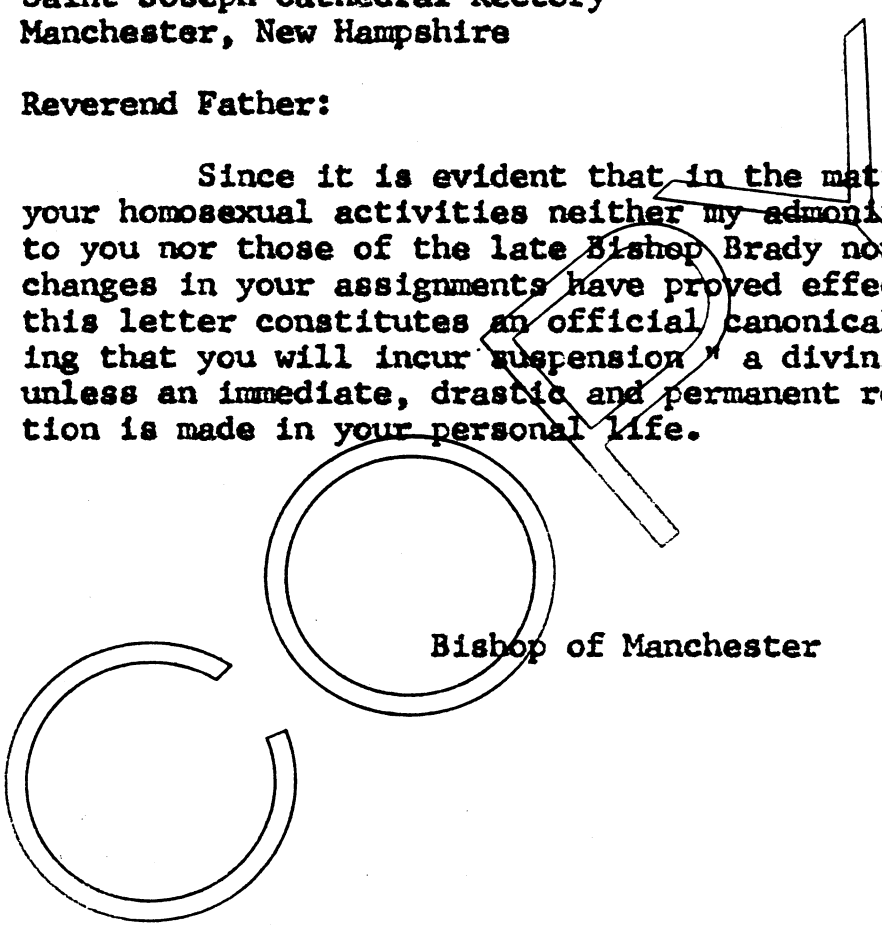


June 30, 1961

Rev. Donald M. Osgood
Saint Joseph Cathedral Rectory
Manchester, New Hampshire

Reverend Father:

Since it is evident that in the matter of your homosexual activities neither my admonitions to you nor those of the late Bishop Brady nor changes in your assignments have proved effectual, this letter constitutes an official canonical warning that you will incur suspension "a divinis" unless an immediate, drastic and permanent reformation is made in your personal life.



Bishop of Manchester

July 14, 1961

Very Rev. Gerald Fitzgerald, Servant General
Servants of the Paraclete
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Dear Father Gerald:

Bishop Primeau was obliged to leave for Rome earlier than expected today because of weather conditions. He has asked me to inform you that he has directed Father Donald M. Osgood to report at Via Coeli as soon as his travel arrangements can be completed. I presume that this will be some day next week. He is to leave his car in New Hampshire and travel by plane or train.

Please know that we deeply appreciate your assistance in this and other matters.

With personal good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Rt. Rev. Thomas S. Hansberry,
Chancellor

P.S. This is the person mentioned in the Bishop's letter of July 10th and in your telegram of July 12th.

3918

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1201 (4-60)

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

BA124 LB083

1961 JUL 12 PM 2 49

L AYA361 PD=JEMEZ SPRINGS NMEX 12 1105A MST=

=BISHOP ERNEST PRIMEAU=

BISHOPS HOUSE 657 RIVER RD MANCHESTER NHAMP=

=PROPOSAL ACCEPTED. SEND PAPERS HERE=

FATHER GERALD FITZGERALD=.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

July 10, 1961

Very Rev. Gerald Fitzgerald, Servant General
Servants of the Paraclete
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Dear Father Gerald:

I expect to leave for Rome on Friday of this week but there is one matter which I must take care of before my departure. I have a young person who has been involved with boys and we feel that the time has come, after repeated warnings, to send him away for a while. Will you please let me know your advice on the subject.

In the event that you can take this person at Jemez Springs or another house, perhaps you could wire me about it if you think an air mail letter would not reach me in time. I do not trust the telephone for such matters because of the dangers of a leak. A collect message could be sent as follows:

"Proposal accepted. Send papers to _____."

"Proposal not acceptable. Suggest _____."

With appreciation and cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

July 14, 1961

Rev. Donald M. Osgood
c/o St. Timothy Rectory
Bristol, New Hampshire

Dear Father Osgood:

In keeping with the plan discussed at our recent meeting, I have arranged for you to go to Via Coeli in Jemez Springs, New Mexico. I have received confirmation of your acceptance there from Father Gerald Fitzgerald, Servant General, and he will be expecting you.

I prefer that you leave your car in New Hampshire and travel by either train or plane. If you do not have adequate funds for the trip, you may contact Monsignor Hansberry who will advance them to you.

I feel that this assignment will be for your spiritual, mental and physical well-being. It will mean much to you in your priesthood, provided you accept it in the proper spirit and make every effort to cooperate with the graces which will be given to you.

Please make your travel arrangements as soon as possible. When they are completed, let Monsignor Hansberry know so that he can notify Father Gerald.

With a blessing and most cordial good wishes,

I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

BISHOP'S HOUSE
657 RIVER ROAD
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

July 29, 1961

Rev. Gilles Simard
St. Timothy Rectory
Bristol, New Hampshire

Dear Father Simard:

Will you please contact Father Osgood at his home and ask him to come to your rectory to receive the enclosed letter? When you have done so and he has accepted it, kindly notify the Chancery Office that you have done so.

With appreciation and best wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,


Bishop of Manchester

8-10-61

Mon Monsignor:

Fr Osgood came to the rectory and accepted the said letter
at 11:45 A.M. today - August 10th.

Fr Simard

July 29, 1961

Rev. Donald M. Osgood
c/o St. Timothy Rectory
Bristol, New Hampshire

Dear Father Osgood:

More than two weeks have elapsed since you were directed both orally and in writing to proceed to Via Coeli in Jemez Springs, N. M. I understand that you have not seen fit to follow these directions. I again bring them to your attention with the added comment that, if you have not complied with them by noon on Thursday, August 3, you may consider yourself automatically suspended.

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

August 17, 1961

Very Rev. Gerald Fitzgerald, Servant General
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Re: Rev. Donald M. Osgood

Dear Father Gerald:

Although the Most Reverend Bishop is away
and I shall not be in contact with him for several days,
I am sure that we may presume his permission for Father
Osgood to say Mass privately at Via Coeli. You may allow
him to do so unless you hear differently from the Bishop.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Thomas S. Mansberry,
Chancellor

Via Coeli

MONASTERY OF THE SERVANTS OF THE PARACLETE

3924

OF THE SERVANT GENERAL

Jemez Springs, New Mexico

August 14, 1961

The Right Reverend
Monsignor Thomas S. Hansberry, S.T.L.
Chancellor: Diocese of Manchester
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, N. H.

Dear Monsignor:

This will inform you, and through you His Excellency, that Father Donald Osgood arrived here on the 12th inst. He impresses us as being sincere in his attempt to regain his spiritual and priestly balance, and we will do all we can to promote that goal.

Since Father told us that he had been suspended before leaving the diocese, we have asked him not to offer the Holy Sacrifice until his status is determined by you.

We will, of course, welcome this and any other information or directives which His Excellency may wish to give us in order to salvage ^{if possible} the priesthood of this individual.

Very cordially in Spiritu,

F. Goulding of the Holy Spirit

Servant General

August 10, 1961

Very Rev. Gerald Fitzgerald
Via Coeli ^{New}
Jemez Springs, [^]Mexico

Dear Father Gerald:

Father Donald M. Osgood expects to leave here by plane for Jemez Springs on Friday morning. His reservations are not confirmed beyond Kansas City, so I do not know when he will arrive. It is my understanding that he plans to go by way of Albuquerque unless it is necessary to make another routing. He will probably telephone you when he reaches a contact point. I presume there is a bus to Jemez Springs.

Father Osgood has been discharged as a patient by the bone specialist who operated on his back in January and the doctor has informed me that he is in good physical condition and could even ride horseback if the horse did not throw him. However, Father tells me that he is not able to carry his suitcase. This seems strange in view of the doctor's report.

I have given Father a check for \$200.00 to cover his plane fare and incidental expenses en route. Please bill us for his board and room at your house. We regret that he has taken so long to begin the trip because we had expected him to leave three weeks ago.

With appreciation and cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas S. Hansberry,
Chancellor

Sealed

3926

September 18, 1961

Father Gerald of the Holy Spirit,
Servant General
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Dear Father Gerald:

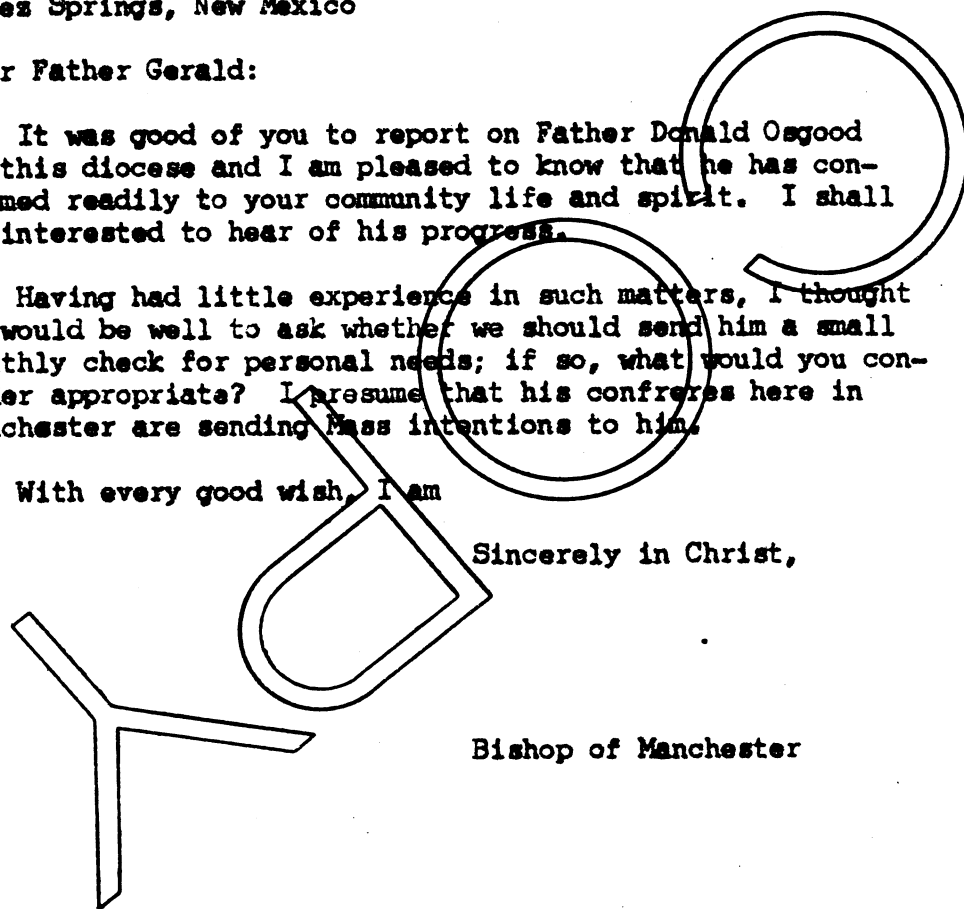
It was good of you to report on Father Donald Osgood of this diocese and I am pleased to know that he has conformed readily to your community life and spirit. I shall be interested to hear of his progress.

Having had little experience in such matters, I thought it would be well to ask whether we should send him a small monthly check for personal needs; if so, what would you consider appropriate? I presume that his confreres here in Manchester are sending Mass intentions to him.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester



Via Coeli

MONASTERY OF THE SERVANTS OF THE PARACLETE

3927

E OF THE SERVANT GENERAL

Jemez Springs, New Mexico

September 13, 1961

His Excellency
The Most Rev. Ernest J. Primeau, D.D.
Bishop of Manchester
657 River Road
Manchester, New Hampshire

RE: FATHER DONALD OSGOOD

Most Reverend and dear Bishop:

Father Osgood has, from his coming,
conformed readily to our community life and spirit.
We are not aware of any deviation from priestly
self-discipline.

Most cordially in Spiritu,



Servant General

September 22, 1961

Dear Tom,

Just a few lines to thank you for sending along my mail. The letter that you sent from Manchester to Father Gerald notifying him that I was arriving didn't get here til August 22nd or thereabouts. I guess it got lost on the way. However my trip out here was uneventful but I did have to stay overnight in Albuquerque because I was unable to contact the monastery. The telephone service out here is quite poor especially in the mountain regions.

I would appreciate it if someone could dig out my Autumnal version of the Breviary. At present I am borrowing one but would like to have my own. To the best of my knowledge it was in the bookcase with my other books.

Do you think that I should write the Bishop and thank him for this opportunity to get back on my feet again and also to apologize for not coming sooner? Also, I am running low on funds. I have several bills due the first of the month besides the minor expenses here. So far I haven't charged anything. I know that I am not in much of a position to ask for anything but I did all I could before I left to pay up what I could.

I said Mass on the 21st for Bishop Brady. Wasn't sure when his anniversary was but St. Matthew's feast was quite appropriate. Understand that Father Dee died. Didn't get any notification from you as yet, however.

My best regards to everyone at home and will be looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely in Xto.



September 25, 1961

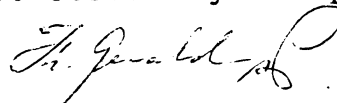
His Excellency
The Most Rev. Ernest J. Primeau, D.D.
Bishop of Manchester
657 River Road
Manchester, N. H.

Most Reverend and dear Bishop:

In your gracious letter of the 18th inst. Your Excellency asks about the prudence of sending to Father Osgood a small monthly check for his personal needs. This would indeed be a fine charity and we surely would not be adverse to Your Excellency's decision to do so. However, since personal needs here are at a minimum, most of our priest-guests find it entirely possible to care for such from the Mass intentions which they receive. You may prefer to send Father a certain number of these each month; though, if he is not already receiving enough from his priest-friends, we are almost always in a position to furnish them.

Enclosed Your Excellency will find the letter which came in the mail this morning from Bishop Espelage which will advise you of the latest development in the matter of Fr. J.S.

Most cordially in Spiritu,



Servant General

Rev. Donald M. Osgood
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, N. M.

October 3, 1961

Dear Don,

Many thanks for your letter of September 22nd. I had hoped to be able to answer long before this but things have been a bit hectic and the Bishop is in Rome. Your letter must have been aboard the plane which landed in Boston harbor because it was watersoaked and yellowed. It bore the notation: "Damaged in handling in the postal service" and was unsealed.

I forgot to ask someone to send you your breviary but will try to find it when I go upstairs at five and will mail it to you.

The Bishop has told me to send you the enclosed check for \$75.00 to help you keep up with expenses. Of course, we are paying for your board and room every month.

Frankly, I think it would be wise for you to sell your car and pay off some of your bills. Your loan from the finance company will eat up what little money you have or are able to obtain and you will just keep getting in deeper. Besides, you certainly will not be allowed to drive around in a convertible when you get back. Also, the car is depreciating while you are away.

I don't know what your situation is regarding the house and land which you bought but you have to consider the possibility of suits if you don't meet the payments. Perhaps you should have your father or someone represent you back here and take care of your obligations. Since you don't know how long you will be in New Mexico, you won't want to let matters drag along.

I hadn't changed your name on the mailing list and that is the reason why you haven't been receiving the diocesan letters. I shall gather a set of them to mail under separate cover. Will make a note to keep you posted .

All in the house are well and Dave Morley is working in well. He gained in stature by repairing my radio-record player today. Seems like a nice lad. A number of people have asked for you and we tell them you are out there for your health.

Best wishes from all of us here at the house. Take care of yourself!

Fraternally in Christ,

D. H.

3931

SERVANTS OF THE HOLY PARACLETE
VIA COELI MONASTERY
JEMEZ SPRINGS, N. M.

Oct. 31, 1961

For Care of Rev. Donald M. Osgood

10-1-61 to 10-31-61 \$150.00

OK

Osgood.

November 14, 1961

Dear Tom,

Answered.

Was happy to receive your note yesterday with check enclosed. I'm most grateful for the money and my thanks to you and the Bishop.

In your letter of Oct 3rd you mentioned about my house and land. This situation no longer exists as I have sign off both and no longer have any obligations in this regard. One of the lawyers in Albuquerque handled the legal aspect of it for me. So now it's just a question of cleaning up a few of my personal bills which were incurred at the time of building. It certainly has been an

experience productive of good lesson.

The Prevarier arrived in good shape; thanks for sucking them along. This week we are on retreat. The retreat master, a Fr. Fischer, C.M. gives evidence of a solid retreat, but eat and drink. Along with the prayer life, I am trying to make a review of my Theology from Farrell's "Conjurer to the Human".

Am doing my best to cooperate with the opportunity given.

Any mass stands you could send along would be very welcome. My regards to everyone and am looking forward to my return to the shore.

On to

Shore

PL NAME: Donald Matthew Osgood

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 18 July, 1927 - Rochester, New Hampshire

DATE AND PLACE OF ORDINATION: 4 June, 1955 - St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester, N.H.

NAME OF ORDAINING BISHOP: Matthew F. Brady

DATE OF INCARDINATION (IF EXTERN): _____

SCHOOLS ATTENDED;	YEARS ATTENDANCE;
Elementary: <u>Allen St. School, Rochester, N.H.</u>	<u>6yrs</u>
High School: <u>Spaulding Hr. & High School, Rochester, N.H.</u>	<u>6 yrs</u>
College: <u>St. Anselm's College, Manchester, N.H.</u>	<u>4 yrs</u>
Seminaries: <u>St. Anselm's Sem.</u>	<u>1yr.</u>
<u>St. Paul's Sem. Ottawa, Canada</u>	<u>3 yrs.</u>
Postgraduate: _____	_____

ACADEMIC DEGREES (When and Where Obtained):
Bachelor of Arts - St. Anselm's College, 1951
Bachelor of Theology - St. Paul's Seminary 1955

APPOINTMENTS AS ASSISTANT (When and Where Appointed):
1955 - St. Joseph's, Lincoln, N.H. (3 weeks)
1955 - St. Joseph's Cath., Manchester, N.H. 2 months.
1955 - Sacred Heart Hospital, & St. Patrick's Home 5 yrs.
1960 - St. Joseph's Cath., Manchester, N.H.
Music director at Cathedral from Nov. 1955-

APPOINTMENTS AS PASTOR (When and Where Appointed):

3935

OSGOOD, DONALD M
PERSONAL DATA

November 27, 1961

Father Gerald of the Holy Spirit, S.G.
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Confidential

Dear Father Gerald:

Allow me to acknowledge your letter of November 16 which arrived while I was in Washington. It has to do with Father Donald Osgood. I have looked into the matter and find that [REDACTED] of [REDACTED], Manchester is a young married man in the early twenties with two small children. He is presently seeking to adopt or take in a foster child, a boy aged 12. His recommendations seem to be in order and he has been active in Scouting. I do not know what his connection is with Fr. O. but any young man friendly with him would be suspect. This may seem harsh, but it is true because of past experience.

We have had one protest from the parents of a boy who has been receiving letters from Fr. O and they are very much disturbed. He was close to the family and they had no idea of anything out of the ordinary until recently. In his letters he speaks of "Meeting and enjoying new friends in New Mexico." The boy has become very irritable and disobedient and his marks in school have dropped.

There are rumors (no more) around the city of other boys who have been hearing from Jemez Springs but I have been unable to confirm them. Some of the stories are a bit wild.

From this you can judge that the Bishop will not be interested in having Fr. O return to New Hampshire in the near future. We are interested in his rehabilitation if it is at all possible, but it does not appear that he has changed very much yet.

I am leaving for the CCD convention in Dallas this morning and will return a week from today. If there is anything more I can do to assist you, please let me know.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rt. R. v. Thomas S. Hansberry,
Chancellor

November 16, 1961

The Right Reverend
Monsignor Thomas S. Hansberry
Chancellor: Diocese of Manchester
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, N. H.

Dear Monsignor:

Our work calls for us to be as simple as the dove and as wary as the serpent, and I ask you to consider this communication strictly confidential.

Father Donald Osgood is, of course, anxious to return to the Diocese. He has done everything required of him here. The problem for us is that of evaluating the extent of a real conversion in his case.

*very interesting man
2-22-62 J.S. H.*

A recommendation for return from us would depend upon a quite easily ascertained fact. If [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] in Manchester is a married man that recommendation is hereby given to His Excellency. If, on the other hand, [REDACTED] is not married, we do not make this recommendation. At any rate, it may well be that Bishop Primeau wishes Father Osgood to remain here for a longer period. Our own general recommendation for men of this type is that they understand that there is one chance "coming up"; and that if the man fails, there will be no further opportunity for the cura animarum anywhere.

Please do not mention [REDACTED]'s name in any letter to Father Osgood. We will be able to infer from your answer to this letter what you have discovered about the man in question.

Undoubtedly this all seems rather
cloak and dagger to you, but when I see you or His
Excellency I will be able to give the explanation
viva voce.

Very cordially in Spiritu,

The General of the Staff
Servant General

December 5, 1961

Rt. Rev. Thomas S. Hansberry
Chancellor
Diocese of Manchester

Confidential

Right Reverend and dear Monsignor:

Father Gerald is absent in Rome for a time and probably will not return until some time toward the end of the month. Your letter arrived in his absence but he will see it of course immediately after his return. In the meantime we will try to observe Father closely and to encourage him in any way that is possible for us. I think that you do understand however Monsignor, that we cannot interfere with the public mails. We had no idea of course that Father was sending out numerous letters such as those of which you complained. It was just such a suspicion about a letter addressed to the gentleman mentioned that gave rise to Father's doubt and his hesitation in recommending Father when he wrote to you as he did.

We are placed in a very difficult position knowing that letters which should not be sent are actually going out but any interference on our part with the mail - or any censorship of it - would be a definite violation of the man's civil rights. Since Father is not frank and honest in his talks with us, protesting his complete rehabilitation, there does not seem much that we can do to help him. His masquerade of child-like innocence is hard to stomach and harder to deal with.

Very shortly after your letter arrived, Father Donald came to me and asked me if we had heard anything from the diocese. In the interests of truth I had to tell him that His Excellency had said that he was not yet convinced that his rehabilitation was yet complete and that he was unwilling to have him return soon to the diocese. Father asked me what reason was given. I was not of course free to divulge the reasons as you have explained them in your letter. I advised Father that his only way of finding out what the reasons were would be to write directly and personally to you. If he does, it will permit you to tell him as much or as little as you desire. You may be assured Monsignor, that we will cooperate wholeheartedly with any course of action which His Excellency chooses to indicate to us.

With our very sincere wishes to you for a Blessed and a very Happy Christmas Season, I am,

Very Sincerely in Spiritu,

December 28, 1961

Dear Tom,

Now that the rush of the Christmas season is over I can settle down to getting caught up on my correspondence. I'm most grateful for the Mass stipends you sent. The money will come in very handy as I have to meet some insurance payments in January. And speaking of insurance, the V.A. will be sending me a notification sometime in January and I would appreciate it if someone would forward it to me immediately. The one they sent me in November arrived too late for me to make the payment so it was added to the principal. Also, if there is an extra Ordo hanging around I could put one to good use.

I showed Father Gerald your letter when he return from Rome and he has made arrangements for me to see the psychiatrist. I didn't even know that they had one. I've seen him a couple times and he said that he would write the Bishop. Father Gerald also told me to inform you of the following: in regard to my writing to a boy whose parents complained because I was writing to him, I only sent a postcard and that with the written permission of the parents and if you would like to see it I'll send you the letter. You and the Bishop have been too good to me and I certainly wouldn't want you to think that I was doing something underhanded or was not cooperating with the opportunity I have been given. You can be assured that in the future no mail will be sent either to the boy or the parents.

Christmas here was quiet and peaceful. It was mostly what the individual made it that counted. I managed to decorate my room with a small tree and made things a little cheerful. Also did some decorating around the refectory. I couldn't get through to New Hampshire on the phone til the morning of the 27th. But I did have a good clear talk with my folks.

There isn't much news from this end of the line as every day is just about the same. The Archbishop of Santa Fe will be spending New Years with us so that may mean a Pontifical on New Year's day. My best wishes to everyone in the house for a very happy New Year. Thanks again for everything, Tom and rest assured that I'm doing my best to make myself worthy of the priesthood.

Most sincerely,



Jamez Springs, N. H.
October 12, 1961

The Most Rev. Ernest J. Preneau, D. D., J.C.D.
145 Lowell St.
Manchester, New Hampshire

Most Reverend and dear Bishop,

Please allow me this short visit by mail in order that I might thank you for this opportunity of rehabilitating myself, spiritually and otherwise.

I deeply regret having delayed so long in carrying out your orders. On my part it was due to the lack of courage to tell my folks, a lack of faith to see God's will in your command, and a lack of obedience. My stay at Via Creli has made me conscious of the great concern I have given you in the past and for the offense I have occasioned you, I

wish to apologize and assure you
of a more faithful service and obedience
in the future.

Through the courtesy of Messrs. Hensberry
I received your check for \$5.00 for
which I am very grateful.

May I assure your Excellency that
I am taking advantage of every
opportunity which Via Celi affords
towards my physical, mental and
spiritual rehabilitation, so that, God
willing, I will be prepared to
resume my duties as an active priest
so soon as you, in your charity, see
fit to recall me.

Humbly asking your blessing,
I am

most sincerely and obediently yours,
A. Don Osgood

Alvin Coeli - Home for Aged and Infirm Priests

DS 5202

Answered
4/2/62
S.B.

3943

March 24, 1962

Dear Tom,

It was good hearing from you again. I was beginning to think that perhaps you did'nt get my letter thanking you for the stipends which you sent on the 7th of December. So far March has been the worst of the winter months here. It has been cold and snowy but ofcourse the snow hasn't amounted to anything. I am feeling fine. I had my back x-rayed in February by a specialist here in Albuquerque and he said that it was good to see another doctor's good work. The fusion is solid and the spine is in perfect alignment. I was glad to get such a good report. This time off has done me a lot of good both spiritaally and physically. It has given me a chance to gain proper perspective again and set my sights higher.

I am enclosing a letter I received with regard to payments on the insurance for the Nativity Scene. As you know the late Bishop Brady appointed me to this committee about five years ago. If I remember correctly the project of the Nativity Scene was first started by the Rev. Mr. Woodbury, Franklin St. Congregational Church and I believe that Ed. McShane was in on it also. At the time money was solicited by mail from various business men to pay for the upkeep and insurance of the figures. When I entered the scene the money was raised by a tag day in December but this didn't work out. To tell the truth of the matter the Catholics did practically all the selling and the representation among the Portestants was negligible. Then the idea of taxing the various youth groups in the various churches throughout the city was introduced and kicked around but nothing de-

Servants of the Holy Paraclete - Jemez Springs, New Mexico

finite was decided. Well evidently at the meeting held in '60 (which I did not attend because I was sick) the idea was definitely decided upon without Catholic representation. I do know that it is expected that the various CYO groups of the city should pay the fifteen dollars each year - each groups being taxed so much. Perhaps you can refer this matter to the proper person and it will be accepted. Ed. McShane might be able to fill you in on any details for he usually attends the annual committee meetings.

Guess that this is about all for now. Regards to all at the Cathedral -

Sincerely,

Don Ogard

P.S. I haven't received a diocean letter since I arrived here. The only thing I receive, was a mimeographed prayer to be said for peace, I believe during a holy hours to be held sometime after Christmas.

Osgood

3945

May 17, 1962

Rev. Donald M. Osgood
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Dear Father Osgood:

Just a word of thanks for your kind Easter
greeting.

We have had an encouraging report from Father
Gerald which we are prayerfully considering at the
moment for future action.

With every personal good wish, I am

Cordially yours in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

May 29, 1962

Thomas S. Evilsizer, Jr., M.D.
2000 Gold Ave., S. E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Re: Father Donald M. Osgood

Dear Doctor Evilsizer:

Thank you for your letter of April 27, 1962 concerning Father Osgood of this diocese whom you have seen at Via Coeli. I had prepared a reply shortly after hearing from you but set it aside for review before mailing and it was not posted. I hope you will forgive the oversight.

In your letter, you mention that this is a continuation of your psychiatric report concerning Father. Apparently the original reports went to Father Gerald at Jemez Springs because I had only a general report from him.

I would be interested in your diagnosis of this case if you wish to send it to me. I should also like your personal opinion as to whether he should return to the diocese for assignment at this time.

With appreciation and cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Bishop of Manchester

Jemez Springs, New Mexico

April 7, 1962

The Most Rev. Ernest J. Primeau STD
Bishop of Manchester
657 River Road
Manchester, N. H.

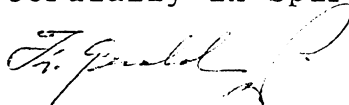
Most Rev. and dear Bishop,

It is always a distinct pleasure to us to be able to make a favorable report to a Bishop about one of his subjects. This letter is to say to Your Excellency that Father Osgood has been very much on the beam and is a generous contributor to the welfare of the community here.

We would think it within prudence to give him at least one opportunity to prove himself on active duty.

The copy of Manchester Mission was read with great interest here. May we offer our personal congratulations to Your Excellency on a truly Christlike undertaking.

Most cordially in Spiritu,



Servant General

October 6, 1962

Very Rev. Father Gerald, Servant General
Servants of the Paraclete
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Dear Father Gerald:

Monsignor Hansberry has given me the gist of his telephone conversation with Father Owen Kirley earlier this week and I have again carefully reviewed your reports on the conduct of Father Donald Osgood. I was considering the idea of bringing him back to the diocese for another trial but the report that he is cultivating the lay neighbors of Via Coeli contrary to the rules of the institution gives me pause.

Since I leave for Rome on Monday and will not return to the diocese until the middle of December, I feel that I should send you my decision. I have come to the conclusion that it would be unwise to bring Father Osgood back to New Hampshire at the present time. You may tell him that the reason is his violation of the rules at Via Coeli. If he does not follow them there, it is logical to conclude that he will not do so back here in the diocese.

I regret that I am obliged to make this decision because we could certainly use another priest at the present time. However, I do not wish to chance further scandal.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

COPY

Osgood

BISHOP'S HOUSE
657 RIVER ROAD
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

3950

October 1, 1962

Very Rev. Father Gerald, s.P.
Servant General
Servants of the Paraclete
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Dear Father Gerald:

I expect to leave for Rome on October 9th and I should like to make a decision concerning Father Donald M. Osgood prior to my departure. Will you please let me know whether you feel I should leave him at Via Coeli until my return in December or try to place him with an understanding pastor here in the diocese?

If your decision is in favor of his return to the diocese, please let me know as soon as possible.

With appreciation and cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

August 15, 1962

His Excellency
The Most Reverend Ernest J. Primeau, S.T.D.
Bishop of Manchester
657 River Road
Manchester, N. H.

Most Reverend and dear Bishop:

I hate to be the bearer of news without promise for the future. But there is only one way for us to deal with Bishops, and that is with the cards face-up.

Since writing last to Your Excellency, Father Osgood has even more fully committed himself to the cultivation of the laity. He has been most helpful in offering his services as chef for the community every other day. But when he is not on the job in the kitchen, he spends a great deal of time "in abscondito". It is very difficult, of course, even impossible to know what a man might do away from his house. It could be, and let's hope it is, quite innocent. But it is most certainly contrary to our rules and regulations.

Both Father Kirley and myself are convinced that it would be useless to send him now to our house in Nevis, even should he prove willing to go.

Cultivating lay neighbors, while not by any means a sin in se, is nonetheless a poor practice for a priest who is supposedly on penitential retreat. However, it seems to me that the Roman mind would want something more positive than that before taking any drastic action. Unless Your Excellency already has positive evidence that justifies positive action of that sort, would it not be a more direct and simple method of dealing with Father to assign him to a strict but fair pastor and let the chips fall as they may?

For years I have been looking for an island retreat where we could keep these unusual cases with a minimum of publicity and scandal. But thus far we have not been able to procure such an island.

Most cordially in Spiritu,

F. Gerull

Servant General

P.S. Tonight I had the 7 P.M. Mass at Our Little Parish Church - on the way back to the monastery. I had my Paraclete driver take me up the canyon - sure enough, there was our boy - perched, hunched up all alone on a ledge about a half mile up the state highway! See what a nice an. Fi.

Via Coeli

MONASTERY OF THE SERVANTS OF THE PARACLETE

3952

E OF THE SERVANT GENERAL

Jemez Springs, New Mexico

August 11, 1962

The Right Reverend
Monsignor Thomas S. Hansberry
Chancellor: Diocese of Manchester
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, N. H.

Right Reverend and dear Monsignor:

Though he is at present absent on a business trip to our other houses, Father Gerald will be returning presently. In the meantime I wish to advise you that Father Osgood has been made acquainted with the decision of His Excellency as you stated it in your letter.

One could not say that he is happy about the prospect. He expected, unreasonably, a far broader relaxation of his penance.

When Father Gerald returns, I am confident that he will wish to write to you his personal appreciation of your continued courtesy and kindness.

Sincerely in Spiritu,

Owen Kirby, S.D.

Secretary General

Osgood

3953

August 7, 1962

Father Gerald, S.P., Servant General
Via Coeli
Jemez Springs, New Mexico

Re: Father Donald Osgood

Dear Father Gerald:

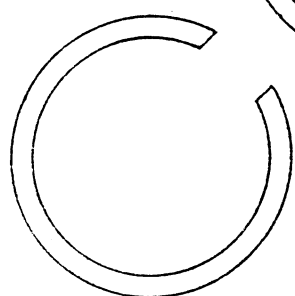
Bishop Primeau is presently out of the diocese but he has directed me to write to you concerning your letter of June 12, 1962 in regard to Father Osgood. The Bishop is willing that he work out of your retreat house in Nevis, Minn., as you suggested, until next spring. If the reports are good, he will have him find a benevolent Bishop. This will, however, be his last chance. Another deviation will bring permanent retreat or worse.

Please let us know whether you will transmit this information to Father Osgood or if you prefer that we do so.

With cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Rt. Rev. Thomas S. Hansberry,
Chancellor



BISHOP PRIMEAU

Manchester, N. H.

Msgr. Hansberry:

Write to Father Gerald - that Father D.O. can work out of their retreat house in Nevis, Minn. till next spring. If the reports are good we will have him find a benevolent Bishop. This will, however, be his last chance. Another deviation will bring permanent retreat or worse.

OF THE SERVANT GENERAL

Jemez Springs, New Mexico

June 12, 1962

His Excellency

The Most Reverend Ernest J. Primeau, D.D.
Bishop of Manchester
657 River Road
Manchester, N. H.

RE: FATHER DONALD OSGOOD

Most Reverend and dear Bishop:

This is an interim report in the case of D. O. He has been generous in working towards the upkeep of the community here. However, we are not internally satisfied as to the complete change of heart necessary. There has been no off-side actions as far as we know, but he is definitely attracted to the laity.

If Your Excellency were hesitant about trying him at home, would you consider it within prudence to recommend him for working out of our retreat house in Nevis, Minnesota where he could engage in the priestly ministry week-ends etc. while still remaining under the supervision of our Paraclete superior there?

Personally - I would say - one chance - home Diocese - with permanent retreat as the answer to failure to measure up - However

Most cordially in Spiritu,

J. J. ...

Servant General

Your Excellency call the sup. J!

DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER
CHANCERY OFFICE
145 LOWELL STREET
MANCHESTER, N. H.

CONFIDENTIAL

Report of telephone conversation with Father Gerald, s.p., Superior of Via Coeli, Jemez Springs, N. M. on October 22, 1962:

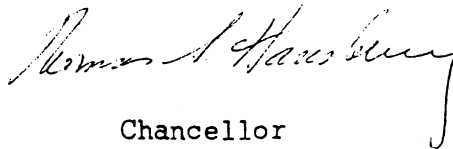
Re: Rev. Donald M. Osgood

Father Gerald seemed quite disturbed over the attitude and activity of Father Osgood as a member of the household at Via Coeli. He said that he did not follow the life of the community and that he had apparently volunteered to serve in the kitchen with the thought of using this activity as an excuse to avoid spiritual exercises. The authorities have come to the conclusion that he has no interior life and is making no progress from a spiritual standpoint.

Father G. has been taken off the cooking work because of the above reason and also because it was found that he was using his position to obtain and take out food for his lay friends. He was recently intercepted on his way out to a big party with a supply of food including a roast. Father Gerald concluded that he is a playboy -- polite and genial, interested in being with the laity, rather than with the men of the house.

I asked if a Psychiatrist would help him and he replied that he had seen a doctor in this field a few times but that it is easy for a person of this type to disguise his true character and that he felt psychiatric treatment would do him no good.

I gathered from Father Gerald's tone and the things which he said the he felt they could do nothing more for Father Osgood at Via Coeli. He had come to the conclusion that it would be well to send him to another house for a trial period and he asked permission to send him to their Santa Fe house. I told him this would be permissible and that I would transmit the information to the Bishop who is in Rome for the Ecumenical Council.



Chancellor

3957

April 9, 1963

Rev. Donald M. Osgood
Our Lady of the Assumption Parish
8030 Fruit St.
Albuquerque, N. M.

Dear Father Osgood:

Many thanks for your recent letter informing us of your whereabouts. It is good to know that you are settled in your new quarters and I know that you will do well in Albuquerque. (As you have probably noticed, I am typing this myself, hence, the two mistakes already.)

As regards the Blue Cross-Blue Shield, I believe you are paid up until the next renewal date which is in June. If you wish to continue it after that date, please let us know. You may want to investigate the possibility of joining out there if the N. H.-Vt. set-up is not convenient for you.

As regards the Major Medical Program now in effect here in the diocese, this costs \$45.00 a year and presupposed the Blue Cross-Blue Shield arrangement. In other words, it goes into effect after you have had to pay \$100.00 of your own on the bill from the hospital etc. Thus you must have Blue Shield coverage in order to benefit from the Major Medical.

The present cost of Blue Cross-Blue Shield is \$80.00 per year. Both this and the Major Medical are paid for by the parish of residence.

I am leaving the city tomorrow night and will return on the 29th. However, Monsignors Olkovikas and Paradis will be here during my absence.

All the members of the household are well and preparing for a busy few days. Best wishes from all of us.

Sincerely in Christ,

Chancellor

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish
8030 Fruit, N. E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico

3958

March 27, 1963

Dear Tom,

Just a few lines to let you know that I've finally been assigned. I reported to the Archbishop on the 4th of March and he assigned me to the Seminary to live til he could place me. Due to the death of a pastor previous to my arrival, my appointment plus the appointment of a new pastor necessitated a number of changes. In the meantime, I helped out in the Atomic "City" of Los Alamos on the week-ends.

My trip across country was uneventful and very tiring but I did enjoy my visit with my brother and his family in Atlanta. The stretch across Texas seemed interminable and I sure was glad to reach the New Mexico border. Altogether I traveled a little over three thousand miles from the time I left Bristol til I reached Albuquerque.

The weather here now is what you will be getting in May. The early Spring flowers are blooming and the buds on the trees are ready to pop. The parish itself is a fairly young one as it was started in 1954. We have a good size school (approximately 500 children - Grammar) a real nice modern rectory and Masses are said in the school auditorium. The construction of a new church will be started in May. So you can see that I'll have plenty of work to keep me busy.

I mentioned about the Blue Cross to the Archbishop and he said that the priests could do it on an individual basis here. So let me know what you want me to do in this regard. Regards to all at 145 Lowell!

Fraternally in Xto.



March 27, 1963

Rev. Donald M. Osgood
c/o Chancery Office
Archdiocese of Santa Fe
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Don,

As you may have heard, we have put in a major medical program of insurance for all the priests of the ~~diocese~~. This goes along with the Blue Cross-Blue Shield program and supplements its.

The purpose of this note is to inquire what your plans will be in regard to both. If Santa Fe has a program of its own, you may wish to join; if not, we could carry you here. The costs are \$80.00 per year for Blue Cross-Blue Shield and \$45.00 for the major medical program. An early reply would be appreciated.

All is well here in the diocese and the priests send their best regards. The Bishop is out of town today attending a meeting in Boston.

I hope you had a pleasant trip back from New Hampshire and that you are settled in your new quarters. Please send us your address.

Best wishes from all at the Chancery.

Sincerely in Christ,

Thomas S. Hansberry,
Chancellor

To: Donald M. Osgood
709 Carlisle Blvd., S.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106 c/o Mrs. Nora C. Baker

3981

May 7, 1968

Dear Don,

Please forgive the delay in answering your letter of April 11th. The Bishop was away when it came and I wanted to talk with him before sending a reply. Then I went to Maryland for a week myself and the pile of problems waiting for me upon my return caused a further postponement of this missive.

Taking your letter item by item, the following comments come to mind:

"Laicization" -- This is a big step and should be taken only after mature deliberation and prayer. If you should conclude that it is the thing to do, please write directly to the Bishop is person making the request for it and giving your reasons. He will then send you a questionnaire to be filled out and to be sent by him to Rome together with his recommendation concerning it.

"Teaching certificate" -- It does not appear that the diocese would advance you money for tuition and books for additional studies at the University of New Mexico. I do not think that a statement from the school authorities in this diocese would be of much value because they would also be asked for a recommendation for the period that you spent teaching.

"Blue Cross and Major Medical" -- We shall carry you on these programs until you get established. We now list your residence as St. Timothy's, Bristol and will carry you as "on leave" until further notice.

"Living expenses" -- Enclosed is a check for \$300 which we have listed as salary for March and April. We shall continue at this rate until you get your feet on the ground and are gainfully employed.

Please forgive the brevity of this letter. I am typing it myself and I want to get it into the evening mail. Do take care of yourself and keep in touch with us. We are interested in you and in your welfare. Best wishes from all of us!

Sincerely in Christ,

Rt. Rev. Thomas S. Hansberry, P.A.
Vicar General

April 11, 1968

Dear Msgr. Tom:

This letter has been on my mind for quite some time now and I wish that you would consider it more as a friend to friend letter than an official letter.

It is appearing, more and more, to me that the mind of the Church is really skeptical when it comes to considering my place in the ranks and I also realize that this is a position into which I put myself, so I have no axe to grind. I am seriously considering laicization as I feel that it would be the more realistic approach, and I might add, more honest. In considering this, I am not by any means looking for an easy way out as a man of my age should have built up a certain amount of security. And my future is most uncertain. I have talked with my friend Mr. Ben Bronstein and he just doesn't have any full time work for me at present - maybe in another month when the summer season begins.

I should take some courses at the University of New Mexico, if for nothing more than getting a teaching certificate in the State of New Mexico. As you can well imagine, this fork in the road of my life requires not only the right decisions made in good faith on my part but also some help to get the project off the ground, so to speak. Would the Diocese advance me the money I need for tuition and books on a pay back basis, as soon as I got established? Also could I get some kind of letter from the Diocesan School Officials stating that I had taught in the school system for five years?

Would the Diocese be able to carry me on the Blue Cross and Major Medical insurance till I could get established? Maybe I am asking too much, I don't know, but at least I know you will understand the reasons behind the question.

I do know that I could earn my room and board and take care of the necessities but above that, it would be impossible under the existing situation. I must better myself somehow and do it fast in order that the future will make any sense.

I will be most interested in hearing from you, and it goes without saying grateful for whatever help you can afford me with regard to my dilemma. You have been so helpful in the past that I know I can count on you now. I do need some money for living expense and you know that I wouldn't ask for it unless I really needed it. Whatever the Diocese can send will be gratefully appreciated.

Will be looking forward to hearing from you.

As always, in Christo,



Address: 709 Carlisle Blvd., S.E.

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

c/o Mrs. Nora C. Baker

February 27, 1968

His Eminence
Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle
Archbishop of Washington
1721 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Your Eminence:

This letter will introduce Reverend Donald M. Osgood, a priest of this diocese, who plans to request an audience with you in the near future. He wishes to request admission to your archdiocese for a period of trial with a thought of possible incardination in the future.

Several years ago, Father Osgood was involved in a number of homosexual incidents which occasioned his suspension. I arranged for an examination for him at the Institute of Living in Hartford, Conn. and, upon the advice of the experts there, gave him permission to work as a layman in Albuquerque, New Mexico while under the direction of a recommended psychiatrist in that city. Three years later, this doctor advised me that Father Osgood had completed his treatment and he recommended him for active duty in the priesthood.

On January 19, 1967, having accepted Father Osgood back into the diocese, I assigned him as assistant to the pastor of All Saints Parish, Lancaster, N. H. which is in the mountains.

Father Osgood worked very hard in Lancaster and was well liked by the people in general. He was faithful to his parochial obligations. Unfortunately, however, during the difficult adjustment period of the first few months, by his own admission, he showed indecent picture magazines to some young boys of the parish. We had no evidence of overt actions on his part and he insists that there were none, so I permitted him to remain in the parish after a warning in September.

Unfortunately, a scandal in the town which was in no way related to Father Osgood caused a revival of the stories about the pictures. This, together with rumors of his past history as well as rumors of misconduct in Lancaster, made it necessary for me to remove him a month ago. He has since been helping out in his home parish in Bristol.

Cardinal O'Boyle
February 27, 1968
Re: Rev. D. M. Osgood

-2-

3964

Because of the make-up of this diocese, I feel that Father Osgood's effectiveness here is at an end, although he apparently made a tremendous effort to reestablish himself in the priesthood. His pastor had no complaints, in fact, he was very pleased with Father Osgood's devotion to his work. He was particularly good with the sick and the aged. Unfortunately, I could neither verify or disprove the rumors concerning him in Lancaster because of the danger of grave scandal with feeling running so high about the unrelated incident of which I spoke above.

It is extremely difficult to make a judgment in cases of this sort. I hope that the above information will be sufficient for your needs. Father Osgood seems sincere in his determination to continue as a priest. Whether the shock of this set-back will prove too much for him remains to be seen. I have informed him of the contents of this letter. If you wish more information concerning him, please let me know.

With cordial personal good wishes to Your Eminence, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

Report of interview with Rev. Donald M. Osgood, Sept. 17, 1967

ather Osgood came to see me this evening at 7:30 to discuss the accusations made through the Chancery Office concerning his alleged improper conduct in Lancaster. He was very sincere in his denial of any improper actions during his stay there which began last January. However, he did say that he had shown some magazines which had been given to him by another priest and which he had in the trunk of his car to about a half dozen young boys. He said that there was no pornographic literature involved and no pictures which might be in this category.

He also said that he does not go out in his car with individual boys or small groups of them but that he has taken part of a baseball team to Berlin for a game. He denied any improper conduct at the town swimming pool which is very public. He added that he always put on his swim trunks at the rectory and did not change at the pool, although he did leave his outer clothing in the usual basket at the pool.

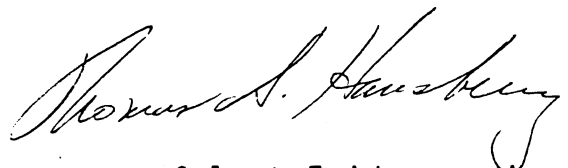
He said that he had been particularly circumspect during the past six weeks because he had felt himself weakening somewhat in his resolve but he said that he had control of himself and that he was certain he could continue to stay in control.

I have no reason to doubt Father Osgood's veracity in this regard. He seems very sincere and determined to make a go of it. He spoke frankly and without restraint.

It is evident that there was imprudence in showing the magazines of the PLAYBOY type to the young boys. However, as he says, these were not pornographic and they were of the type which many of them had seen before. He has disposed of them and they are no longer in his possession. He knows that he should not have had them in his possession.

He says that he and Father Gilbert have gotten along well together and he thinks that he can continue in his work and study with which he has taken up his spare time. He is determined to make a go of it and I agree that moving him to another parish is not the solution. If the situation in Lancaster is not as bad as the report sounds, it might be well to carry through with it and try to get over the hump, so to speak, of this first difficulty. In view of his past history, rumors are bound to leak into the town and perhaps some of the surmise about him is based on them.

Father Osgood says that, knowing his weakness, he has begun a planned course of study on his own, particularly of the Sacred Scriptures and he has also increased his apostleship to the aged and inform.



Comment: I would like to check over the report of last Friday again. If we can get by this first one, perhaps Fr. O. Can make a go of it. We might make discreet inquiry when in the North Country next month. Fr. O. is on vacation this week.