy Names’ provincial house at Marylhurst. He succeeds the late Father Mathias Jonas at Stayton.

Father Nicholas Deis, pastor at Oceanlake since 1957, becomes pastor at Our Lady of Victory parish, Seaside, effective Sept. 6. Father Deis was pastor at Seaside from 1949 to 1953. He has served also as pastor at Medford, Sheridan, McMinnville, at St. Cecelia, Portland, and St. Rose parish, Portland. He has also served as assistant at St. Lawrence, Portland and St. Joseph, Salem.

Father Cornelius Shee, pastor at Our Lady of Victory parish, Seaside, since 1953, becomes pastor of St. Anthony parish, Waldport. He has served as pastor at Seaside, Forest Grove, McMinnville, Canby, North Bend and Silverton. Previously, he served as assistant at St. Stephen parish, Portland, at Milwaukee and at Beaverton.

Father Joseph Neuville, faculty member at Central Catholic, has been named vice principal at the high school. He has served as assistant at Cathedral parish and as chaplain at St. Mary’s academy, Beaverton.

Appointments as assistant pastors and chaplains were:

- Father John Keane, from Central Catholic high school to assistant, St. Therese parish, Portland.
- Father Vincent Caniff, from St. Joseph parish, Salem, to assistant, Immaculate Conception parish, Stayton.
- Father J. Brendan Fleming, from St. Cecelia, Portland, to assistant, St. Cecilia, Beaverton.
- Father Henri Arpaia, newly ordained, as assistant at St. Cecelia, Portland.
- Father Carl J. Flach, from St. Mary parish, Eugene, to assistant, St. Andrew parish, Portland.
- Father Neil Moore, newly ordained, as assistant, St. Mary parish, Eugene.
- Father Paul Parrington, newly ordained, to staff of Central Catholic high school, in residence at Holy Cross parish, Portland.
- Father Carl Gimpf, assistant, St. Therese parish, Portland, to assistant, Blessed Sacrament, Portland.
- Father Anthony Juliano, faculty member at Central Catholic, with residence at St. Andrews, to chaplain at Jeanne d’Arc residence.
- Father Harold McKennedy, assistant at St. John Fisher parish, Portland, to staff of Central Catholic high school and chaplain at Marylhurst college.
- Father Edward Allstock, newly ordained, to staff of Central Catholic high school, in residence at St. Rose parish, Portland.
served as assistant and administrator at St. Luke parish, Woodburn, and as assistant at Blessed Sacrament, Portland.

Father James P. O'Flynn, pastor of St. Lawrence parish, Portland, becomes pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish, Portland, Aug. 31. He succeeds the late Father Henry Orth as pastor. Father O'Flynn's first assignment in the archdiocese 50 years ago was as an assistant at St. Lawrence parish. Later, he was pastor at St. Cecilia, Beaverton, St. Charles, St. Peter, St. Rita and Assumption parishes.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Father Earl R. Larson, assistant at St. Andrew parish, Portland, is new pastor of St. Louis parish, St. Louis, Oregon, and its missions. He has served previously as assistant at St. Rose parish, Portland, and at St. Matthew parish, Hillsboro.

Father Bernardin Singleton, pastor at St. Louis parish since 1958, becomes pastor of St. Anne parish at Grants Pass. He has served in the Archdiocese since 1957, serving at All Saints parish, Portland, and as chaplain at St. Vincent Hospital.

Father Daniel Kelly, pastor at Grants Pass and adjacent missions since 1949, is taking a protracted leave of absence at the suggestion of his physician. He plans to visit Ireland.

"We will look forward to the return of Father Kelly after this period of recuperation," Archbishop Howard said. "His contribution to the Church has been outstanding and we will welcome his return to active duty in the archdiocese with vigor renewed."
Death Of A Neighborhood

By LANCE FENTON
Journal Staff Writer

(First of two parts)

Except for the Board of Regents' decision to confine the new university to an area north of the Willamette River, and to the slight extent to which the school was affected by the railroad tracks, the town of South Auditorium was never a residential area. What it was, was a "major highland area.

Changing that was to go to the Oregon Board of Regents in 1957, when South Auditorium was designated a "backbone" of the regional "heartland" of the state, and the area was designated as a "core" of the City Plan. The town was called "urban development," and had been brought into being in the terms of the Development Act of 1954.

Unlike the Portland area, "a ready-made instrument for providing further development around a nucleus of core areas and appreciable urban centers ... a route-to-service for clearing up cluttered, congested, and congested areas ... scattered development and industrial purposes.

Such a city, it was generally agreed, seemed to be the ideal facility to deal with South Auditorium, which had no financial obligation and was not located in the heart of the city.

It was a natural thing to do, a natural thing to make it a part of the city. The city of South Auditorium was the site of a new agency to be called the Portland Development & Civic Promotion Department.

Father's Happiest Time

Young Father James F. O'Flynn was elected when, fresh from his native Ireland, he first set eyes on St. Lawrence Catholic Church in 1910.

"The parish was occupied of friendly and generous people who were eager to support their church in good style," he recalled in a recent interview. "I served there two years as assistant pastor. Perhaps because I was an Irishman and was entirely unknown, I found myself among the happiest of my life.

Father O'Flynn served other parishes in the Portland area before leaving St. Lawrence. In 1910 he was assigned back to St. Lawrence — this time as pastor in charge.

"What changes had come about" Father O'Flynn. "All the people I knew there had moved away. The Depression had begun. I guess St. Lawrence had become, instead of one of the more affluent parishes in town, one of the weakest. But I remember my life there with joy.

Father O'Flynn continued to serve at St. Lawrence until it was closed by the urban renewal project of South Auditorium. At the age of 91, he lives at St. Joseph's Residence on SE Stark Street. Once in a while he still hears from his friends at old St. Lawrence.

"A couple of the other day told me I had married there 68 years ago," chuckled Father O'Flynn. "I didn't recall that, but it was a little pride over what they said. It reassured me that my marriage was the best future prize.
**Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel**

**IN GENERAL:** History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

**SPECIFICALLY:** Biographies, ordinations, anniversaries, obituaries of faithful; parishes; churches, schools, hospitals, etc., history of note.

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**Jubilee on Sunday.**

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**ELABORATION OF ABOVE**

Father James P. O'Flynn, pastor of St. Lawrence Church, will reflect this week as he approached his Golden Jubilee as a priest.

Father O'Flynn, ordained in Ireland 50 years ago next month on the feast of his patron, St. James, began his ministry half a century ago in St. Lawrence, which closed its parish school this spring as the first step in eventual evacuation under the Portland Urban Renewal Project.

In 1910, St. Lawrence was one of the largest parishes in the city. It was located at SW Third and Sherman.

Today, the St. Lawrence church, school and rectory face destruction and the neighborhood is being razed under the urban renewal program.

Where several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

Father O'Flynn spent two years in St. Lawrence parish after arriving in Oregon as a newly ordained priest in 1910. The parish embraced some 500 families and was raising money to construct the church in 1913, now the second oldest Catholic church in Portland.

Father O'Flynn, however, was assigned pastor of St. Cecilia parish in Beaverton the year before. He returned to St. Lawrence in 1953, after service in several Portland parishes, including Assumption, St. Charles, St. Peter and St. Rita.

Seventy-five years old, Father O'Flynn can claim more years of active priestly service than any other priest in the Portland archdiocese. He is the second oldest priest in the archdiocese in number of years as a priest. Father Charles D. Keveny, who retired as pastor of St. Lawrence in 1952 and now lives in Mercy Hospital in North Bend, was ordained in 1909.

**Files:**

- Father J. P. O'Flynn
- Jubilee - Priests
- St. Lawrence, Portland
- St. Cecilia, Beaverton
- Assumption, Portland
- St. Charles, Portland
- St. Peter, Portland
- St. Rita, Portland
- Human Interest File
- Father Charles D. Keveny
- Mercy Hosp., North Bend

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<tr>
<td>O'Flynn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murnane</td>
<td>April 30, 1921</td>
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<td>October 21, 1921</td>
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Archbishop Howard announced the following appointments of pastors:

The Reverend John H. Berger, from Sacred Heart, Medford, to Assumption parish, Portland; Very Reverend N. J. Deis, from Our Lady of Victory, Seaside, to Sacred Heart church, Medford; Reverend J. P. O'Flynn, from Assumption, to St. Lawrence, Portland.

The above appointments are effective Feb. 1, 1953.
Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc. Life of note.

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Clergy Given Appointments

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Elaboration of Above

The Rev. J. P. O'Flynn is pastor of Assumption parish in Portland; the Rev. Erwin Vandehey assistant at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Salem; the Rev. Louis Rodakowski is assistant at St. John the Baptist Church in Milwaukie.

These appointments are effective September 1, 1948.

Files:

Father J. P. O'Flynn
Assumption, Portland
Father Erwin Vandehey
St. Vincent de Paul, Salem
Father Louis Rodakowski
St. John, Milwaukie

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—expect on separate forms.
Priests listed in the Catholic Directory 1888-1889

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The Catholic Sentinel, June 19, 1924, Page 4, Col. 4:

St. Peter's Parish.

Father Philip, O. S. B., of Mount Angel, will have charge of the parish during the absence of Father O'Flynn in Ireland and will reside at the rectory.

Bishop Leipzig

6/74

Files:

St. Peter, Portland
Benedictine Fathers
Father O'Flynn

CONFIDENTIAL
Guest Editorial

Jubilee of Truth Society

By BISHOP FRANCIS P. LEWIS
Retired Bishop of Baker

The Golden Jubilee of the founding of the Catholic Truth Society of Oregon merits a review of the splendid work accomplished by this organization during the past 50 years.

During this spiritual month of November for the poor souls, our hearts are opened to the founders of this work which began Nov. 2, 1922, and our prayers for the priests who assembled 59 years ago to bring the Gospel of Christ not only to the people of this commonwealth of Oregon but far beyond the confines of this state.

The original board consisted of the six priests now gone to God—Father John C. Hughes, Father Charles M. Smith, Father Warren A. Waith, Father John Bernards, Father Gregory Robi, OSB, and Father E. E. McNamee.

Bishop John Hughes was appointed president and Father Charles M. Smith, executive secretary of the society. The late Archbishop Alexander Christie blessed, sanctified and ordered the work to bring an educational campaign to inform non-Catholics on what the Catholic Church really is and what it was to be accomplished by a systematic distribution of Catholic literature, use of the public press, publicity given to works of charitable and educational institutions.

This society has received the blessing in later years from Archbishop Howard, retired Archbishop of Portland in Oregon, and the present metropolitan, Archbishop Dwyer.

The work consisted of many phases of educational work, commencing with the distribution of pamphlets, etc. Records indicate that during the first two years, 250,000 pamphlets and house were distributed to parishes, rectories, churches, in distribution in 25 states of the United States, the Philippine Islands and parts of Canada.

Free lectures were held in halls in Portland and elsewhere in the state. In 1933, a series on education was held in the Portland municipal auditorium on four different dates and four were held in public schools.

During the first two years 125 lectures were given in public places outside of the city of Portland but within the confines of the state.

The instrument of the radio was utilized early in the history of the society. On Sept. 1, 1953, a weekly broadcast began over the Oregonia radio station, KGW, in Portland. These weekly lectures continued until the National Catholic Hour was broadcast.

Permit the writer, to inject a personal note of his first radio talk on KGW Radio on Dec. 9, 1936, on the subject of "The Divine Providence of God." I recall with fear and trembling that half hour on my first radio broadcast.

In order to bring the truth into the smaller towns and rural districts, the society utilized the auto chapels, a miniature chapel and rectory on wheels. The dedication of the chapel car was on May 31, 1937. It was to take the place of the old chapel cars of the Catholic Church Extension Society that utilized the railroads nearly 20 years before this time. Priests of Oregon willingly offered their services for this splendid work. The work was extended to the purchase of the Catholic Sentinel in July 1938—a work that has continued for 27 years.

Funds for the payment of Society expenses were on a voluntary basis from the time of its founding.

The directors of the organization have been various since Nov. 3, 1922, contribut-
The new $205,000 edifice will be opened for worship by Archbishop Howard December 9.

Monday's dedication will mark the first time in the 26-year history of the parish that parishioners have worshiped on Sunday in one complete church building.

The new church is located on S. E. 87th Avenue between Foster and Woodstock Blvd.

Seating for 700 persons is provided.

In January, 1911, the Rev. Peter Beutgen was named pastor of the newly established parish of St. Peter's, the combination parish and parish hall located at 91st and Ellis St. Under the following pastorate of the Rev. J. P. Flynn, now pastor of St. Lawrence's, Portland, the present parish church was purchased. Although elaborate foundations were laid for a new church, the depression interfered with the planned program. Assuming the pastoral duties in March 1930, the Rev. George O'Keefe, now deceased, erected the building of the superstructure over the basement foundation. Part of this served for the parish church until June of 1956. The other part served as a school which was opened in 1936 when Rev. Stanley Cregan was pastor. Father Cregan is presently pastor of St. Francis, Portland. Under Father Dooley, who assumed the pastorate in 1956, adjoining properties were purchased, including the site of the new church.

Files:
St. Peter, Portland
Dedication of Churches
Father Peter Beutgen
Father J. P. Flynn
St. Lawrence, Portland
Father George O'Keefe
Father Stanley Cregan
St. Francis, Portland
Father Patrick Dooley

REFERENCES:
Him: History of the town as it related to the Catholic Church.
SOURCES: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of priests, priests.
Churches, Schools, Associated Hospitals, etc. Only of note.
St. Peter parish, Portland, marked its 50th anniversary Wednesday.

The Mass was followed by the dedication by Archbishop Howard of a new convent built at an estimated cost of $135,000. At the same time the 25th anniversary of the founding of the parish was observed.

St. Peter parish was established in January of 1911 with Father Peter Beutgen as pastor. The first church was located at S. E. 91st and Ellis Street. Father J. P. O'Flynn was named pastor in 1929, and property was purchased at SE 87th Ave. and Foster Rd. The rectory was moved there and work started on a new church.

Fathers George O'Keefe and George Sniderhon served the parish as pastors, and in 1936, when Father Stanley Cregan was pastor, the parish school was opened.

Father Patrick Dooley, the present pastor, was appointed in July, 1946. Under his direction, new school classrooms were added and the old Lents Methodist church was purchased. It was converted into a gymnasium then used as a temporary church while a new church was being built.

A residence was purchased in 1949 and converted into a convent for the five Sisters teaching at the school.

The new church was completed and opened in November, 1957. It was dedicated by Archbishop Howard in December. The church, costing $250,000, seats 700.

Present assistant is Father Thomas McMahon. Father Morton Park, director of Catholic charities, is in residence at the parish.

Files:

| Jubilee - Parish | Father Thomas McMahon |
| St. Peter, Portland | Father Morton Park |
| Father Peter Beutgen | Catholic Charities |

**Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel**

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| General Scope of Information Given | 50th Year Marked; New Convent in parish. |

**Explanation of Above**

57 33

1970

1961 Volume (Year)

Date Dec. 7

Page 13

Column 2 & 3
The Catholic Sentinel, August 26, 1920, Page 6, Col. 3:
Father O'Flynn Speaks of Conditions in Ireland.

Father P. J. O'Flynn of St. Peters, Lents, just returned from an extended visit with
his relatives in Ireland, addressed a large group of Hibernians.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta
7/7t
Files:
Father O'Flynn
St. Peters, Portland
The Catholic Sentinel, June 24, 1920, Page 4, Col. 7:

Father O'Flynn Succeeds Father Beutgen.

Father J. P. O'Flynn, formerly of St. Charles Parish, has been appointed to St. Peter's, Lents, the parish formerly in charge of Father Beutgen.

Father Beutgen has been ailing for some months at the home of his sister, and has been moved lately to St. Vincent's Hospital where his condition is reported unchanged.

Bishop Leipsig

FPL:mta

3/74

Files:
Father O'Flynn
Father Beutgen
St. Charles, Portland
St. Peters, Portland
FATHER O'FLYNN IS RETURNING
PORTLAND PASTOR HAS BEEN VISITING FORMER HOME IN IRELAND.

BROTHER ARRESTED
FIRST-HAND EVIDENCE SEEN OF ARBITRARY RULE OF FOREIGN ARMY.

The Rev. J. F. O'Flynn, pastor of St. Charles Church, Portland, writes in the Boston Daily Globe that his youngest brother, who has been visiting his former home in Ireland, has recently been arrested and is now in prison. The arrest occurred on April 10th, after a series of incidents involving the Irish Republican Brotherhood.

The Boston Daily Globe reports that the young man, who is a member of the I.R.B., was arrested on charges of peculation and was held without bail. The report states that the brother was arrested while he was in bed and was taken to jail without a warrant or court order.

The article further states that the brother was seen in the company of several members of the I.R.B. and that there were rumors of a plot to overthrow the government.

The arrest has caused a stir in Portland, and many residents are expressing concern for the young man's well-being.

Things are desperate here. An inquest is being held on the body of the late Patrick O'Flynn, who was found hanging in the cell of his home in the presence of his wife and children.

The inquest is being held to determine the cause of death. The police believe that O'Flynn was killed by political rivals.

Emigration increasing.

The offices of the American consul are besieged with requests for emigration. Many people are seeking a new life in the United States.

The consul reports that the emigration is increasing, and that many people are willing to risk the dangers of the voyage for a better life in America.
The Catholic Sentinel, April 22, 1920, Page 1, Col. 7:

Father O'Flynn is Returning.

Portland Pastor Has Been Visiting Former Home in Ireland.

(It's quite a long article, in case someone is more interested in it.)

Father O'Flynn left for Ireland in 1919 and intended to return for home, but during the war he was unable to return. He intended to sail on April 10, 1920.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

3/74

Files:

Father O'Flynn

Human Interest File
Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

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<td>Jan. 13</td>
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ELABORATION OF ABOVE

The 25-year mortgage of St. Peter's parish was burned last Wednesday evening in the parish hall. Present were Archbishop Howard and the pastor of St. Vincent de Paul parish, Salem and former pastor of St. Peter's, Father George O'Keefe. Also present was the present pastor, Rev. Patrick J. Dooley.

St. Peter's parish was established Jan. 15, 1911, by Archbishop Christie who appointed Father Peter Beutgen as pastor. During his time, a combination church, school and hall was constructed at 91st and Ellis St. In 1920, Father P. J. O'Flynn replaced Father Beutgen as pastor; in 1923 Father O'Flynn changed the site of the parish to 87th Ave. and Foster Road. Father George O'Keefe served as parish priest from 1930 to 1932 and was succeeded by Rev. George Snider who remained as pastor until 1936, at which time Father Stanley Cregan took over the parish. It was during Father Cregan's first year that he opened the doors of the first St. Peter's School to 75 children. Father Cregan remained as pastor until his appointment to St. Francis of Assisi parish, Portland, when Father P. J. Dooley was installed as the parish priest.

Files:
St. Peter, Portland
Father George O'Keefe
Father Patrick Dooley
Father Peter Beutgen
Father P. J. O'Flynn
Father George Snider
Father Stanley Cregan
St. Francis, Portland
The Father Donovan we spoke about, in which Father O'Flynn met him in Ireland, and I asked him the year that he met him there, and I thought it probably should be 1920, but he didn't remember. I notice here in the Sentinel, April 22, 1920, Father O'Flynn is returning in April. We may find when he intended to sail from America April 10, it doesn't state how he went there. He stated, "I expect to be home a few months before this." It could be possible that he could have gone in 1919 even. I'm inclined to believe that he met him in 1919, in the fall. He got delayed there, and probably had three or four months. For this reason: I went to McMinnville in March of 1920 and nobody seemed to know anything about Father Donovan who had been the assistant there. I went there in April, rather, and I know that Father Hampson had been alone for a long while. So, at least for the present time, we'll put that he met him in the fall of 1919.

Bishop Leipsig

FPL:mta

3/74

Files:
Father Donovan
Father O'Flynn
McMinnville
Father Hampson
The Catholic Sentinel, January 7, 1974 (retype)

(For my desk.)

I just discussed the matter of St. Charles Parish, Portland, with Father O'Flynn, who was pastor of St. Charles a number of years ago.

He says that Father Daum was the first pastor. There was no house there at the time; he does not know how long he lived there.

We have run into some information that the Redemptorists took care of it for some time. Father O'Flynn stayed with Father Snider. They had very little furniture or cooking material when he was pastor of St. Charles.

Bishop Leipzig

Files:
Copy for Bishop
St. Charles, Portland
Father O'Flynn
Father Daum
Redemptorist Fathers
The Catholic Sentinel, September 25, 1919, Page 5, Col. 3:

St. Charles Parish.

Father O'Flynn is in Ireland at the present time.

Bishop Leipzig

FFLmta
3/74

Files:
St. Charles, Portland
Father O'Flynn

CONFIDENTIAL
Historical Recap of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Priests; Churchmen, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc. Lists of note.

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1950
Volume (Year)
Nov. 2
Date
Page 1
Page
Column 1

ELABORATION OF ABOVE

St. Charles Church was originally located at 5028 N.E. 33rd Avenue. The parish was founded in 1913. For several years a store building was used as a temporary chapel. The former church was built in 1916 and dedicated on October 1 that year by Archbishop Christie. Rev. George M. Snider was pastor at the time.

In 1918 a bungalow house was purchased by Father O'Flynn who was then the pastor. In the following year this was remodeled into a two-story structure which became the parish hall and rectory. On June 27, 1924, the church was partially destroyed by fire. Extensive repairs were made and the edifice was rededicated on November 23, 1924. In 1935 the rectory was also damaged by fire, to a considerable extent. Reverend Michael Wallace was appointed the parish priest by Archbishop Christie on August 5, 1920. Last April Father Wallace was named pastor of Immaculate Heart parish at Williams Avenue and Stanton, Portland. What is now St. Charles parish was originally included in the boundaries of Immaculate Heart territory.

Files:
St. Charles, Portland
Father George M. Snider
Father O'Flynn
Father Michael Wallace
Immaculate Heart, Portland

when several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate form.
The Catholic Sentinel, June 25, 1918, Page 4, Col. 5:

St. Charles Parish.

Father Donovan, who was recently summoned by His Grace the Archbishop from the Grand Seminary at Montreal, and who will be ordained by His Grace on June 29, is the guest of Father O'Flynn who knew him when "we were boys".

(Here's what I think actually happened regarding Father Donovan. He was ordained in 1918, and in the spring of 1919 he went back to Ireland for a visit and according to a story we have on the life of Father O'Flynn, he was hit by a bicycle and had a brain injury. He was in the hospital when Father O'Flynn met him there in Ireland. They grew up together there in the same community in Ireland. He never returned. In going back through the history, we find that he was assistant for a time at St. Francis, and in the Catholic Directory he was appointed, apparently in the summer of 1919, to McKinville.

Very likely Archbishop Christie expected him to return in the fall, not knowing he was injured, and he actually never went to McKinville, but remained in Ireland.

Bishop Leipzig.)

Bishop Leipzig

FFLunta

2/74

Files:
Father Donovan
Father O'Flynn
St. Francis, Portland
McKinville

CONFIDENTIAL
Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

IN GENERAL: History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

SPECIFICALLY: Biographies, ordinations, appointments, obituaries of Bishops, Friends; Churches, Schools, Convents, Hospitals, etc., Kelly of note.

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<td>St. Charles Inaugurates Tithing Program January 1</td>
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ELABORATION OF ABOVE

Picture - First St. Charles Church

Picture - Architect's perspective of the completed St. Charles church and school building.

Father John Laidlaw is pastor.

Long article in case someone wishes to go into it more fully.

Golden Jubilee Dinner Planned for December 30.

Founded in 1913 by Archbishop Christie, the first church was located temporarily in what used to be a store building. Not until 1916, with Father George Snideron as pastor, was a church built and dedicated on Oct. 1 at its former location of NE 33rd and Summer.

Father James P. O'Flynn, its next pastor, added a bungalow house in 1918 which he purchased to serve as a rectory. In the following year he had this remodeled into a two-story structure so that it might serve as a parish hall as well.

Father Michael Wallace, pastor of St. Charles for 30 years, was appointed to that post in 1920 by Archbishop Christie, and it was during his administration that both major structures of the parish were jeopardized by fire. In June of 1924, the church was partially destroyed by flames. It was not until November of that year that the repairs were completed and the edifice rededicated. In 1935, it was the rectory which suffered damage by fire.

Father Laidlaw's first move was to purchase four acres at the present parish center at NE 42nd and Emerson. With funds existing then in the parish treasury, he began construction of a school hall and four classrooms. The hall was used as the church and two of the classrooms were used as a parish hall. Further classrooms were added to this unit in 1951, but not until 1953 was the church ready for occupancy.

Four more classrooms were added in 1956 and a final four classrooms in 1962. Between these two additions, the parish also constructed a convent capable of housing 16 Sisters of the Holy Child of Jesus who teach and administer the St. Charles program.

The one million dollar unit is now complete in the mind of its pastor, Fr. Laidlaw.

They have undertaken a construction program since 1951 that has actually amounted to $780,000 and have already liquidated $530,000 of that total.

The 1,000 family parish is bounded on the south by NE Mason, on the north by the Columbia River, on the west by NE 25th, and on the east by NE 72nd.
The Catholic Sentinel, November 22, 1917, Page 5, Col. 3:

St. Charles Parish.

The Rev. J. P. O'Flynn has recently been appointed pastor of St. Charles Parish, and his residence will be 1131 N. 30th Street North.

Bishop Leipzig

Files:
St. Charles, Portland
Father J. P. O'Flynn
And, Bishop, I'd suggest you talk to Father James P. O'Flynn, who's in residence at St. Joseph's Home, because he was appointed the last pastor of St. Anthony's Parish, Cedar Mills, by Archbishop Christie, with the instructions to move the parish from Cedar Mills to Beaverton. So he was a co-pastor. And Father O'Flynn had told me, when he was pastor at St. Lawrence, how he used to ride horseback. I would suggest that you talk to Father O'Flynn.

He told me that the last Mass said in Cedar Mill at the old St. Anthony's Parish Church was in 1916, it was a funeral Mass. Shortly after that they dismantled the old church, and they used the lumber of that church to floor the old cheese factory that they had purchased for a church, in St. Cecelia's which is now (I think Damrow Ford took that building over), the cheese factory, I think it was a cheese factory. Tony Gerace could give you more information on this, because he was appointed there in 1950, and I know he lived in that old house which is now the Dark Horse, right by the railroad track as it crosses the Tualatin Valley Highway. Just east of that was where the cheese factory was, which is now Damrow Ford, and that was, I believe, the church upstairs and school downstairs, or vice versa. Tony could tell you this. The lumber from that old St. Anthony's Church was used to floor that building. I think Father O'Flynn could give you more information.

FPL:mta
10/73
Files:
Father J. P. O'Flynn
Father Gerace
St. Anthony's, Cedar Mills
St. Cecelia, Beaverton
The Catholic Sentinel, December 2, 1915, Page 4, Col. 5:

St. Cecelia's Parish, Beaverton. Father O'Flynn states:

"Having always felt a strong inclination to veracity the pastor wishes to correct
the printer's error which gave the parish school 10 pupils too many. So far 59
are enrolled and the number is expected to reach 65 by the end of January."

Father O'Flynn is pastor of Beaverton.

(For my desk, please.)

Bishop Leipzig

PPL:mta
1/7h
Files:
Beaverton
Father O'Flynn
Cooper Mountain

(This was given to me by a Sister out at Beaverton. Bishop Leipzig.)

At Cooper Mountain the Church was named St. Peter and Paul. It was donated by a family named Gassen who left about five acres on Feb. 11, 1884, and it was built in 1903 or 1904. It was torn down in 1933. Mr. Kammerer at Beaverton will have more information on it.

At the present time there are twenty-nine graves in the cemetery, according to the Oregon Historical Society.

The last Mass was said by Father O'Flynn, perhaps in 1914 or 1915.

(This information was given to me by a Sister from Beaverton. Bishop Leipzig.)

December 6, 1974.

Files;

Father O'Flynn
Cooper Mountain
November 7, 1974, Chancery office

(This is a little different. I just got it over the telephone.)

Cooper Mountain was called St. Peter and Paul. The property was donated by Mrs. Gassner. It contained 60 acres. Then, later they said it was donated by Mrs. Gassner and family on February 11, 1884. It was built in 1903 or 1904 and torn down in 1925. Mr. Leopold bought the lumber and the furnishings inside the church and went to St. Mary's, to the Catholic Church at Beaverton.

The Historical Society counted the graves and there are twenty-nine graves there.

The last Mass was said by Father O'Flynn in either 1914 or 1916 and Mass was said there on the fifth Sunday of the month.

(Some Sister of Beaverton, St. Mary's of the Valley, I didn't quite catch her name, phoned in this information. Bishop Leipzig.)

Bishop Leipzig

Files:
- Cooper Mountain, Oregon
- St. Cecilia, Beaverton
- Catholic Cemeteries
- Father O'Flynn
- Sister of St. Mary of the Valley

CONFIDENTIAL
### Historical Research on Files of The Catholic Sentinel—1870-1938

#### GENERAL:
History of the Oregon country as it affected things or persons Catholic.

#### SPECIFICALLY:
Biographies, ordinations, appointments, mortalities of Bishops, Priests, Churches, Schools, Academies, Hospitals, etc. Lility of

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### ELABORATION OF ABOVE

June 8, 1913 - New Catholic Church at Beaverton, Oregon, dedicated by Monsignor James Rauw, V.G., assisted by Father Smith, C.S.P., and Father O'Flynn.

Rev. P. J. O'Flynn is rector.

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**The Catholic Sentinel, Xerox copy #1301**

**Beaverton Church Dedicated**

The new parish building contains a chapel and a school. The chapel is on the first floor and the school is above. The parish school will be open in September.

Bishop Leipzig

PPL:mta
3/74
Files:

Beaverton - St. Cecilias
Monsignor James Rauw, V.G.
Father Smith, C.S.P.
Father P. J. O'Flynn

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**CONFIDENTIAL**
Historical Research of Files of The Catholic Sentinel

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ELABORATION OF ABOVE

The new St. Cecilia Church in Beaverton will be solemnly dedicated next Sunday, October 30, by Archbishop Howard.

The new church, which is located at the corner of Fifth and Franklin Sts., is 55x114'9 feet, and seats approximately 500 persons. The cost of the new building when fully completed is about $110,000.

The new edifice was erected under the direction of Father George M. Sniderhon, who has been pastor of St. Cecilia's parish since March, 1944.

The first Catholic church in Cedar Mills, near Beaverton, was commenced in 1878, and blessed October 22, 1884, under the title of St. Anthony. This church was 20x10 and was built under the direction of Father Joseph E. Hermann.

When several subjects are mentioned in an account—report on separate forms.

St. Anthony's parochial school at Cedar Mills was opened September, 1888, under the direction of the Dominican Sisters, who then had charge of St. Joseph's School in Portland; 75 pupils attended that first term.

The rectory at St. Anthony's Church, Cedar Mills, was completed in October, 1888. Later, the Sisters (page 3, col. 1) of Mercy took over the school at Cedar Mills, in September, 1899. Their convent at that place was dedicated September 24, 1899, by the late Archbishop Christie.

Although Mass had been offered in Beaverton as early as 1903, it was not until 1913 that the site of the original parish at Cedar Mills was changed to Beaverton. The building which until very recently had served as a church and a school was dedicated on June 8, 1913, by the Rt. Rev. James Rauw, V.G; Father J. P. O'Flynn was pastor at that time; in September, 1913, school was opened in the new building by the Sisters of St. Mary.

Since the pastorate of Father O'Flynn, various other diocesan priests have been in charge of the parish; i.e., the present incumbent; the Rev. George N. Sniderhon, followed the Rev. George O'Keefe, who in turn succeeded the Rev. Joseph N. O'Neill, who died in 1935.

Files:

St. Cecilia, Beaverton
Cedar Mills
Father Joseph E. Hermann
Dominican Sisters
Sisters of Mercy
Father James Rauw
Father J. P. O'Flynn

Father George Sniderhon
Father George O'Keefe
Father Joseph N. O'Neill
The first Catholic church at Cedar Hills, near Beaverton, commenced in 1878, was blessed October 22, 1884, under the title of St. Anthony by Father Fierens of the Cathedral, Portland, assisted by Fathers O'Dea and White, with Father Ferrin and Father Thibau in the choir. The church, 20 by 40 feet, was built under the direction of Father Herman, the pastor.

For years there was a mission at Cooperton attended from here.

St. Anthony's parochial school, Cedar Hills, was opened in September, 1888, under the direction of the Dominican Sisters, who had charge of St. Joseph's school in Portland.

The rectory at St. Anthony's church, Cedar Hills, was completed in October, 1898.

The Sisters of Mercy took over the school at Cedar Hills in September, 1899. Their convent at that place was dedicated September 24 of that year by Archbishop Christie.

Masses were offered in Beaverton as early as 1903, and in 1913 the site of the original parish was changed to Beaverton. The present church building there, a two-story combination chapel and school, was dedicated June 8, 1913, by Rt. Rev. James Rauw, V.G., assisted by Father Michael Smith, C.S.P., and Father J. P. O'Flynn, the pastor. The title of the church became "St. Cecilia". Classes were opened in the new building in September, 1913, by the Sisters of St. Mary.

Since the pastorate of Father O'Flynn, various other diocesan priests have been in charge of the parish.

After the death of Rev. Joseph M. O'Neill in 1935, Father George O'Keefe served as pastor until his transfer to St. Vincent de Paul, Salem, in 1941. Rev. George Snidehun is the present incumbent.

Files:
St. Cecilia, Beaverton
Cedar Hills, St. Anthony
Father Fierens
Cathedral
Father O'Dea
Father White
Father Herman
Father Thibau
Dominican Sisters

Father George Snidehun
St. Joseph, Portland (German)
Cooper ton (Cooper's Mountain)
Father James Rauw
Father J. P. O'Flynn
Father Michael Smith C.S.P.
Sisters of St. Mary
Father J. M. O'Neill
Father George O'Keefe
St. Vincent de Paul, Salem
The Catholic Sentinel, March 14, 1912, Page 5, Col. 1:

St. Lawrence Parish.

Father O'Flynn, who has been assistant at St. Lawrence Parish for two years, was promoted last week by Archbishop Christie to the pastorate at Beaverton.

Father William Cronin, an assistant at the Cathedral, succeeds Father O'Flynn.

Father Cronin is an alumnus of St. Mary's Seminary and enjoys the distinction of being the first Portland youth raised to the ranks of the diocesan clergy in the state.

(Father Bernard Murphy was the first priest ordained, but he became a Benedictine.
Bishop Leipzig.)

Bishop Leipzig

FPLunta
5/7h

Files:
St. Lawrence, Portland
Father O'Flynn
Beaverton, Oregon
Father William Cronin
Cathedral
FIRST
Benedictine Fathers
The Catholic Sentinel, September 7, 1911, Page 5, Col. 1:

Father O'Flynn A. O. H. Chaplain.

Father J. P. O'Flynn, assistant pastor of St. Lawrence Church, has been appointed county chaplain of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the A. O. H. by Archbishop Christie. Father O'Flynn succeeded Father Molony, who recently returned to Ireland.

Bishop Leipzig

FPL:mta

12/73

Files:
Hibernians
Father J. P. O'Flynn
St. Lawrence
Father Molony
Immaculate Heart, Portland
March 4, 2002

Most Reverend John Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon
2838 E. Burnside St.
Portland, OR 97214

Dear Most Rev. Vlazny:

I am writing this letter to you as I feel compelled to do so and believe my recovery depends on this.

Fr. James O'Flynn molested me when I was in elementary school at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Portland, Oregon. I know he molested me and other girls in my parish, of this I am absolutely sure. I have been in and out of therapy for years and continue to explore these issues. What has come up for me most recently is a desire to speak out and to know that procedures are in place to protect and prevent future abuse. I cannot remain silent and cannot live with these memories unless I take some action and speak my truth.

I want to convey to you how difficult this is to live with, how it has impacted my life, and how strongly I desire to be free of the anxiousness, terror, and rage inside me. I wish you could step into my body for one hour, one therapy session where we pick the scab off that old wound. Then you would see.

Over the last 10 years I have done some research on Fr. O'Flynn. I did not want to believe this could happen to me, but I spoke with another victim of his and asked her to just listen to all the places and situations I remembered being with Fr. O'Flynn before she spoke of her personal experience with him. She listened and said that those were all places/situations where he molested her as well. I spoke with Sr. Raphael Baldac, OSF, around this same time. She was one of my teachers and principal of Blessed Sacrament School. She said that yes, he had molested girls. She warned parents to keep their girls away from him.

I began pulling away from the Catholic Church when my daughters were about the ages I was molested. I didn’t understand that then, but I see it now. I did not discourage or prevent them from going to Mass but I could not fully live out my own Catholic faith. I feel a great deal of guilt about this. I have been honest with my children, hoping that by sharing my experience they will be safer in the world.

My sexuality, my spirituality, and my image of God, was distorted by the abuse I suffered at the hands of Fr. O'Flynn. I feel as if sex is my enemy. This has put a strain on our marriage. My husband and I take our sacramental vows seriously and have continued to seek help in sorting out the issues that adversely affect our marriage. We have been separated for over two years and moved back together 10 months ago.

I am currently working with two therapists. One is doing EMDR and focusing on the traumas in my life, which include the molestation. This is very difficult work but I have been blessed with a gentle and patient therapist who does not judge or push me, rather she follows my lead. The other has journeyed with me for 3 years. She has a healthy and strong Catholic spirit and a loving God that she brings to our sessions. She gently nudges me toward a renewed spirituality and I know she prays for me as she does all her clients.

A while back The Oregonian featured the stories of several men who had been molested by their parish priest. I read this story avidly and was pleased to hear how the church responded and ministered to these men. It gave me a spark of hope.

CONFIDENTIAL
I was very distressed however, to hear on the news recently about a defrocked priest, John Geoghan, being convicted for sexual abuse in Boston. I was upset to hear about more victims, but more so to hear Cardinal Law apologize for reassigning this priest to other parishes knowing he was a child molester. So, I have decided that I must write this letter for my recovery and for the intention of helping others.

My goal is for the Archdiocese of Portland to remove these priests from parish work and immediately send them to be evaluated and treated. I do not believe they should be allowed to return to parish work or be protected and hidden by the Catholic Church. What is the message that is sent to the victims when pedophile priests are reassigned to another parish? These are adult men who prey on children. Remove them and do not reassign them. Minister to the needs of the victims. Be proactive. Let the parishioners know why this man is being removed. Minister to the wounded of the parish. Inform all priests, religious, church staff, parishioners and children that you will not tolerate this behavior. I believe these men should be charged with these crimes and proceed through the criminal justice system.

Do you have a screening process in place for young men wishing to enter the priesthood that would alert you to individuals who have pedophile tendencies?

Publish the names of the abusers so we can protect our children. It has been shown that it is extremely difficult to rehabilitate pedophiles. Trust that and protect your entire flock, not just the shepherds. Offer counseling service and/or compensation for those recovering from sexual abuse at the hands of priests. I believe if the church reached out to the victims and offered support there would be less lawsuits. I'm not convinced the lawsuits are about the money, rather about getting our voices heard and preventing these men from harming more children.

I will continue my therapy. I will continue to be vigilant. I challenge you to be proactive, to speak out about this, not in shame but as a way of healing others and making the clergy understand the seriousness of this disease. Encourage them to be vigilant as well. Tell people where they can go if they are suffering. Hold your hand out to the victims; do not wait for them to come to you with lawyers in tow. Please believe me. Please hear me. Please have the courage to speak the truth. Please name the priests, claim responsibility, and on behalf of the Archdiocese, ask for forgiveness.

It is my understanding that if a therapist becomes aware of physical or sexual abuse to children, by law, this must be reported to the police. I have read the book "In His Steps" by Charles M. Sheldon, that coined the now popular phrase "What would Jesus do?" I ask you, what would Jesus do? I believe he would do the honest and humbling deed of speaking out, taking responsibility for any wrongs that have occurred, protecting the children and validating those of us who are still suffering as adults.

I will pray for you, as I know this is a very difficult responsibility to bear. I humbly ask for your prayers as well as I seek to find some good, some seed of hope in what I have shared with you today.

Respectfully,

REDACTED

CONFIDENTIAL
March 7, 2002

Most Reverent John Vlazney
Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon

- Dear Most Rev. Vlazney:

The enclosed letter is one I have been composing for several months. I finished the letter last week and decided to check the Archdiocesan web site before mailing. I was surprised and encouraged to read the News Release dated February 4, 2002.

I was encouraged because some of the issues I raised in my letter were addressed. The five principles of the Archdiocese’s Child Abuse policy are in line with what I was hoping for. Screening and educating all Church personnel is a very positive step, as are discussions about safe touch in the school curriculum. Having worked in Catholic affiliated institutions for 13 years, I was surprised to see that this policy has been in place since 1992.

It is still unclear to me whether a pedophile priest would be placed in another ministerial role after “appropriate medical evaluation and intervention.” I’m curious to know where in that statement is treatment and what is the current congregation told when a priest is removed for accusations of sexual molestation. I would still like to see a list with names of priests who have been accused of sexual abuse and I want to see Fr. O’Flynn’s name on it. I find it difficult to believe I’m the only victim of his to speak up. Even if I am, there had to have been reports and reasons for moving him.

I do not blame you for the actions of Fr. O’Flynn, nor do I blame you for the way these situations were handled back in the ‘60’s. I do know however, that you can make a difference in how the church proceeds, particularly how the Archdiocese of Portland responds.

Thank you for taking the time to read these letters. It means a great deal to me to have this opportunity to express my voice. I am hopeful that the Church, under the direction of bishops such as you, will come forward to see true reconciliation.

Respectfully,

[Redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL
March 22, 2002

Dear

Thank you very much for the letters you sent to me in early March. I was away when they arrived but I have had a chance to review them this week. First of all, I want you to know how saddened I am to learn of all that you have been suffering over the years as a result of all that you describe in your letters. I can understand why you would think the worst of me, but I stand before God with a clean conscience and assure you that during my fifteen years as a diocesan bishop I have been trying my best to reach out appropriately to victims of child abuse and also to support measures that will prevent such abuse from occurring in our Catholic community.

Because you mentioned Father James O’Flynn specifically in your letter, I looked into his personnel file. He retired from active ministry in 1966 and died in 1980. There is no record of any other allegation being raised against him. I want you to know that if the church can be of assistance to you at this late date, I will make every effort to provide such assistance. Your healing and your reconciliation with the rest of us in the faith community is important to me.

Let me assure you that when we know that a priest is guilty of child sexual abuse he is no longer allowed to return to parish work. I concur that such charges should proceed through the criminal justice system. Unfortunately, most of the allegations that are raised these days come from the distant past and it is too late for criminal charges. The church bears the burden with the civil charges that can still be raised even after many years.

Seminarians today are very carefully screened and the time of preparation before ordination is long and quite extensive and intrusive. On a few occasions I have had the opportunity to work with victims in providing assistance and helping them seek spiritual support in the process of healing. But most of the time these matters come to us through lawyers and they usually do not want us to speak to their clients until the litigation is resolved.

If you would like to pursue this matter further within a safe environment, I shall do my best to provide such an opportunity for you. You will be in my prayers and I ask the Lord to bless you as we prepare now for the celebration of Easter.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

+John G. Vlazny
Most Rev. John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon

2838 E. Burnside Street, Portland, Oregon 97214-1895  503/234-5334

REDACTED
November 12, 2002

Most Rev. John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon
2838 E. Burnside St.
Portland, OR 97214

Dear Archbishop Vlazny:

Thank you for your letter dated March 22, 2002 in response to my letters written earlier in that month. I have discerned, prayed, and conferred with trusted confidants about how I wish to proceed. I sought the advice of an attorney who specializes in cases such as these and conferred with other victims of Fr. O'Flynn. While the attorney and others advise me to proceed legally, it is not in my heart to do so. I am seeking comprehensive healing, which I will not find solely through monetary retribution.

While you state there is nothing in Fr. O'Flynn's file to substantiate molestations, I would strongly encourage you to talk with Fr. Carl Gimpl. While he was in no way involved, myself as well as other victims have memories of his presence. He was a young assistant pastor and I would imagine he did what he could to stop this from happening. I mentioned in my earlier letter that the principal during Fr. O'Flynn's assignment as pastor was Sr. Raphael Balduc. As an adult woman I shared concerns about Fr. O'Flynn and molestation. She confirmed that parents had approached her about this and she advised them to keep their children away. I think this was true for Fr. Gimpl as well. He may not remember the names or faces of the victims, but I believe both Fr. Gimpl and Sr. Raphael know what happened between Fr. O'Flynn and children such as myself... in the sacristy, in Fr. O'Flynn's upstairs living quarters, in his car and at his property on Skyline Blvd.

Some of my memories include:

• My memories seem to come in bursts. I remember him fondling me in the vaginal area and his wet kisses. I remember him offering me candy bars when I'd leave. I remember he would withhold candy bars if I was not a good little girl. I remember feeling devastated by that and wanting desperately to be in this man's good graces again. I wanted him to love me.

• I remember dropping by the rectory to see Fr O'Flynn and three sisters who were spending the night with him (Fr. O'Flynn had an open door policy). I called out and couldn't find him. Then I heard voices and was drawn towards the back bedroom on the main floor of the rectory. I saw him in the downstairs bedroom with the three girls dressing them in their nightgowns in the middle of the day. I remember being curious about that. He saw me and scolded me and told me I wasn't to walk in like that anymore. I was hurt and confused.

• I remember being in his upstairs living quarters, being in the sacristy of the church and around the altar, of being in his car alone with him and being on his private property on Skyline Blvd.

• I remember going to his door one Saturday morning, and he poked his head out the door and told me to go home, that I must not come there again. He said my father said I wasn't to come there anymore. Then he closed the door. To this day, I can still feel the hurt, rejection and loss from that conversation. I remember trying to go see him anyway and being told to go away.

Unlike my sister, I never told my family about this. I’ve kept it buried inside of me. My first memory occurred while on a week-long family session for [REDACTED] who was in a treatment center. Some of the clients were there for sexual addiction. I woke up suddenly in the middle of the night in my motel room with a memory of Fr. O'Flynn offering me and other children candy bars. With that thought came a sinking feeling that there was more

REDACTED

CONFIDENTIAL
to this memory, it wasn't just about free candy bars. I even woke my sister up to tell her, as it felt so important and filled me with terror. I have seen numerous counselors over the years and while I said "may have been" molested by a priest, I could not claim that for truth...but that squirming, uncomfortable feeling would not go away in my stomach. I do not know why it's been so deeply buried. I have to assume some of it was what he must have told me, as well as shame and embarrassment.

I have never had a stuttering problem but since I have begun to tell on Fr. O'Flynn the stuttering is pronounced. It has been extremely frustrating to me as I know I need to talk about this in order to heal, but there is a very strong and frightened part of me that does not want me to talk.

Sex has always felt dirty and nasty and this has been difficult on my marriage. My husband is aware of my abuse and is sympathetic and very understanding; nevertheless I am striving for a healthier sex life.

You state that "your healing and your reconciliation with the rest of us in the faith community is important to me," and "if you want to pursue this matter further within a safe environment, I shall do my best to provide such an opportunity for you."

There are several things that would help with my healing and reconciliation:
- One would be for the Archdiocese to cover the cost of my counseling, from January 2001 and for an indefinite time in the future. I am enclosing the statements from Trauma Therapist.
- Another would be a Diocesan sponsored support network for adult victims of priest molestations. This could be in the form of retreats, ongoing support groups, or something of this nature that would enable victims to talk openly with others and move towards healing.

Enclosed with this letter are statements of support from the following people:

- victim of Fr. O'Flynn and my sister
- victim of Fr. O'Flynn
- my personal therapist for 3 1/2 years
- trauma therapist who I have seen for 10 months

This is a very challenging time for the Catholic Church as it is for my family and me. I do not know that I will ever be fully reconciled with my Catholic faith but I hope you will help me begin the process of healing and reconciliation.

Respectfully,

Enclosures

REDACTED

CONFIDENTIAL
What I need for my own healing:

- To know that the Archbishop believes me when I say Fr. O'Flynn was a child molester and he molested me.
- If there were other victims, I want them assisted to come forward and receive help also.
- and my sister, both wrote letters in support of my molestation by Fr. O'Flynn. is in great need of a response from the archdiocese. I ask that you respond to her letter promptly.
- For the Archbishop to write a letter to the members the North Portland Catholic Community saying that Fr. O'Flynn sexually abused young girls while in residence in Blessed Sacrament Parish during the years of 1961-1968 and welcome victims to come forward.
- For the Archbishop to have more "Ember Days" services. At these services to introduce a mediator/therapist who could speak briefly about how she can support the victims in discovering what they need to heal and provide a meeting with the archbishop. Business cards could be made available after these services. This should not be a priest or sister in my opinion. A mediator/therapist individual who has experience in religious sexual abuse. I believe this could remove the need for lawyers and multi-million lawsuits.
- A support group or speakers meeting where victims could stand up before their peers and/or in front of priests who have molested children and tell their story and the recovery they have made and how the archdiocese has enabled their healing.
- To be able to continue to see and a traumatologist.
- To be reimbursed for all my husband's and my counseling from January 2001 (the time when we seriously began to delve into my distaste of, and reluctance to talk about, sex) to present and for my future therapy costs.
- To be reimbursed for my net, for the year I was unable to work due to my increased anxiety and panic attacks and very low self-esteem. I was pre-occupied and did not process my thoughts well.

REDACTED
Dear Archbishop Wayne:

Thank you for your gracious hospitality to me last Saturday. I appreciate your sensitivity and concern as I shared with you how Sr. O'Ryan's sexual abuse has affected me.

It was especially meaningful to hear you say what a powerful moment my ordination was. Likewise when you invited me to release any guilt I may be carrying about my withdrawal from the Catholic Church I wish to hear that from you.

I am relieved to hear the archdiocese will meet my financial requests. These have been of great concern for me and we want to continue our work on therapy sessions and the years I was unable to work set me back a bit.

I understand some of the healing points needed to consider more deeply. I will be patient in waiting for a response on those items.

My prayer this week has been centered on gratitude. My meeting with you has relieved a great burden I've been carrying as your leader and honest to God my trust in you. Again - thank you.

Respectfully yours,
March 4, 2003

Dear [REDACTED],

Please excuse my delay in responding to you after your visit on February 1. I appreciate very much your kind note that arrived in mid-February. I felt privileged to be able to spend some time with you and I thank you for your candor and courage.

Presently the financial assistance the archdiocese will be able to give you is under consideration and I am hopeful that you will soon be contacted about this matter. Unfortunately, there was a death in the family of the person I asked to assist me and the matter has been delayed. But I believe soon you shall hear from us, if you have not already.

Your other recommendations are still under consideration and I am working on a way we might be able to organize a support group under archdiocesan sponsorship. I shall be having another healing prayer service on the Archdiocesan Ember Day of Lent, April 2. It will take place at St. Joseph’s Church in Salem. But my intention is to keep the focus on prayer. That is the goal I have in mind and not another kind of a forum.

[REDACTED] is coming to see me soon. I believe a date has been set for later this month. You continue to be in my prayers, particularly as we begin the holy season of Lent. God bless.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

+ John [REDACTED]
Most Rev. John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon

2838 E. Burnside Street, Portland, Oregon 97214-1895  503/234-5144

REDACTED
November 1, 2002

Most Rev. John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon
2838 E. Burnside St.
Portland, OR 97214

Dear Archbishop Vlazny:

My sister [REDACTED] and my close friend [REDACTED] asked me to write a letter detailing my recollections of activities with Father O’Flynn. Father O’Flynn was the pastor of the parish during the time we attended Blessed Sacrament grade school.

Father O’Flynn frequently hosted young girls from the parish in his private living quarters at the rectory. He also took them on outings. Here are some details of specific memories.

Father O’Flynn asked [REDACTED] and me to perform duties at the church. This mainly involved laying out the vestments and getting the altar area ready for the next day’s Mass. We did this after school. I’m not sure of exact dates but I know I was doing this during the seventh grade at the ages of eleven and twelve. On several occasions Father O’Flynn came into the sacristy as [REDACTED] and I were performing the tasks. He hugged and kissed us. I remember talking with [REDACTED] about how “yukky” the kisses were. I told my [REDACTED] that Father O’Flynn “kisses funny”. She asked me what I meant. I told her that he sticks his tongue in my mouth. My [REDACTED] said, ”That must be how they kiss in Ireland”. Following that conversation I was not allowed to visit Father O’Flynn. I’m not sure I understood why at the time. [REDACTED] continued to do tasks for Father O’Flynn including some bookkeeping duties. I thought it was odd at the time and remember being a little jealous of the attention she got from Father O’Flynn.

Father O’Flynn took us to the Catholic Book Store where we selected religious items that he purchased. I think I only went once. [REDACTED] continued to receive gifts over a period of time.

Father O’Flynn took a carload of kids to his property on Skyline Road. We romped around the property. I remember seeing Father O’Flynn come out of a wooded area with a young girl. I believe it was my sister [REDACTED] but I can’t say for sure.

One memory stands out because of my embarrassment. I was in Father O’Flynn’s bedroom with [REDACTED] and Father O’Flynn. We were standing up. I believe Father O’Flynn was kissing us. [REDACTED] and I started giggling and I urinated on the floor.

Father Gimpl, who was the assistant at Blessed Sacrament at the time, came into the living quarters at least once and saw us with Father O’Flynn.

REDACTED
These events seemed to have a minor impact at the time, but I was later abused by a priest in high school. I underwent counseling several years ago and feel that the issues of anger, resentment, sadness, loss and guilt are resolved as much as possible. I talked with Fr. Lienert about my experiences in high school and am satisfied with the help he provided me.

This letter is mainly to corroborate the information shared by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in their letters to you. I am not looking for anything from the diocese for me. I am pleased to see that you are taking a proactive approach to addressing the concerns of victims of abuse. There are many victims who do not choose to pursue legal remedy, but who need help and support to get beyond the childhood trauma. Providing reimbursement for counseling, organizing support groups, providing spiritual guidance for these victims are some ways the church can acknowledge the damage that was done and minister to the victims as they struggle to strengthen their relationships with God, the church, and their families.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to support your efforts.

Sincerely,
March 29, 2003

Most Rev. John G. Vlazny
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon
2838 E. Burnside St.
Portland, OR 97214

Dear Archbishop Vlazny,

Thanks so much for meeting with [REDACTED] and me on Thursday. I was sure that meeting with you would be a healing experience for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Your sincere commitment to addressing this complicated issue is evident in the way you responded to their stories. [REDACTED] has spent a lifetime “not dealing” with the wounds from abuse.

When I learned she and [REDACTED] were having discussions with an attorney I became concerned about whether they were headed in a direction that would lead to more pain and victimization. While money is a concern to both of them for the counseling they need, their ultimate goal is to heal, to reconcile with the church and with God, and to move on to fulfilling lives.

Listening to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] made me realize that I had not completely resolved the issues I had with the abuse I experienced in high school despite counseling I received years ago. I believe the support network that you set up through Providence will be a big help to me and other victims.

I can’t imagine what it must be like for you to help shepherd the Church through this crisis. I am impressed with what you accomplished so far and my prayers are with you as you continue to reach out to victims.

Thank you again for your empathy and willingness to share your time with us.

Sincerely,