

FR. ANDREW RONAN

PD-HO 0081

PÈRES SCIENTES DE MARSE

16, Rue Sainte-Victoire

LOUVECIEN - Sarcelles

AVE ! MARIA

November 24, 1953

Very Reverend and Dear Father,

After much thought I feel that I should bring the following matter to your attention.

In the course of giving spiritual direction I have been told that Fr. Andrew Ronan, while at Beaubourg, manipulated the reproductive organ of a young religious until, in spite of several warnings, the religious arrived at orgasm. The person involved consented to let me do what I found necessary in regards to this information.

I wish to point out, Father, that I'm making no accusation but merely stating a fact. I ask you to keep in mind that the incident occurred some seven or eight years ago. There was no attempt made to do the same thing a second time with the same person and it might ~~merely be an isolated~~ happening better left ignored.

Nevertheless, since I cannot myself look any further into the matter, considering the fact that Fr. Ronan's way of acting has always struck me as slightly strange, and considering also that he is working in the high-school, I feel that you should be informed so that, if you deem it wise, you can assure the isolation of the fact.

I regret, Father, having to send you a letter like this. God grant that it do no harm to an innocent person.

Respectfully yours,

John M. Doherty, O.S.B.

PD-HO 0082

THE SERVITE FATHERS
OUR LADY OF SORROWS PROVINCE
8111 W. VAN BUREN STREET
CHICAGO 12, ILLINOIS

Memo re Fr. Ronan.

As my term of office draws near to an end, I am reminded by a letter from Fr. Doherty of Louvain, that I must put on record some sad facts about Fr. Roman. I removed him from Penturb because he was accused by a religious there of homosexuality, and admitted same to the Prior who was Fr. Daniel O'Malley. The Prior referred the details to me and Fr. Ronan was removed immediately. Fortunately his removal coincided with a trip to the U. S. A. anyway so no wonderment was caused. It seems from his own admission that this fault goes way back to his early life, and even though he overcame it for many years, it is still deeply rooted within him, and comes out too it would seem when he takes a few drinks. I wanted Fr. Ronan that drastic action would have to be taken if and when it occurs again. In any event I feel that he should never be given an office - I am certain he can never be trusted. Fr. Vincent O'Shea who was socius and Fr. Daniel O'Malley and myself, and now Fr. Doherty (JOHN) are all to my knowledge who know anything specific of his difficulties.

L. Cortney, O.S.M.

FR. LOUIS M. CORTNEY, O.S.M.
(Provincial at the time)

Nov. 29, 1963

THE SERVITE FATHERS
OUR LADY OF SORROWS PROVINCE
3111 W. VAN BUREN STREET
CHICAGO 12, ILLINOIS

Jan. 31, 1965

Memoranda:

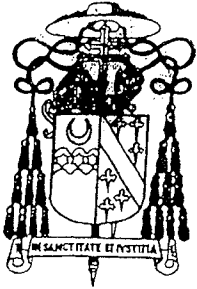
Fr. Andrew M. Ronan was accused by three different priests of homosexual activities with students of St. Philip High School. The accusations were made during the month of December, 1964. The priests are: Frs. Anselm Dennehy, Mark Dennehy, and Brendan LaFave. All were certain of the truth of their accusations, and all approached me independently of each other. On all I imposed secrecy for the good of all concerned.

When I told Fr. Ronan of this, he did not deny. He stated that this has been a long term problem for him and he turned himself in to Fr. O'Malley at Benburb years ago. When he was removed from Benburb, he does not understand why he was assigned to work at a boys' high school in a counsellor's private office, where temptation would be maximized. He anticipated that his homosexual activity would come to light eventually and asked not to be assigned another high school.

Fr. Ronan readily admits his tendencies, thinks he can control them under more favorable circumstances with the help of God, and is resolved to do so. He is grateful to the men who reported him.

In all his future assignments this trait must be taken into consideration.

PD-HO 0084



ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

THE CHANCERY OFFICE

2838 E. BURNSIDE

P. O. BOX 351

PORTLAND, OREGON 97207

Feb. 15, 1966

To Whom it may concern:

I have applied to the Holy See,
through my Superior general in
Rome, to be laicized.

My Provincial, Fr. O'Connor,
concur with this action and
has written to Rome urging
that the Indult be granted.

Fr. Andrew M. Ronan, SM

ARCHDIOCESAN CURIA
ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

PROT. N. ex 66

IN THE CASE OF

Andrew Ronan PETITIONER

RESPONDENT

Receptio denunciationis in re ad peccatum pessimum.

pecante.

Die septima ian. 1966 sponte personaliter comparuit coram Nobis infrascriptis delegatis, ¹stante Ec.Mo ac Rev.mo Eduardo D. Howard Archiepiscopo Portl/ in Oregon necnon infrascripto Notario, specialiter delegato, prout ex litteris sub eodem die huic allegatis, , iuvenis 17 annorum natus, filius
et , civis St. F. Septmtri., alumnus in Scola Media sic dicta Grant High School, domicilium habens in via 47, 3114 cui delato Iureiurando de veritate dicenda, quod praestitit tactis SS. Dei Evengeliis, exposuit ^uproxi infra, videlicet: As I told The Archbishop last week, I met Fr. Andrew Ronan of the Order Of the Servant of Mary, (Servite Father) attached to the sanctuary of the Sorrowful Mother here in Portland, about 3 months ago. At first ti me I went to him for counseling. Then one night I had trouble at home wich my parents. My mother was gone and Fr. Ronan called at our house while she was gone. Apparently she had told him about the trouble. He said he would meet me at the corner of 53th and Sandy N.E.. ^Apoint about 30 blvd from the sanctuary. I went there and got into his car. I had a broken hand at the time. And he said he would get a ^dbandage for it as I had just broken that night. We stop at the pharmacy and he got the bandage. We returned to the car and he drove me to the office building of the ^Ssanctuary. We went into the kichen of the office. He put the bandage on my hand and then he brought out soft drink. We spent about a hour x talking about things in general. Then I said that ^{it}was the time for ^{me}to go back ~~to~~ home. Then he started to ask me if I felt any pain elsewhere in my body, particularly in my groan.

ARCHDIOCESAN CURIA
ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

PROT. N. 266

p. 2

IN THE CASE OF

Andrese Roman _____ PETITIONER
_____ RESPONDENT

Then he said he wants to see for himself. Then he opened my trousers and looked at my private part. Then I told him I must go. Then he said that he wants to feel with his hands which he did taking my private part with his right hand. He said he was doing this to be sure that I was all right. We both started to the kitchen and we got as far as the main office room. Then he said he wants to examine me again, and I would not let him. He kind insisted but I said I had to go. Then he drove me home and make a appointment to see me a week later. He called a week later to meke sure that I would meet him in the office building. I told my mother that I ~~would~~ did not want to go but she said that I should go. I went to the monastery by mistake. Priest from the monastery called Fr. Roman at the office building and Fr. came out from the monastery ^{and took me} down to the building. He said he would show me around the office building. He let down corridor to a guest room which we entered and then he locked the door. He sat down ~~at~~ on the couch and I sat down on separate chair, then he told me to come over to sit beside him on the couch. As he insisted I did so. We talked about a half hour in general. Then he began to make advances. He put his arm around me and began to question me again if I had any pain^s in my proan. I said "No". He insist ed upon finding b^y himself, first touching my private part outside of my trousers, I kept insisting that I was all right. But he said he wants to see for himself. Then he opened my trou^sers and hand^{ed} my private part with both his hands. Then he wants ^{me} to put hands inside his trousers and I said I would not do it. Then He tried to put my hands in his trousers but I said I would not do it. Then he said: Now let see how you take pressure. Then he forced me down about half way twice and got on top of me. He is a big man about 6.2 in hight and quite strong. Finally he forced me into prone position and tried to ~~put~~ poll my

ARCHDIOCESAN CURIA
ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

PROT. N. 0266

p. 3

IN THE CASE OF

Andrea Ronan PETITIONER
RESPONDENT

trousers down. Then I resisted veryforcebly. Then He staræd to poll his
trousers down. Then I forced my way and said I had to go. Then he drove me home
after Christmas
but on the way he asked me if I would like to spend three days in cabin some
where on the beach. I said I would have to reply that later. That night I told
my aunt about what did happen and she went out to tell Fr. Joseph Black, one of
the Assistants in St. Rose parish. Then Fr. Black called me and I told about it.
Fr. Black told the Archbishop and Archbishop ^{asked} ~~called~~ me to come here today.

Interrogatus: Do you know or have you ever heard that this priest Fr.
A. Ronan ever did such thing to any other boy or man?

Respondit: I heard He was going to go to the cabin with a boy whose
name is *But that is all I know!*

Interrogatus: what is the reputation of this priest among others?

Resp.: As far as I know it is very high. Especially nuns think that he
is a wonderful priest.

Interrogatus: Have you made this statement because you have any hadred
for Fr. Ronan?

him
Resp.: No. Actually I liked very much before this happened.
He was a trusted counseler until this time!
Quibus omnibus absolutis

PD-HO 0088

ARCHDIOCESAN CURIA
ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

p. 4

PROT. N. ex 66

IN THE CASE OF

Andrew Roman PETITIONER
RESPONDENT

[Handwritten signature]

Edmund G. Van der Zanden

[Handwritten signature]

PD-HO 0089

ARCHDIOCESAN CURIA
ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

PROT. N. _____

p. 2

IN THE CASE OF

_____ PETITIONER

_____ RESPONDENT

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ARCHDIOCESAN CURIA
ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

PROT. N. _____

p. 3

IN THE CASE OF

_____ PETITIONER
_____ RESPONDENT

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Resp.: As far as I know it is very high. Especially mens think that he
is a wonderful priest.

Interrogatus: Have you made this statement because you have any hadred
for Fr. Ronan?

Resp.: No. Actually I liked very much before this happened.
him

Quibus omnibus absolutis

PD-HO 0092

Dejus

ARCHDIOCESAN TRIBUNAL
ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

PROT. N. _____

PAG. ACT. _____

IN THE CASE OF

PAG. SESS. _____

_____ PLAINTIFF

_____ DEFENDANT

Die ^a 17 Mense Januarii Anno 1966

Vocatus personaliter comparuit coram me infrascripto Bertram F. Griffin
sistenti in Portlandensi, Archidioecesi Portlandensis in Oregon ad hunc
actum tantum a R.P.D. Eduardo Howard specialiter delegato, prout ex Eiusdem
literis mihi directis et datis sub die 17a mense januarii anno 1966 praesenti
positioni alligandis, Rev. Joseph Blach
qui/ quae, delato ei iureiurando de veritate dicenda, quod praestitit
tactis Ss. Dei Evangeliiis, fuit per me...

1. Do you know _____ son of _____ and _____
living at _____

Yes, he is a member of my parish

2. Please give your opinion of his manner of life, his morals and the reputation
which he has.

*is good morally but severely disturbed emotionally. He comes from a broken home. He is rebellious & resentful without
at home and at school. He is intelligent. met Fr. Roman in
October 1965. His mother had made a Day of Recollection under Fr. Roman &
had discussed _____ with Fr. In November _____ see a week for several
months before anything happened. No one in the parish has questioned
_____*

PD-HO 0093

3. Do you think that he is worthy of belief? Or do you think that he is
capable of lying, of bearing false witness and even of perjuring himself?

