

FR. MARTIN SENKO

Additional Disclosure Documents

PD-HO 0123

ST. PETER

Never seen

Not able to value people
or does not

- Everything is dictated
everything to be under
his control. - Then goes
reacts - really what
to say but will over

- 16 year old son - Fr told
him that he did not
want

- Intellectually beautiful good
preacher sympathetic
hospitality & meaning
erotic behavior -

One one occasion he was almost
nervous - thought he lost a key
- could never speak he was so
highly ~~highly~~

As preacher

good priests and assistants! We have been
given all sorts of deunts, gays and putapils.
Don't you love us enough to give us a
wonderful man? I know that there aren't
enough priest but we don't deserve the
best scapings.

We do pray that Father, Sento, receives
good help for his problems! But please
don't send him back to us!

I believe you were informed many times
in many ways about this sick person. It is
to bad that you didn't do something for him
before he did something to one of our children.

Why do they always hurt children?

The last two weeks have been good. Our
people are smiling and actually getting after Chuck
to visit and hold coffee.

Respectfully



ARCHDIOCESE
OF PORTLAND
IN OREGON

Vicar For Clergy

MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Father Charles Lienert

SUBJECT: Conversation with Senko concerning Father Senko

DATE: January 19, 1993

called me last week and asked about Fr. Senko. We set up a meeting on January 18.

She was a student at North Catholic H.S. between 1965, and 1969. During that period of time Fr. Senko was first a teacher and then the principal. During this time he sexually abused her. She talked to a couple of priests about it, but it continued until she graduated. She has had a lot of guilt about it and blamed herself because she needed the attention. It's only in recent years that she has come to realize through therapy that it was not her fault, although she still has a lot of emotion about it. It was very hard for her to speak about it, but she was encouraged to come forward because of the possibility and indeed the great likelihood that he has abused other women. There was some talk about it and innuendoes when she was in school.

She felt she was trapped at the time and that her only escape was graduation, although Fr. Senko made it difficult for her to get into college because of the recommendation she needed from the school to get a scholarship.

Over the years he has frequently tried to make contact with her. She finally told him in no uncertain terms that she wanted no contact with him. Right before Christmas he wrote her a letter, seemingly an apology; however, most of the letter is about his needs and how he would love to be able to share with her. This letter made her angry.

She has been able to work through a lot of her own problems and continues to do so. She does not want anything from the Archdiocese and doesn't want to get Fr. Senko into trouble. On

MEMORANDUM

RE: Conversation with
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the other hand, she came forward because she thought her information might be useful in getting him help.

She would greatly prefer that her name not be used with Fr. Senko. If it became absolutely necessary, she would consider it. She does not want any contact with him. If he denies it, she would be willing to disclose the name of the priests she had talked to when she was in high school. They would be able to verify her story.

I assured her that I would not use her name and I doubted that it would be necessary. I told her I appreciated very much her coming forward with this information and it indeed would assist us greatly in forcing Fr. Senko to be evaluated psychologically and get some help based on that evaluation. I told her that I did not think that it would be necessary to verify her story. I thought we would be able to proceed on the basis of the evaluation.1

CJL:gg



ARCHDIOCESE
OF PORTLAND
IN OREGON

COPY

Vicar For Clergy

MEMORANDUM

TO: Archbishop Levada
FROM: Father Charles Lienert
SUBJECT: Father Martin Senko
DATE: February 2, 1993

Chris Eskeli and I met with Father Senko Friday afternoon. We spent over an hour with him. In the end he agreed that there was no other alternative than for him to go to Cottonwood. He admitted the relationship he had with a high school student many years ago at North Catholic High School. He stated that the abuse consisted of touching. He was more ready to admit that he needed to go to treatment because of this rather than the other problems that he has experienced at St. Peter and other parishes.

I had the sense when I took him to the airport on Saturday that he was in fact relieved for a way out of the stress he had been experiencing at St. Peter. He said during the intervention that he did not know whether he could go back to St. Peter. I told him that we would discuss that after he had finished the treatment program. It certainly would be possible that he not return to St. Peter.

Father Mayo will celebrate Mass and hear Confessions on the weekends. He will also celebrate daily Mass on Wednesday and respond to any emergencies that occur. Father Senko asked Laura McMahon to be responsible for the day by day workings of the parish during his absence. She did this while Father Rock was away from the parish so she knows what to do.

I think a supportive note from you would be very helpful to Father Senko if you could find the time to send him one.

CJL:gg

February 11, 1993

FEB 16 1993

Father Charles Lienert
2838 E. Burnside Street
Portland, OR 97214-1895

Dear Father Lienert,

I am a concerned parishioner at St. Peter's in
Portland.

My wife works at St. Peter and has put up with
total harassment, and has had her integrity
questioned among many other things since Father
Martin Senko arrived at St. Peter's in August.

I have been going to Mass regularly again with
my wife since Fr. Senko has been away. The peace
is back at St. Peter's and I was hoping it would
stay that way.

I cannot believe the Archdiocese would allow a
Priest to come back to a Parish after sexual mis-
conduct occurred.

If it had been a daughter of mine, I'm afraid I would
not have been as gracious as the

There are many of our friends at St. Peter's who
feel as I do.

I hope for the sake of our parish and our kids you
do not allow Fr. Martin Senko to return to St. Peter.

—Sincerely,

PD-HO 0129

CONFIDENTIAL



Vicar For Clergy

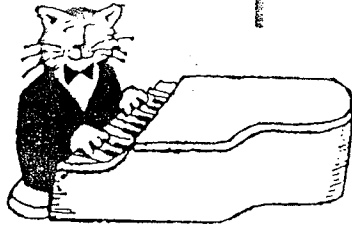
MEMORANDUM

TO: Archbishop Levada
FROM: Father Charles Lienert
SUBJECT: Father Martin Senko
DATE: February 18, 1993

I spoke with Dr. Eskeli on Tuesday about Father Senko's progress at Cottonwood. He told me that they have had a difficult time breaking through his denial. He has been very depressed and talks at different times about not returning to the parish or not returning to the Archdiocese. There is some indication that he has had a long-term relationship with a woman. They are just beginning to break through the denial of this.

Cottonwood strongly recommends that his stay be extended two weeks which I authorized.

CJL:gg



"Maximizing Your Success"

FEB 26 1993

February 25, 1993

Rev. Charles Lienert
Vicar for Clergy
Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon
2838 E. Burnside Street
Portland, Oregon 97214-1895

Re: St. Peter's Parish - Response to Your February 2, 1993 Letter

Dear Fr. Lienert:

I had left a message with your office on Wednesday to see what your plans were for meeting with staff of St. Peter's as indicated in your February 2nd letter.

I learned that, in fact, the meeting had been held on Monday. I was not notified of the meeting and would have been in attendance as my office is only a 5 minute drive from the rectory office.

I did meet with Laura McMahan this morning and she provided some information from the meeting. I encouraged her to move forward with parish activities that must be handled whether or not there is a resident priest for St. Peters. Among the needed activities are:

- * On-going committee and commission meetings as usually scheduled
- * Scheduled agenda open time for parishoners to provide input to the commissions and committees
- * Holy Week liturgy planning - tentatively set for week of March 1st
- * Contractor rekeying or Methodius Hall and key distribution - set for week of March 1st
- * Healing of relationships within the parish family as a result of the experience with Fr. Senko.

The "Nightline" program last night talked about 6 month treatment program (not 6 weeks) for priests involved with sex abuse incidents. My reading of the parish is that it will be difficult by a majority of the parishoners to accept Fr. Senko back into St. Peters.

Fr. Mayo has begun to restore the feelings of assembly at Mass and thank you for making him available to us! The contrast in content, style, and treatment of people is refreshing!

PD-HO 0131

February 28, 1993

MAR 2 1993

Archbishop William Levada
Archdiocese of Portland
2838 East Burnside Street
Portland, Oregon 97214-1895

Re: St. Peter's Parish - Reverend Martin Senko, Pastor

Dear Archbishop Levada:

First of all, thank you for sending Fr. Jim Mayo to St. Peters this month. The Sunday Masses have been wonderful and the Senior's Mass during the week has been especially touching and prayerful.

The Seniors have had a very difficult time with Fr. Senko. He does not appreciate the voluntary efforts people have made to prepare the altar with flowers and provide other services around the church. It is not just a question of a difference in style. He is rude, abrasive and treats us like children.

It was a relief that he was sent away for psychological treatment and Fr. Senko remains in our prayers. The members of the parish know that the "vacation" was not of his choice and his return to St. Peter's would not be our choice.

The man does not have the temperament to work with the range of people, personalities, and personal issues with which a parish priest must deal. We are concerned about the safety of our children in his presence. We understand his desires to meet with people one-on-one, especially attractive women. This is not healthy for a man who has taken a vow of celibacy. Fr. Senko will not receive the respect this parish wants to give to a man given the authority to be our local spiritual leader.

Fr. Senko is an intelligent individual not fearful of making decisions. Please make use of these talents for this priest; but do not force St. Peter's Parish to be exposed to and to endure more of this man's illness.

Thank you for reading my letter and looking out for the interest of the people in your diocese and our parish of St. Peters.

Sincerely,

PD-HO 0132

MAR 4 1993

March 3, 1993

Archbishop William Levada
Portland Archdiocese
2838 E. Burnside St.
Portland, Oregon 97214

Re: Father Martin Senko & St. Peter's Parish

Dear Archbishop Levada:

I wanted to let you know how much we are enjoying Mass now that Fr. Jim Mayo has replaced Fr. Martin Senko. This past month has seen an improved spirit as our congregation is not fearful of coming to Mass.

It may sound strange to you that people would have so much anxiety about coming to Mass, but it is true; especially among the Seniors of our parish. Fr. Senko has such a critical spirit about his personality that it puts everyone on edge. His being away for this treatment as a result of this inappropriate sexual behavior with one of our parish's teenage girls is just a symptom of a very complex personality disorder that is not going to be handled with a few weeks of leave.

We include Fr. Senko in our parish's prayers. We also are praying that he not be returned to our parish. A priest should be a model for us and with all that has happened and known by the parish, I do not see that Fr. Senko can be trusted.

As an active member of the St. Peter's Seniors, I heard Fr. Mayo describe the priest shortage at Sunday Mass and why there is a need for more laity empowerment in the parishes of the diocese. Fr. Senko is not a model for that trend either as he wants to control everything. His wholesale changes in every aspect of parish life for no good purposes and without the advice of the parishioners is not what this church needs at this point in our history.

You are in our prayers too, Archbishop, and we thank you for hearing the pleas of your people.

Sincerely Yours,

PD-HO 0133



Vicar For Clergy

MEMORANDUM

TO: Archbishop Levada
FROM: Father Charles Lienert
SUBJECT: Father Martin Senko
DATE: March 3, 1993

I spoke with Loti Wilcox who is Father Senko's counselor at Cottonwood. She told me that progress has been very slow with him. His denial remains strong. He is compliant as a way of avoiding responsibility for himself and continues to blame everything on other people.

He initially denied any sexual acting out for the last twenty five years. When pressed he finally admitted that he meant any sexual acting out with parishioners. He has had relationships with women who are not parishioners. He tends to blame them saying that they take the initiative and he only responds. They have been working on him to get him to understand that he, in fact, sets up the situations and waits for some response which he takes as their initiative. He apparently uses these relationships to satisfy his needs for attention. He continues to deny that he had any inappropriate intentions when he touched a teenage girl. He maintains that he put his hand on her back to move her along. The complaint we received was that he put his hand on her buttocks. His counselor has put him on a no female contact during treatment, meaning that he is not to associate with women in the treatment center.

He continues to manifest very strong needs to control. He has angered the whole treatment group by setting himself above them. He regularly two or three times a day tells someone at the Center how they could do it better. He sometimes admits that he needs to control everything, but has not done much to take responsibility for this.

He sets people up to get angry with him and thrives on the attention that he receives. This has been exemplified in their group therapy and seems to be a pattern that was in place at St.

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

PD-HO 0134



CONFIDENTIAL

Vicar For Clergy

MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Father Charles Lienert

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Loti Wilcox

DATE: March 11, 1993

I spoke by phone with Loti Wilcox, a counselor at Cottonwood, Tucson, who has been working with Father Senko. We will be receiving a written report sometime after his discharge tomorrow. She gave me some general information.

They recommend that he become involved in an SA group soon after he returns, that he meet with Chris Eskeli as his aftercare therapist and that he should eventually be put into a longer term treatment program (a kind of half way house). They recommend we consider Prescott House in Arizona, the Vianney Treatment Center out of St. Louis or Southdown. They recommend he's not ready to go back into ministry.

He has made some definite progress on sexual addiction issues. He signed a contract to be faithful to his priestly vows and to do those things he needs to control his sexual needs within the confines of those promises. He has less awareness about his control issues, his martyr complex and his family of origin issues. However, during the last week he has begun to see that there are some problems. They feel at this point there is some potential that further therapy will be effective. They also recommend that Dr. Eskeli continue to work on these issues with him.

CJL:gg

ST. PETER PARISH

8648 S. E. FOSTER ROAD • PORTLAND, OREGON 97266
777-3321

COPY

23 March, 1993

Dear Archbishop,

Please accept my resignation from St. Peter Parish as of this date.

At the same time, I am not admitting to have consciously or unconsciously touching the girl in an improper way.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Wm. J. Senko

PD-HO 0136

