

Foughy

†
Sacred Heart Seminary

Rt. 6, Box 528
Alvin, TX 77511

December 15th 1984.

Dear Eberhardt,

Time goes by so quickly. It is now a little over two years since we arrived back in the U.S. from a pleasant visit with you and Dr Hiller and your families. I might say that I was very impressed with you all. Your two bright children will have grown a lot since then. I am sorry to say that I have forgotten their names. Forgive me for corresponding so very rarely; I assure you my time is very fully occupied.

Even though the months have passed rapidly, there have been numerous developments over here in the U.S.A., some of them good and satisfactory, others very regrettable and damaging to Our Holy Mother the Church.

I)....To speak first of the "good": the work of the Bishops -- Bishops Musey and Vezelis OFM....1) In the earlier stages their coordination appeared to be good and normal, and they had a common objective - to work together for the best results for the priests and people committed to their care.....2) There was peace also among priests and chapels, though sadly, very few priests have submitted to the authority of the bishops, and this to my mind is a schismatic tendency, because the obligatory "mark" of the Catholic Church is first of all in her APOSTOLICITY, her authority coming from Christ through His Apostles and their true successors- Bishops. Reject that authority and you have schism.

3)....There has been a reasonable spirit of Catholicism among the people attending our Masses. I say "reasonable" as opposed to fervent, because after twenty years of confusion and opposition and the absence of the Mass and of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, faith and fervour have been inevitably overlaid, sometimes deeply, with the ashes of lukewarmness and lethargy.

II)....But to come now to the second point, the regrettable and damaging developments in the traditional Catholic Church in this country. I wish it could be as brief as Point One, but it is

unlikely.

In the first place, let me say that these issues are primarily and strictly "domestic"; that is, they are the concern of the hierarchy alone, and for the sake of good order and the avoidance of scandal, they should be treated privately and confidentially by the bishops. If conditions in the Church were normal, they would of course have been brought much earlier to the attention of the Vatican for summary action.

The laity have, however, due to the special circumstances of the present age, become involved and even over-involved - to the greatest satisfaction of Satan, the prime architect of destruction and division. Many of them (the laity) he has filled with a dangerous pride in hearing themselves talk (by word of mouth or of print) about matters that are not within their proper field of knowledge or authority or more importantly of sacramental Order. This problem calls for official warning by the Bishops -- and for deep humility among the lay offenders.

The affairs of the Catholic Church were progressing quite satisfactorily until early February of this year (1984), when an unwelcome disagreement arose between the two bishops, about a young Mexican, Antonio Garcia, aged 18, who arrived at this address. It was very inconvenient for us at that particular time because we had not even settled in this new Seminary property. Because, however, of the repeated and frantic pleadings of Bishop Vezelis, we accepted him nevertheless. I do not intend to go into all the details; it would take too long and is quite unnecessary.... Then as suddenly and insistently as Bp Vezelis had sent him here, he demanded that he be returned to Rochester. But at this point Antonio objected. He gave us the reasons, and we could only support his refusal, and advise him not to return under any consideration.

The reason -- Bishop Vezelis is a homosexual. Sorry, but that is the case, like it or not. I can forgive any man his weaknesses, as well I might, but closing ones' eyes to a situation like this, and to its evil effects, is a totally different matter.... I do, of course, hate revealing to you this unpleasant fact, but you should know. It is only because we are quite certain of the facts and think it important that you should be informed of the actual

situation here, that I am commissioned to write to you.

Bishop Vezelis claimed that Antonio was under obedience to him. This was certainly untrue. There may have been some commitment regarding immigration, but Antonio was 18 years of age, not professed, and quite free to walk out of Rochester any time he liked. And he did wish to get out and stay out for the moral reasons he alleged. He had made earlier efforts to leave, and even travelled as far as Fr Altenbach's residence in Milwaukee (Wis.) to lay his case before him and seek his advice.

The chief ground for the Bishop's claim to his obedience was, I suspect, that of Hypnotism. It is also a fact that he does use hypnotism on some at least of his subjects. He claims, I understand, that it helps the memory. I personally reject absolutely such a practise in religious life, and am inclined to suspect this explanation as a cover-up for some hidden and less virtuous motive.

The Bishop was constantly phoning this young man while he was here, urging him to come back, and eventually he (Bp Vezelis) arrived at the Seminary one evening with Bro. Francis (OFM). Of course I offered them hospitality. As they were leaving the next day, the Bishop remarked to a man working here (not to me) that he would be back - he had something to pick up. We knew this would be Anthony.

They departed for Mexico and a few days later returned quite late in the evening to remove Antonio. The Bishop rushed into the house in a most discourteous manner and, followed by Bro. Francis, came into the Chapel (Blessed Sacrament reserved) and demanded to speak to me. He was very truculent and offensive in his manner. I asked him to come down to my study and discuss his problem quietly. He demanded, even as he had done previously with Bishop ^{Murray} in a very personal matter, that the Brother be present throughout our discussion.... This is, I am sure, where the hypnotism is useful to him. His witness, out of a false notion of obedience or through hypnotic influence, will confirm his lies. During our heated talk he lost his ^{self} control completely, and struck me several times around the head. I am pleased I did not retaliate.... But he denies this -- and so does his witness! He declares that I am a liar, which I am NOT. And he has his religious witness to support him.... Eventually they left without seeing Antonio, but the Bishop did say: "You will regret this, Fouhy".

Since that time things have been going from bad to worse in U.S. Catholic Church, and all of this has to be placed fairly and squarely on Bishop Vezelis and on him alone, as a result of his frustrated mission. He has become most vindictive and malicious in word and action in an effort to whitewash himself by denigrating other normal and honourable men. He has resorted especially to constant character assassination regarding Bishop Musey and myself. Believe me, a frustrated homosexual is a bad enemy to have. I say sincerely that I hate this duty of informing you two gentlemen (for whom I entertain great respect) of these facts, but you must know them. Bishop Vezelis is, I believe, acting as Bishop of Germany -- splendid, if he were a normal and holy priest. But to the other Bishops - Musey, Altenbach, Seibert- and Carmona - he seems to have become possessed by Satanic hatred, and is doing untold damage in creating divisions and maliciously smashing groups that were at peace and functioning well.

It was on account of these strange aberrations and unpriestly actions that Bishop Musey and others decided that something must be done urgently to protect the Church in the United States. Bishop Musey's health is not the best - as you observed, though thank God he appears to be much better these days - and furthermore he has had severe heart attacks in the past. If he were to die, the situation under such an evil bishop as Vezelis has turned out to be, would be very critical indeed. It was therefore very wisely decided that in view of this urgent crisis, this was a fitting moment to implement the earlier plan to consecrate more bishops, as Archbishop Thuc had clearly wished and recommended at the Dallas (Tx) meeting. Bishop Vezelis was fully aware of this public intention, yet here again his reaction to the new Bishops has been quite irrational and unchristian.

The conduct of Bishop Vezelis towards these two worthy Bishops since their consecration - Bishops Altenbach and Seibert - has been nothing short of scandalous, not to say diabolical. He is determined to undermine them and to divide and destroy their formerly happy and loyal supporters. I am convinced that at this time he is not in the way of salvation. He is concerned more about his reputation than about his salvation. He is in grave need of our prayers. By letter

and by telephone he is doing his utmost to destroy good bishops and people, and this Seminary in particular. He is making a special effort to discredit me, mainly I think to create a smokescreen to hide himself, a scapegoat to draw attention from himself. Detraction and calumny seem to mean nothing to him.

I am of course very conscious of my unpriestly record for a short period; but I ask myself: Would I be otherwise in the Novus Ordo apostasy?? The rather severe penance I undertook at the end of 1971, carrying a wooden Cross on my shoulder from the Northern tip of my country (New Zealand) to the Southern - a distance of 1300 miles - solved my problems and left me a free man - still a priest! Early in 1977 after a great deal of prayer I felt myself strongly invited by God to return to the priestly ministry in England. I have no doubts at all about my decision, and am at peace in my soul. I am most grateful to Our Lord for His wonderful mercy, and by His grace will do my best for His Church as long as I live. I can assure you that Satan has a special hate for those who escape his net.

Bishop Vezelis is trying his utmost to poison people against Bishop Musey, calling him a Jew and a Nazi and a Communist. No one could do more to destroy the true Church than he is doing over here.

You may be assured that the three Bishops are doing their best to find a solution to this diabolic attack on souls. They are competent and prayerful men who will rely on the guidance and power of the Holy Ghost. Persecution points out very clearly where the true Church is. Grave harm, however is still being done to many souls by the diabolical malice out of Rochester. "The children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light." (Lk 16.8).

It is difficult to know what exactly is the best action to take in a situation such as this. Recourse to Rome is no longer possible. If it were, the problem would be resolved quickly and effectively.

I wish, finally, to assure you two gentlemen that I hate the task of writing to you about this sad situation, but I believe, and so does Bishop Musey, that you should be given another side to the story you may have heard. And let me say again - this is a true report on the unhappy state of the Church in the USA at this time.

May God bless you and your wonderful families and shower down on you all His special Christmas graces. Happy New Year!

Very sincerely in Our Lord,

Father Thomas G. Fouhy V.G.