

FR. MARTIN THIELEN

PD-HO 0146

P O R T L A N D
PACIFIC-LOYD PROPERTIES

Magn. Thelen

Pastor - St. Stephens

6/17/54 - 9/8/64

July 29, 1996

Summary of a conversation conducted by Father Wayne Jenkins with

About a year and a half ago, [redacted] called Archbishop Kelly and asked for an appointment to discuss allegations of sexual misconduct situation. An appointment was made but Mr [redacted] backed out because of anxiety. Mr. [redacted] called again asking to see the archbishop and the case was referred to me.

The nature of the allegation is: Mr. [redacted] claims that a Father Martin Thielen of Saint Stephen's Parish in Portland, Oregon was involved with him sexually and emotionally between the years of 1956 and 1959.

In the fifth grade (1956 or 1957) when [redacted] was eleven years old Father Thielen came to Saint Stephen's as the new pastor. [redacted] made it a point to indicate he suffered from ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder). This disorder resulted in his being the class clown--few friends. Also due to ADD he had many, many questions. His many questions led him to Father Thielen (the new pastor). Hence, they became friends. [redacted] added almost parenthetically that even though he had passing grades Father Thielen suggested he be detained. [redacted] often wonders if Father Thielen suggested this for some ulterior motive--a question which remains.

Father Thielen would often take young boys to Oliver's Motel on McLaughlin Boulevard in Milwaukee, Oregon for swimming. Father Thielen never touched the boys but would often compare their bodies.

The next year (6th or 7th grade) [redacted] became an altar boy. [redacted] felt he was Father Thielen's favorite server. [redacted] would often serve the last high Mass of the day. Father Thielen would have [redacted] and other servers (a [redacted] and [redacted] ???) undress and put their cassocks on. Still no sexual activity.

In the summer between the seventh and eighth grades, Father Thielen took to Los Angeles. He met several other priest friends of Father Thielen. Father Thielen stayed with the priests whereas [redacted] was put in a Travel Lodge Motel on Sunset Boulevard. His companion was a lay person--he does not remember his name. The first night at the motel, after [redacted] had gone to bed, the lay person came to his bed and fondled him genitally and much more. He did not explicate. The next night one of the priests came to the motel (not Father Thielen, another priest) and there was all kinds of sexual activity and sexual experience which he did not care to express. On the way back to Portland, Oregon (the third night) Father Thielen and [redacted] stayed in a motel in Sacramento, CA and this was the first and only time that Father Thielen had sex with

The following year [redacted] joined the Boy Scouts and there was often sexual play with older boy scouts and Father said this was okay.

In the eighth grade [redacted] and another boy were experimenting sexually at one of their homes and was caught by one of the parents. Since [redacted] had been detained one year and was the older boy he was accused and blamed for this sexual activity between the two boys. This resulted in [redacted] being kicked out of the Boy Scouts. He was sent to the University of Portland to see a Father Martin who was a priest/psychologist (who has since left the priesthood). He was told by Father Martin that this was a one-time thing. It never should/would happen again. When he came back and went to school for the eighth grade it was one "hell of a year." Everyone knew that [redacted] had been sent to the psychologist. Everyone knew that he had been kicked out of the Boy Scouts. He was basically the point of conversation in everyone's lives and in the town.

During the eighth grade, [redacted] decided he wanted to go to Benson Polytech because they were just getting into computers. Father Thielen said that he should go to Central Catholic. [redacted] hated Central Catholic High School but Father Thielen had talked him and his parents into sending him there. [redacted] because of his ADD was put into remedial classes which made the situation only worse.

In his sophomore year, Father Thielen left Saint Stephen as pastor and became the principal of Central Catholic. This was more than [redacted] could bear so half way through his sophomore year he dropped out of school and out of the Church.

The rest of his life has been lived in the context of a drop out. He went to the Navy. He eventually did get his GED. He could not be admitted to Oregon University but he did audit some classes. He basically has learned to bluff his way through life. He has held many jobs and has lied to get these jobs. He is very adept in applying and interviewing and getting a job only to lose them once the truth of whom he is found out--that he has lied and that he does not have a college degree, etc., etc.

He presently is an operating room technician at a local hospital and lives in fear of the day when they will find out who he really is. He has not been successful at anything. He does have a significant other and they have been friends for fifteen years.

has lived in Portland, Los Angeles, Honolulu and found his way to Kentucky in 1990.

He is angry because he had to drop out and had to bow to someone else's sexual needs--specifically Father Thielen's.

Two years ago [redacted] father passed away and he returned to Saint Stephen's for the funeral. (It needs to be noted that [redacted] is the black sheep of the family. He basically had to make a choice between his parents and his lover/way of life. But prior to this in [redacted] view he was loathed by his father ever since the day he was caught playing around sexually with the other grade school boy. Every time [redacted] would come into a room where his father was present, his father would leave the room. They basically did not speak to each other from that time forward. His brothers and sisters have also treated him as the black sheep. He has been able to keep in contact with his mother and one sister. [redacted] But that has been limited.) When [redacted] returned for the funeral, sitting in the front row, all of this experience with Father Thielen began to rush over him. And it was at this time that he made the first appointment with Archbishop Kelly but did not have the nerve to talk about it.

The bottom line is that he says Father Thielen ran his life and his Mom's and Dad's. An example of this (besides the Central Catholic suggestion) was that when [redacted] celebrated his Confirmation the pastor made him take the name of Martin which is Father Thielen's given name. [redacted] feels that if he had been left alone he could have been something.

I asked if he wanted to press charges against that Father Martin Thielen. He said: "O God, no." I asked if he were still living and he said: "Yes." He thinks he is in a nursing home now.

Part of what brought all of this to surface in addition to the father's funeral is that a couple of years ago was robbed as the manager of a fast food institution. He was hit in the head and as he recovered he was in conversation with psychologists and psychiatrists and all of this experience of 1956 through 1959 began to surface. He does not wish to press charges against Father Thielen because of the public nature, afraid to get his name and Father Thielen's name in the papers. He simply stated: "I want the anger to stop. I want a life. I want to stop living this lie. I am a very lonely man." Asked what he wanted the Church to do. He said: "Will they help me now? How can they help me now?" I told him that I would share this information with the Archbishop Kelly and would respond at a later date.

Reverend J. Wayne Jenkins
Director
Office of Clergy Personnel



ARCHDIOCESE
OF PORTLAND
IN OREGON

CONFIDENTIAL

Vicar for Clergy

MEMORANDUM

TO: Father Chuck

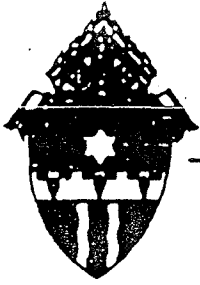
FROM: Georgiana

SUBJECT: A Telephone Call to Archbishop George Re: Father Martin Thielen

DATE: October 4, 1996

Archbishop George received a call from Archbishop Thomas Kelly, the Archbishop of Louisville, Kentucky. Archbishop Kelly received a call from someone in his Archdiocese accusing Father Martin Thielen of sex abuse sometime between 1956 and 1959 when he was the pastor of St. Stephen Parish. Archbishop explained that you should be contacted, but that today was your day off. Father Wayne Jenkins, the Vicar for Clergy in Louisville, probably will contact you on Monday. In case you would like to call him, the Chancery number is (502) 585-3291.

PD-HO 0152



Archdiocese of Louisville

212 EAST COLLEGE STREET • P.O. BOX 1073 • LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40201-1073

CLERGY PERSONNEL

October 7, 1996

FAX to: Reverend Charles Lienert
Portland, Oregon
503-230-1477 -- FAX number

From: Reverend J. Wayne Jenkins
Louisville, KY FAX 502-585-2466

PD-HO 0153

10-15-94

- Mother Practicing Cath
- Father did a all-out -
 - Mother asked to take
 - when Fr had to go to LA
 - Parishian went - wanted to visit mother -

lost wallet - layman helped with name -

Young man went to San Fran ~~to work~~ to love left him with his mother

went to San Fran as LA

- Return with checker -
- When on return he had lost a wallet - Fr paid for his food.
- in K. Falls he lost wallet

again - Staffy in ^{hotel} San Fran ~~on way back~~

was in J.D.H.

- Fr went to see him, used it better than at her ~~Opin~~ at Friends

Fr. Jenkins. Age app 1957
Archdiocese of Louisville

- Alleges that Fr Martin
Thielan - St. Steven
Pontiac OK
1954 - 1959 Sexual

or Emotion

About 5th grade - 1954 11 years
old. - Became friends because
- he had ADD -
- took boys to Oliver's Motel
company boys

PD-HO 0155

- On a trip with lay person
had sex once with
Fr Thielan had a lay friend.
Fr Thielan would have boy services
address -
Fr Thielan suggested that he be not

Says he cannot keep a job

~~Brother~~

He wants anger to stop.

Went back to father's funeral

- robbed ~~he~~ put over the head
then started to remonstrate.

2 years ago -

his brothers & sisters have treated him
as a black sheep.

Facts of Case

Thuelan did not go from
St Stephen to principal of Central.
~~He became Superintendent of Schools.~~
In 1964 he was transferred to St Thomas
More.

He was superintendent of Schools
from 51 to 68

Father

passed away May 11, 1966
is

is wife's name



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COPY

Vicar for Clergy

MEMORANDUM

TO: Archbishop George
FROM: Father Charles Lienert
SUBJECT: Msgr. Martin Thielen
DATE: October 15, 1996

I have enclosed the notes of Father Wayne Jenkins about his meeting with Mr. [redacted] in which he accused Msgr. Martin Thielen of sexually abusing him between 1956 and 1959. I have also enclosed my notes from my meeting with Msgr. Thielen. He categorically denies any emotional or sexual involvement with Mr. [redacted].

There are some clear discrepancies between Mr. [redacted] statement and some historical facts. Msgr. Thielen became pastor of St. Stephen in 1954 and not 1956. He was principal at Central Catholic from 1949 to 1950 and not while [redacted] attended Central.

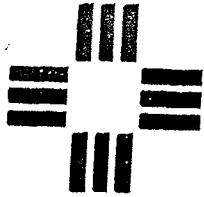
When I spoke with Father Jenkins from Louisville, he said he had some misgivings about the voracity of Mr. [redacted] based on the way he recalled this abuse and his general demeanor.

I would like to speak with you about this before taking any further action.

CJL:gg

Enclosure

PD-HO 0158



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COPY

Vicar for Clergy

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MEMORANDUM

TO: File

FROM: Father Charles Lienert

SUBJECT: Interview with Msgr. Martin Thielen

DATE: October 15, 1996

I met with Msgr. Thielen on October 15, 1997. I asked him to review the summary of a conversation conducted by Father Wayne Jenkins with Mr.

Msgr. Thielen remembered Mr. He said that his mother was a practicing Catholic but his father did not attend Church. His mother asked Father Thielen to take her son to L.A. when he was planning a trip there. He reluctantly agreed to take with him. He is not completely certain, but he believes that had relatives in Los Angeles.

He took another layman with him whose mother lived in San Francisco. He was returning to San Francisco and asked Father for a ride.

On the way down said that he had lost his wallet. The layman then paid for his meals until they got to San Francisco. After leaving the layman in San Francisco Father Thielen and continued to L.A. They returned to Portland together. On the way back again said he had lost his wallet so Father Thielen paid for his meals. When they reached Klamath Falls, he discovered that still had some money.

They stopped in a motel one night on the way back. There was no sexual contact of any kind on that night or at any other time.

Msgr. Thielen remembers visiting in the Juvenile Detention Home. stated that he would rather be in JDH than at home because he had friends there and they had a gym.

PD-HO 0159

MEMORANDUM

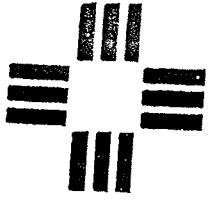
RE: Interview with Msgr. Martin Thielen
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Msgr. Thielen said that it was ridiculous to think that he would have servers undress before putting on their cassocks.

He also stated that he may have encouraged mother to send him to Central because he encouraged every family to send their children to a Catholic high school. He was not principal at Central Catholic during the time that was in school there.

Msgr. Thielen said he did not know, well. Even when they went to Los Angeles would not talk very much. He denies that he was ever involved with sexually or emotionally.

CJL:gg



ARCHDIOCESE
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IN OREGON

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FAXED

10/31/96
10 A.M.

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

FAX NUMBER: (503) 230-1477
Clergy/Personnel

Date: 10/31/96

Number of Pages: 3
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SEND TO: Reverend J. Wayne Jenkins

FAX NUMBER: (502) 585-2466

LOCATION: Archdiocese of Louisville, KY

FROM: NAME Rev. Charles J. Lienert OFFICE Vicar for Clergy

COMMENTS: _____

PD-HO 0161

