

Circuit Court of Oregon

NINETEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CLATSOP, COLUMBIA, TILLAMOOK COUNTIES

December 23, 1968

JUDGES

J. S. BOHANNON, TILLAMOOK
PRESIDING JUDGE

THOMAS E. EDISON, ASTORIA

DONALD L. KALBERER, ST. HELENS

CLATSOP COUNTY ADDRESS:

P. O. BOX 835

ASTORIA, OREGON 97103

TELEPHONE: 503/325-6061

The Right Reverend
Monsignor Edmund Vanderzanden
Catholic Chancery
2838 E. Burnside
Portland, Oregon 97207

Dear Monsignor:

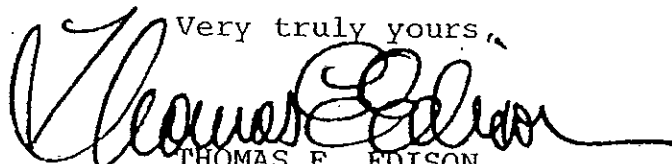
This will verify my telephone conversation with you on Friday, December 20, 1968, concerning Father Grammond, the parish priest in Seaside, Oregon. You will no doubt recall that I attempted to describe Father Grammond's connection with the children of the family in Seaside and some difficulties that he has caused myself as the Juvenile Judge for this county, the Juvenile Court Director's office, and the Clatsop County Public Welfare Commission.

After speaking with you, I requested Mr. Eugene Bui, our juvenile court director, and Miss Barbara McCall, a case worker with the Clatsop County Public Welfare Commission, to give me a written account of their dealings with this matter so far as Father Grammond is concerned. They assured me that they would do so promptly. It had been my intention to forward the same to you, together with my account of my experiences to date.

Coincidentally, Mr. Bui met with me this morning and indicated that he had had another meeting with Father Grammond earlier today. Mr. Bui related to me that Father Grammond indicates that perhaps he became more concerned with this specific situation than he should have and indicated that in the future he would apparently have no further connection with the children or with any of the case work activity which the Juvenile Department and the Welfare Commission were attempting to install. This, of course, is no more than what we felt was appropriate in the first instance. Therefore, I have asked Mr. Bui and Miss McCall to delay acting upon my previous request. It is my intention at this time to see how the situation resolves itself and we will only be in touch with you further should additional difficulties arise.

I greatly appreciate the courtesy shown me by yourself and it is my sincere hope that we need have no further contact on this matter. However, if you would desire further information, I am sure that Mr. Bui, Miss McCall and myself will be in a position to readily answer.

Very truly yours,



THOMAS E. EDISON
Circuit Judge

PD 0031

TEE:ic

3 January 1969

Mr. Thomas E. Edison
Circuit Judge, Clatsop County
P. O. Box 835
Astoria, Oregon 97103

Dear Judge Edison:

Please accept my sincere and deepest thanks for your letter of 23 December 1968, relative to the matter which you had discussed with me a few days earlier, concerning Father Grammond and the Welfare Commission. We are hopeful that the situation will resolve itself and that there will be no further problem. Unless we hear from you or one of the case workers, we shall assume that there is no further difficulty.

Very sincerely yours,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edmund G. Van der Zanden
C h a n c e l l o r

mc

PD 0032

19 April 1969

Mr. Eugene L. Bui
Director, Juvenile Department
Clatsop County, Courthouse
Astoria, Oregon 97103

Dear Sir:

Your letter of 8 May 1969 relative to Father Maurice Grammond has been received. His Excellency, Archbishop Dwyer, has written a letter to Father Grammond cautioning him with regard to his obvious indiscretions and interference particularly with the Juvenile Department of the Public Welfare Commission of Clatsop County. If there is any recurrence in the future, we would ask that you kindly let us know. We regret deeply that it has been necessary for you to call this matter to our attention.

Very sincerely yours,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edmund G. Van der Zanden
C h a n c e l l o r

ob

cc: Rev. Maurice Grammond
Our Lady of Victory Church
120 Ocean Way
Seaside, Oregon 97138

PD 0033

Archbishop ①
Robert T. Dwyer
2838 E. Burnside St
Portland Oregon - 97214

Archbishop Dwyer

This letter pertains to the
previous letter you have
received from the Judge
of the Circuit Court & Juvenile
Department of Clatsop County
pertaining to the Rev.
Father Grummond of Sea
Side. interfering in my &
my family's wellbeing. on
Feb-6-1969 the above

Judge + of the Circuit Court ⁽²⁾
of Clatsop County ordered
that ① said children are
herely declared wards of
the Court - ② and said
children remain in the
home of their mother
③ and said children be
placed under the protective
care, custody and control
of the Clatsop County Public
Welfare Commission. Now
on April 10, 1969 Father
Grammond wanted a hearing
that was attended by

a Miss McCall of the ⁽³⁾
Welfare Dept - my wife
Mrs Sr. &
Father Gramond and other
Interested parties - it was
said that the home was
unfit - & one of the children
didn't want to
stay home - this commin
after Father Gramond had
kept in his
house overnight for a period
of time and also - on the
night of April 7TH or 8TH

Father Bromond kept
after his mother told him
not to go and also to not
influence against
his mother & father. He
took & kept him
any way & called for the
hearing that was held on
the 10TH So - ① Father
Bromond has interfered with
a direct Court order - ②
he has caused extensive
mental anguish to Mrs. [unclear]
③ has exercised undue influence
on my children and

① Has caused me to be publicly & privately abused by his accusations and actions. ② Conducted himself in my opinion wholly unbecoming a Priest.

I am still Hospitalized in St. Vincent - since Feb. the first so have no other way but to request a date as early as possible for an appointment with you - also please be advised that I am going to have to take

some kind of legal
action against Father
Gromond for Defamation
of my home - & any other
Legal action my
Necessary to rectify his
accusation against me
personally both in public
& private - The statements
of father Gromond have been
found to be not true
& was so told as per the
Courts & Welfares
Investigations.

I do expect to leave the Hospital in no more than a week so after your Investigation or whatever you deem necessary I do want to meet with you or your representative to put a stop to this because

① - to protect my other children we might be forced to move from our home - causing us a hardship - under the conditions.

② to accomplish a satisfactory solution without resorting to legal

page-8.

means to do so -
you may call the following
persons to verify my
urgent feeling in this
matter -

~~Miss~~ Miss M^d Call of the
Welfare Commission

OFFICE - 325-2021

Home - 738-6841

and she will gladly give
you the ~~see~~ names & numbers
of all the other parties
involved - Thanking You
in advance for your prompt
action - Yours Truly
under God. J.

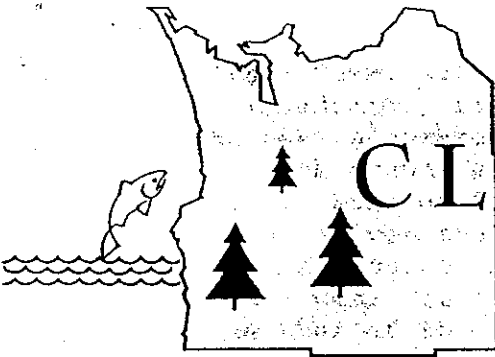
P.S.

page 4

My address is now
of Course St. Vincent Hospital
Room 330 North Bed- 3
2447 N.W. Westover Rd.
Portland Oregon - 97210
my Home address is

if you desire to phone me
~~to~~ I can be reached by
calling the 3rd floor North
& asking to speak to me
before I am discharged

again Thank you for your ^{page-1E}
prompt attention



CLATSOP COUNTY

Courthouse Astoria, Oregon 97103
May 8, 1969

The Right Reverend
Monsignor Edmund Vanderzanden
Catholic Chancery
2838 E. Burnside
Portland, Oregon 97207

Dear Monsignor:

As you will recall, you recently received a letter and a phone call from Judge Thomas E. Edison of the Clatsop County Juvenile Court regarding Father Maurice Grammond, pastor of the parish, Seaside, Oregon and his involvement with the family who reside in Seaside.

Following Judge Edison's phone conversation to you, Father Grammond for a short period of time did not interfere with the Court and our local Welfare Agency case planning for the family. We recently feel that it has come to the point that you should be notified of the circumstances. After one of the youngsters, 12 year old who Father Grammond had been quite concerned about was removed from the home and sent to live with a relative out of our area, the second youngster of the family age 10, captured Father Grammond's interest. At this time the youngsters were under the supervision of our Welfare Commission and their father was out of the area and not living in the home. Father Grammond began calling this agency concerned with the fact that this 10 year old youngster did not want to return to his home. Upon receiving these calls I immediately notified the case worker at the Welfare Commission for further investigation of Father Grammond's complaints. In the meantime Father Grammond took the boy into his home with the mother's permission and kept him there. After it became known to the Welfare officials that this was going on and they could not approve placement in Father Grammond's home, he notified an uncle of the boy in the Portland area as a foster home resource who we learned was interested in. Upon contacting the uncle, he advised that he would be unable to take the boy but it was Father Grammond's suggestion that the uncle ask for custody of the boy and then he could place the boy with Father Grammond. Our Welfare Commission felt it could not be done. In the course of events the Welfare located a foster home in the Astoria Area. The home was licensed and met all the State standards and we learned that the foster parents were relatives of Father Wilford Wyffels of the Astoria parish.

Because of his concern, Father Grammond was assured that he would be given regular reports regarding the adjustments of the boy in the foster home, which I might add at this time, we attempted to do with Father Grammond concerning the whole family situation. Our Welfare Commission planned to arrange a visitation schedule at the foster home and they were most willing to welcome Father Grammond in the foster home. He was advised of a visitation and dinner engagement at the foster home but during school about three weeks ago prior to the visitation, without the consent of the foster parents or

the Welfare Commission, he contacted _____ at the Star of the Sea School. He felt immediately that the boy was not happy in the foster home setting. He began making numerous calls to the agencies demanding that something be done. In the meantime it was told to me that he was asked by school officials at Star of the Sea to not communicate with _____ at school. After he was given these instructions, this continued to the point that he involved and brought to the school a female parishioner of his parish, who he felt would be a suitable foster home for _____ by asking her to go to the Star of the Sea School and check on _____

We conferred with him concerning this and told him we would make every effort to see that any physical or medical examination that was deemed necessary was conducted. He no sooner left the conference that we received a phone call from our American Red Cross Representative that he had been there and it was at this point that the Court felt that further action was necessary.

The caseworker in this case has indicated to me that adjustment is satisfactory in both the foster home and at school. This agency has been willing and is still willing to work with any member of the clergy in any case to the best of our ability and availability of resources. I have been assured on numerous occasions by Father Grammond that he just wants the problems of the _____ family "off his back". Each conference that we have held by phone or in person, he has left me with the impression that he was pleased with the results he was getting from the Court. It is my understanding that the staff at Star of the Sea and Father Wyffels do not feel Father Grammond's attention in this case is beneficial to _____

Since this agency has observed Father Grammond and worked with him concerning _____ older brother, I have come to the conclusion that his involvement has made it difficult for him to objectively deal with the family and has come to the point that he has exhausted the patience of the agencies concerned.

We hope that you will review this matter and take action.

Very truly yours,


Eugene L. Bui, Director
Juvenile Department

ELB:ap

CLATSOP COUNTY PUBLIC WELFARE COMMISSION

P. O. Box 88

ASTORIA, OREGON 97103

May 9, 1969

The Right Reverend
Monsignor Edmund Vanderzanden
Catholic Chancery
2838 E. Burnside
Portland, Oregon 97207

RE: Family

Dear Monsignor:

Mr. Eugene Bui, Juvenile Director, has asked that I write to you regarding Father Maurice Grammond, the parish priest in Seaside, Oregon.

Father Grammond has become extremely emotionally involved with the above named family, in particular a nine year old boy, In late March, I learned from Mrs. that was residing at the rectory with Father Grammond. As a result, I wrote to Father Grammond explaining that the Clatsop County Public Welfare Commission had custody of the children and were therefore responsible for any plans involving these children. I asked him to contact me regarding plans for , which he never did.

On April 4, 1969, a meeting was held in the Juvenile Department. Father Grammond, Mrs. Mr. Bui, Mrs. Moore, Children's Department supervisor and I attended. At this time Father Grammond was very agitated. He was extremely critical and condemnatory of both Mrs. and our agency. It was decided at that time that would be placed in foster care. We requested that Father wait a few weeks before visiting in the foster home and that he contact us before he made any visitations.

was placed in a Catholic foster home and was enrolled in Star of the Sea Catholic School. Within the first week of placement, Father went to the foster home and also to the school without our knowledge. He then consulted an attorney in an attempt to have placed with him or with an uncle in Portland as he felt had "lost all his sparkle". I then contacted Father Wyffels of the Astoria parish who talked with Father Grammond informing him that he saw almost every day and that he felt he was very happy in school and in his foster home. Father Grammond agreed that it would be best if he did not see He stated that he would accept Father Wyffel's word regarding

However, the same night Father Grammond contacted the Clatsop County District Attorney at his home stating that he wanted removed from his foster home placement.

Monsignor Vanderzanden

RE: family

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Shortly after this Father Grammond again went to the school to see but was refused permission to see the child by Sister Patricia, 3rd grade teacher. Father Grammond had received a letter from which stated that he was happy in the foster home. Father felt that the letter had been dictated and that had not actually written the letter. Sister Patricia pointed out the mistakes in the letter and felt that she had convinced him that had in fact written the letter.

We have heard nothing from Father Grammond for approximately a week except that he has written two letters to We strongly feel that Father Grammond has been very disruptive to the family as a whole, and also has caused distress for the foster parents and great confusion for

Because of our concern for the foster family, the family and especially himself, we felt that you should be aware of the situation.

Very truly yours,

CLATSOP COUNTY PUBLIC WELFARE COMMISSION
Robert N. White, Administrator

Barbara McCall

(Miss) Barbara McCall, Caseworker
Children's and Family Services

cc: Gene Bui, Juvenile Director

BMC:el

PD 0047

19 May 1969

Miss Barbara McCall, Caseworker
Children's and Family Services
Clatsop County Public Welfare Commission
P.O. Box 88
Astoria, Oregon 97103

Dear Miss McCall:

Thank you for your letter of 9 May 1969 relative to the involvements of Father Maurice Grammond, Seaside, Oregon in the case of the FAMILY. Archbishop Dwyer has written to Father Grammond and we sincerely hope that there will be no further difficulty. Should there be a recurrence of this same problem, we would ask that you kindly inform us.

Very sincerely yours,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edmund G. Van der Zanden
C h a n c e l l o r

ob

PD 0048

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: File
FROM: Father Lienert
SUBJECT: Visit of Fr. Grammond
DATE: February 6, 1992

Fr. Grammond came to my office unannounced in an agitated condition. He was upset about a number of issues. He repeatedly said that I was stupid to think that he would have anything to do with children because of something that happened twenty years ago. I told him that since we know that he abused minors in the past we had an obligation get an evaluation of the risk. He became more agitated and said he could not remember anything which happened twenty years ago.

He expressed his anger at having been sent to Shalom Center. He said all the other priests there had a car, and he did not. He also was upset at having to pay his return trip. I started to explain that he made that choice, but he interrupted. He said he was going to get a lawyer and bring all this out in public. I told him that I thought he was the one that would be hurt if he did that. He said that he did not care.

He said that Archbishop Dwyer had talked to him about this years ago, and that Archbishop Dwyer was a decent bishop. He said that Fr. Jim Harris was accused of child abuse fifteen years ago and nothing has happened to him. He also said the chancery office has been after him for seventeen years and was responsible for the desecration of the Eucharist at Arch Cape by allowing it to be reserved there. He repeated that he was going to get a lawyer and bring the whole story out.

He asked me for the names of those who accused him so that he could get to the bottom of this. I said I could not give him those names. He said that one of them was a drug addict and alcoholic and he was angry with him because he had been an altar boy an he had trained him. He said if he found out who he was he would let him know what he thought. I told him that is why would would not give him the name of the victims.

I told him that he would have a chance to speak with Archbishop Levada when he returned. He said that he would give the Archbishop a piece of his mind. After repeating these issues several times he slammed the door and left.

I was appointed pastor, in 1966, of the Seaside parish with a mission at Arch Cape. Each Sunday there were 3 Masses at Seaside and 2 at Arch Cape. Masses in the Summer were increased. Msgr Geo Smith, retired at Arch Cape, said the Masses there. I did all the other work for Arch Cape. At Seaside, I had a hospital and a large rest home to care for. In the parish I was not only the pastor but I was the janitor for the rectory and the church. I counted the collection, typed the bulletin and did all the other jobs as there was no help. There was very little money in one checking account to care for both Seaside and Arch Cape. After six months I decided to get a part time secretary. I went to the city hall to find one. They told me that there are no part time secretaries in the whole area. Then a lady said: "I had a little office experience before she married but she has a large family." I made an appointment to see the family. When I arrived and six children were there. The oldest son had graduated the previous June and moved to the state of Washington. I explained that I needed a part time secretary to work from 9 am until noon. The children said nothing, said nothing. Her husband, in a loud and stern voice said: "I forbid my wife to go to work. I will not allow it. She will stay home and take care of the family." I responded: "I don't want to upset the family. Why don't you talk it over and let me know." I left and went home.

Unknown to me, that family never talked things over. Eight years later, some of the men living by the mobile home told me: " is a confirmed alcoholic, who rules his home with an iron fist, his word is law and he beats his wife and children." That is a sick family. In all alcoholic families there is a cover up as they don't want anyone to know. Father Jim Royce S.J. who wrote a book on Alcoholism and taught at Seattle University, occasionally helped me with Summer Masses, told me: "All alcoholics believe that they are always right and everyone else is wrong. That is why it is hard to get them in for treatment. You say to them, 'You are drinking too much'. And they say, 'No you are wrong, I don't drink too much.'" So one can never convince them that they need help." Father also talked at the AA meetings in Seaside.

About six weeks later, came and took the job as secretary and she said nothing. Years later, after I learned her husband was an alcoholic, I wondered, when she went home that night, how did she escape the wrath of her husband? There was only one way and that was she told him so many lies that he blamed me the parish priest for his wife going to work.

In 1967, the oldest girl graduated from Hi school. I went to the graduation, after which I heard the girl say: "I don't believe in marriage." A week later she grabbed her boy friend in Seaside and they moved to the state of Washington. Also there was a 15 yr old girl who was pregnant out of wedlock. Her case was connected to the court in Astoria. I am sure that she also moved to the state of Washington.

In 1969 two of the boys became altarboys. They told me: "We are warned at home that if we tell outside what happens in our house we have had it."

At that time I didn't know that their father was an alcoholic. The oldest of these boys, liked athletics and outdoor activities while the younger boy, cared nothing about athletics. He was kinda feminine. The two hated each other and so whenever they got near each other there was a fist fight. liked to go hunting with his father, so I gave him a gun. These were the only boys of all the boys that I worked with, including the boys that I taught in Public school, that were prone to violence. It is said that violence begets violence. Children are the windows of the home.

The boys went on the altarboy mountain camping trip in '69 and '70 and all went well. But on the trip in 1971 they brought Beebee guns and deliberately shot each other--brother shooting brother. I wondered what kind of a home did they come from. I had to hide the guns or they would have injured each other.

When I got home, I told the secretary, their mother, that her boys were always fighting and about the guns. I said: "you should talk to your boys." She heard my words as if I had said: "You are a bad mother." She vowed revenge. In September '71 entered Hi school and in '72 entered Hi school. Like all the altarboys, after they entered High school they never came around.

In the Summer of 1973, in the morning, I was watching TV in the room next to the office and the doors were open. was in the next room at the office desk. She came to the door and said: "My son would like to talk to you." I said: "Let him come in." came in and stood at my left. I was sitting on the davenport. I asked: "What can I do for you? how can I help you?" He gave no answer. Suddenly he pulled down his pants and dove on my lap. I shoved him onto the floor and ordered him out. Nothing like that had ever happened to me before. Unknown to me was the fact that his mother planned this as her revenge. She ordered her son to do this while she stood in the hall and watched. She did this not only for revenge but that she could go home and prove to her husband that she never lied to him as the priest is to blame for everything as he abused their 15 yr old son. I was in the parish 12 more years and I never saw for his mother kept him away as she was afraid that he might talk and tell how his mother planned it all. I saw again but not

Seven months later, in the Spring of 1974, I was called to see Archbishop Dwyer who said: "We have a witness who saw you abuse a child." I asked: "Who was the witness?" He would not tell me. I asked: "How can you have a witness when I didn't abuse anyone?" He said: "Then be careful". If he had told me who it was I could have defended myself. I never thought of If a priest would abuse a child and the mother was a witness she would call the Archbishop that day or not later then the next day. was very cleaver, she waited seven months, knowing that I would forget the incident in such a busy parish.

In 1974, one of the girls was married in the church. I performed the wedding. She and her husband lived in an apartment in south Seaside. About a year later, her husband had gone to work, she was along and gave birth to a baby. Someone found her and she and the baby were taken to the hospital. She was asked how did this happen? She said that she didn't know she was pregnant. I never heard if the baby lived or not. The couple moved to the state of Washington.

In 1975 graduated from Hi school and married a woman outside of the church. There were two children involved. Five years later his wife kicked him out. Why? What example did he get from his father? turned to drugs and alcohol and moved later into the mobile home with his father. A short time before, moved into an apartment. In the mobile home and his father drank together, bitching about the fact that was not there to cook for them. And again who was the blame for this the Catholic priest.

I knew for 18 years. She never smiled or laughed, she was always pokerfaced. She never talked about anyone, not even her grandchildren. All mothers talk about their grandchildren. Two weeks before I moved from Seaside, I was telling two of the older ladies of the Altar Society, about the knowledge that had of people. They looked at me with surprise and said: "Father, don't you know that is the biggest gossip in the whole area and knows the dirt on every family." the owner of restaurant, told me: "The whole family is sick." I think that is mentally sick.

Seven years after I retired and about nineteen years after her first attempt, tries again to get revenge. She reported me to Archbishop Leveda. I was called in and run through a kangaroo court and given the third degree. I was put under extreme pressure. My constitutional rights were ignored as no one would tell me who complained about me. Then I was sent away for rehabilitation which I didn't need.

Afterwards, I put it all together and realized what the family did to me in the Seaside parish. I also realized that and her children became habitual liars to escape the wrath of the alcoholic father. used me to escape from her alcoholic husband. probably blames me for breaking up his happy home. I don't think that the four children living in Washington ever came home to visit their parents.

In Reno, a little over two years ago, I met of Seaside who owned the store. They are friends of mine. Mrs after awhile said: Father, I go to the church on Monday to help count the collection. We are covering up for since she can't remember numbers any more. You know that she is the little old lady that live in an apartment, who is all alone and has no one." I asked: "What happened to her husband and children?" Mrs answered: "I didn't know that she had a husband and children." Why would try to convince the people in the parish and Seaside that she is alone and has no one? This brings up a question: Did she disown her family or did the family disown her. The latter is probably true. Her children want her to move back into the mobile with their father which she won't do. So they have disowned her. Rightly she can say 'I am the little old lady who lives alone and has no one.'

needs mental help and needs alcoholic treatment. If we could bring this about they may go back together. is still the secretary of the parish. I am sure that she is still gossiping about the pastor and the parish.

This testimony is true and is given at Beaverton, Oregon by
Father Grammond, a former pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish,
Seaside, Oregon.

Date: 1993

Father Grammond
