

Entry for the File of Rev. Ron Engel

By [REDACTED]

May 28, 2004

I a discussion with friends regarding Father Ron Engel's case, it was brought to my attention by a friend of mine, [REDACTED] that she knew some information regarding Father Engel when he was at St. Mathias. It seems that the [REDACTED] had received letters in the mail from Ron Engel when he was at St. Mathias in the 1980s. On June 3, I mentioned this discussion to Barb Reinke and she suggested that I call this friend of mine and have her ask her neighbor to call in a report to her. I did so and [REDACTED] returned my phone call that the gentleman was not willing to make the call to make a report.

I am just noting this for the Ron Engel file in case more information does come forward.

Ron Engel (Rev.)

ADOM008698

4/29/04 Fr. Ron Engel - 54

met by 4 law enforcement officers w/ search warrant
alleys of child porno

they went thru my house + computer -
lives in fun home since Mom died
would be waive counsel

never told anyone re sex orient - not received

list of sites

spent substat Uruguay for mother - isolated,
adult supp network gone

bumped into sites wasn't looking for - all billed as legal
became escape mech from pressure

helped me return to my childhood
some were subscription sites

never kept any images

also visited some adult gay sites

some overnights w/ youths + families at IC - late ^{70s,} early 80s
at times kids in rectory

mid 80s - St. Matthias - approached by [redacted] re
poss of ~~son~~ misinterp. -
advised not to have sleepovers

May 27, 1977

C
The Reverend Ronald G. Engel ✓
████████████████████
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

O
Dear Father Engel:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, I herewith appoint you Associate Pastor at Immaculate Conception Parish, Milwaukee, effective June 14, 1977. You will kindly report on that date to the Pastor, Father Robert J. Schmidbauer.

P
With the warmest of personal regards and wishing you God's choicest blessings, I am

Faternally yours in Christ,

Y
Most Reverend William E. Cousins
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ADOM008722

From: Ron [REDACTED] 3/8/99 4:34 PM
Subject: As the Board Proceeds with its Deliberations
To: "Fr. Joseph Hornacek" <hornacekj@archmil.org>

Joe:

In your note of 2/23(below), you indicated a leaning toward St. Veronica as well as "several other possibilities". As those several other possibilities present themselves to you and the Board as potential "matches" with my charism/skill profile, please let me know what parishes they are so that I can provide some input/feedback regarding them.

I was surprized to see the South Down Center of Ontario as part of our Spring Clergy Days. Coming out of conversation with

Fr. Gene Merz SJ(my mentor), he recommeded that I seriously consider the program sometime during the next couple years

as an important part of my personal priestly formation to help me deal with and better integrate some personal issues. Indeed,

I was going to speak with Rembert about this on March 17th, giving Fr. Merz as a reference for its specifically personal importance. Currently, the needs at home would not allow me to take thebasic 4-6 weeks leave that the Ontario Program calls for.

Just a further note: When it comes time to actually define my next assignment, I would ask you to please call me in for an

appointment to present and to discuss it with me instead of the normal form letter of assignment. In this particular year with

all that it has and continues to involve, I need to deal with such matters on a more face-to-face level. Please!

Thanks to you and to the Board as you continue your demanding process of assessing diocesan needs and of discerning the vocational mission of fellow priests. -- Ron

YOUR NOTE OF 2/23

Hi Ron. Thanks for your latest e-mail. The Board will not begin to discuss any of the openings or choices indicated by our brother priests until early March. I did learn of your expressed interest in both St. Veronica's and St. Alphonsus. I would see you doing better work at St. Veronica because of the kind of culture and community that would enable you to affirm your ministerial gifts there. But there are probably several other possibilities, and I know more openings will occur as the discussion continues. Peace.


ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

April 28, 1999

Rev. Ronald G. Engel

████████████████████
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Father Engel,

With a sense of joy in our shared priestly ministry, I ask you to become the Associate Pastor at St. Veronica Parish in Milwaukee. Following the recommendation of the Priests' Placement Board, I am happy to entrust the faithful of this parish to your priestly care in collaboration with the Pastor, Father Thomas Eichenberger. This appointment is effective June 15, 1999. This appointment is for six years and is not renewable.

As Associate Pastor you are called upon to serve the needs of God's people so that they can take their rightful place as baptized Catholics in their own Faith-community and in society. Your mission, like my own, is one of teaching and sanctifying, and of administering those areas delegated to you by the Pastor, Father Eichenberger. You are asked also to collaborate with the Parish Council and those organizations designated to work with you. Also, I trust that you will work closely with the priests in the area and enter fully into the Archdiocesan parish planning efforts.

It is a privilege to share my ministry with you. May God's blessings fill your life and reward you abundantly.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

3501 South Lake Drive, P.O. Box 07912
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912 • (414)769-3407

ADOM008750

46. Engle, Ronald

On Friday, January 13, 1989 I met with Ron in the office at his request in order to discuss some of the recent problems he is encountering. He has been surprised by the reaction of teachers and some parents to his method of work with junior high school students and will discuss the matter with John Endejan at greater length. Ron continues to wonder if he should be applying for a pastorate at this time or if there is some possibility of youth ministry in an inter-parish setting within the near future. I recommended that he address these issues with Tom Trepanier and the Board directly.

RJS

614. Engle, Ronald

On Monday, June 5, 1989 Ron came to talk about his long-standing difficulties with Dave Cooper's negativism and anger within the parish staff and the problems experienced by priests and lay professionals in response to Dave's general patterns of cooperation which seem sarcastic, undercutting and counterproductive.

RJS

✓82. Ronald Engel

On February 24, 1994 Len Barbian joined me in meeting with Ron to discuss the current situation at St. Mary's in South Milwaukee. At Ron's request he wanted to review the challenges posed by the serious financial problems of the parish, the lack of Parish records available upon his arrival, the resistance experienced from various power bases established within the school and parish community, the challenge of school collaboration and the interim leadership requested of him in following a pastor with a tenure of 24 years. I explored the ways in which Ron's leadership style could be understood as controlling or manipulative and concluded the conversation with the basic question "what does the parish need at this time and what does Ron need at this time"?

RJS

✓143. Ronald Engel

On February 27, 1997 I had an extended phone conversation with Ron who asked for a private meeting to deal with issues raised within the South Milwaukee priest group. I indicated my willingness to meet, but my unwillingness to establish any pattern of individual priests by-passing local structures without conversation with others in the cluster.

RJS

✓941. Ronald Engel

On December 5, 1997 I met with Fr. Engel who indicated his desire for 3 to 6 months of time for reflection between his leaving St. Mary's Parish in South Milwaukee in June of 1998 and his subsequent assignment. Though I recommended a variety of Sabbatical programs, he preferred to stay in the Milwaukee area given the needs of his Mother. I recommended that he speak with Fr. Tom Kerstein directly about such a possibility.

RJS

106. Engel, Ron

December 16, 1997 - Ron came in to see me.

- 1) Request for a spiritual leave, maturity sabbatical (June, 1998 - January, 1999) Spiritual growth period. A time for clearing my head before my next assignment.
- 2) I am self-driven, self-motivated.
- 3) Ron would be willing to do both weekday and weekend help.
- 4) Ron does a monthly day of reflection at the present time.
- 5) A good prayerful time away. This time period is more for a spiritual charge. This is not a vocational crisis.
- 6) I am willing to make some contribution to Acct 46.

TFK

ADOM008760

LETTER TO PARISHIONERS

May 8, 2004

Dear Parishioners of St. Veronica Parish,

It is with deep regret and sadness that I must inform you that on April 28, law enforcement officials informed the Archdiocese of Milwaukee about an investigation involving Father Ronald Engel, related to the use of computer pornography involving minors.

Upon learning of the allegation and subsequent investigation, the archdiocese immediately met with Father Engel on April 29, and he was placed on leave from his assignment and fully restricted from priestly ministry. Father Engel has assured us that he has never had sexual contact with minors, and the investigation has not shown otherwise. We have encouraged Father Engel to cooperate fully with law enforcement officials.

Child pornography is a scourge on our society. It is a crime, a sin and a scandal. The Church has rigorously fought against it. The upcoming weeks and months will be a difficult time for all of us, especially for you and the entire St. Veronica Parish community. I am grateful that Father Mark Payne is here to provide you with strong pastoral leadership. Archdiocesan central office staff members will work closely with Father Mark and other parish and school leaders to ensure that your pastoral needs are being met. We will have counselors available at the parish and school to work with staff,

ADOM008782

parishioners and school families. If you have questions or concerns, or want to talk to someone about this, please contact the parish office.

Please be assured of my prayers for your community. May each of you find God's strength and peace during this difficult time.

Faithfully in Christ,

Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee

502.

██████████ and Engel, Ronald

Both of these priests came to see me because they are interested in working together as a pastor and associate or a team or somewhere in the same assignment. They have their hearts set on St. Matthew's Parish, but when I told them that one of the requirements evidently is that one of the priests have some proficiency in Spanish, both admitted they do not have this skill. They also found out that Father Brennan Harris would not be returning to Messmer. So, they would be interested in working there together. I told them I had not heard officially that Brennan was leaving, but the questions then remain as to whether Messmer will have one or two priests. I encouraged them to write to the Personnel Board and explain their desire to work together as a team. I told them they could specify St. Matthew's but encouraged them to notify the Personnel Board that they would like to be considered as a "team in waiting".

4/27/83

645. Engel, Ronald

He called to say that he would like to promote the idea of the rectory at Messmer High School becoming a youth retreat center. Dr. ██████████ told him to check with me to see if any priests might be slated for residence there. I told him that I had no one on the list who wanted to live there and had no objection to him pursuing something else. However, I cautioned him to check this out with Sister Michelle Olley's department before proceeding.

7/12/83

177. Engel, Ronald

██████████ told me that Ron Engel is one of his patients. I told ██████████ about some of the concerns that have recently come to light from the Messmer High School faculty concerning Engel. ██████████ told me that he thought the best thing to do would be to simply move Engel back into parish ministry this spring. He feels that things will work out alright.

2/20/84

192. Engel, Ronald

He called to tell me that he is concerned about what is going to happen to him this coming spring when Messmer closes. I assured him he would be taken care of and suggested that he now begin to talk to Father Gene Neuman about this. I reminded Engel that coming at the springtime of the year as this is he certainly would have a good selection of possibilities.

2/23/84

780. Engel, Ronald

He called to say that he is at St. Matthias Rectory convalescing from surgery for a hernia. He feels very well and told me that he is working on his periodic review material.

6/22/84

508. Engle, Ronald

On Wednesday, May 25, 1988 I spoke with Ron who is interested in exploring some type of inter-parish youth ministry serving several parishes in his immediate area (St. Matthias). I agreed to speak with the Personnel Board about that issue.

RJS

ADOM008761

ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE

3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE • P.O. Box 07912 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53207-0912 • PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

May 4, 1992

Rev. Ronald G. Engel
St. Matthias Parish
[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53227

Dear Father Engel,

It is with a sense of joy in our shared faith that I ask you to become the Pastor of St. Mary Parish in South Milwaukee. Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board, I am happy to entrust the faithful of that parish to your pastoral care beginning on June 23, 1992. This appointment is being made for a period of time up to six years after which time your term will be reviewed for possible extension.

As the Pastor in that parish, you are called upon to serve the needs of God's people so that they can take their rightful place as baptized Catholics in their own Faith-community and in society. Your mission, like my own, is one of teaching and sanctifying, and also of administrating the parish, together with the Parish Council and those organizations designated to work with you. Also, I trust that you will work diligently with the priests in your district and enter fully into the current Archdiocesan Parish Planning, "Walking Together: Collaborating for the Future".

It is a privilege to share my ministry with you. May God's blessings fill your life.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ADOM008825

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

3501 SOUTH LAKE DRIVE • P.O. BOX 2018 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201 • PHONE 414/769-3300

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

May 14, 1984

The Reverend Ronald G. Engel
Pastoral Coordinator
Messmer High School

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53206

Dear Father Engel:

It is with great pleasure that I ask you to become a Pastoral Team Member of St. Matthias Parish in Milwaukee. Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board and Father Joseph Janicki, the Vicar for Priest Personnel, I am happy to entrust the faithful of that parish to your pastoral care beginning on June 5, 1984. This appointment is being made for a period of time up to six years, after which time it will again be reviewed for possible renewal.

You will be joining the current Pastoral Team Members of St. Matthias Parish, Fathers John Endejan, David Cooper, and Robert Drutowski, with Father Endejan being the Administrator of the Pastoral Team.

As representative of the Archbishop in that parish, you are called upon to serve the needs of God's people so that they can take their rightful place as baptized Catholics in their own Faith-community and in society. Your mission, like my own, is one of teaching and sanctifying, and also of administering the parish, together with the Parish Council and those organizations designated to collaborate with you.

It is a privilege to share my ministry with you. May God's blessings fill your life.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Rembert G. Weakland, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Milwaukee

ADOM008833

PERIODIC REVIEW RESUME

OF: Ronald G. Engel
[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53227

BY: John B. Litzau

DATE: July 30, 1984

INTRODUCTION

Father Ron Engel is a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee who is just entering a new assignment as a Team Member at St. Matthias Parish in Milwaukee. This follows a year of full-time service to Messmer High School during its final year of existence. Ron is 34 years old and all but one of his seven years of priestly service has been spent in Parish work.

At the very outset I feel it would be helpful to make two observations:

- Ron listed four rather than ten priests to receive the questionnaire; three of the four responded and two chose to write comments. One of the priests wrote that he liked Ron but that it was difficult to get to know him. I told Ron that I felt handicapped by so limited a response because my own experience in doing these interviews is that the priestly fraternity is very supportive and concerned and also very helpful in understanding their brother priests. Ron responded that he has not embraced the priestly fraternity with enthusiasm because some experiences both before and after ordination were discouraging. In his biographical questionnaire, in response to the question: 'Please describe your relationships with other priests', Ron wrote: "Limited. 99% of my close relationships are non-clergy.I've never had trouble relating to and respecting priests of differing generations; but I've not been involved in a lot of per se clerical gatherings either."

- The second factor is that Ron is a very private person. He readily presents himself as a reserved and introspective person. Several who wrote used comments like: quiet - shy - hard to get close to him - a very gentle person - lonely. In the light of this it is important to state that Ron was very warm and welcoming to me. He was open and responded readily to whatever subject came up in the course of the interview.

It is also very important to note at the outset that those who took time to write comments agreed again and again that Ron is a very prayerful priest, a man of deep faith who loves Jesus and loves his own vocation. Of the fifteen persons, besides the priests, who responded, eleven took time to write comments.

ADOM008834

TRAINING

Ron began his formation for the priesthood by attending Messmer High School and he is especially appreciative of that experience as he sees it in contrast to what occurred when he entered the Seminary college program. He experienced openness and positive support during high school; the Seminary atmosphere seemed to him to be closed. He realizes that, under the old Seminary arrangement of 6-6 rather than 4-4-4, groups had already formed through the high school years along social and/or interest lines. It is sometimes difficult for a new-comer to become part of such groups; it seems it was especially difficult for Ron because of his natural reserve. This, it seems, is one of the factors that has made it more difficult for him to feel really " at home" in the priestly fraternity.

Ron had a year's leave of absence after college because of a conviction that he needed to work at and have more experience in socializing skills. He knows he cannot change his introspective nature, but he is also determined to continue to develop his skills in communicating and socializing with larger groups.

Since ordination he has attended several continuing education sessions. His reading has been mostly task oriented and he does not subscribe to any professional journals at this time. He has, however, invested considerably in an excellent reference library in the areas of theology, scripture and counselling.

FAMILY

Ron's father died a few years ago and so, for all practical purposes, that leaves Ron and his mother as the family. Ron's brother is in military service and has been either on the other side of the world or the other end of the country. Ron is therefore the person most concerned for his mother's welfare.

He cherishes the memories of a close-knit family and feels that both his father and mother contributed much in different ways to his formation.

HEALTH

There is a family history of hypertension - high blood pressure but this does not seem to be a problem for Ron. He has been troubled with a hernia problem and there is still some surgery for this in the offing. Because of this he has been getting regular medical check-ups and, in general, he is in good health. His exercise takes the form of walking and he seems to enjoy that.

ASSIGNMENTS

Ron spent six years at Immaculate Conception Parish in Milwaukee and only one year at Messmer. This past year was a difficult year of turmoil since Messmer was struggling to survive and then went through the trauma of closing down. He has only recently arrived at St. Matthias. The years at I.C.

have naturally had the greatest impact on him. Things did not always go too smoothly in the house and this contributed to his hesitation to entrust himself to the priestly fraternity. There were also many good experiences at I.C. and Ron formed strong friendships which have become a source of support and encouragement for him.

THE PARISH

Ron is looking forward to working at St. Matthias Parish. He has enjoyed the sharing that exists in staff meetings and praying with the other priests twice a week. He sees the Parish Council and the involvement of others in the Parish as very important to the life the Church. Ron feels he relates well in a one-to-one situation or with a small group. One of the goals he has chosen is to work at the skills required in relating to larger groups.

THE SCHOOL

The Parish school has always been important to Ron and, at I.C., he taught regularly in the classrooms. He is establishing a written agreement with the school at St. Matthias to spell out areas of pastoral visibility and presence.

SPECIAL MINISTRY

This section would pertain to his years at Messmer and Ron chose to respond to all the questions. It was a mixed experience because of the situation that developed for the school itself. It seems to me that, despite all the difficult pressures that arose, Ron was not personally "damaged"; the experiences, in fact, may have enriched him.

OTHER MINISTRY

Ron has had minimal involvement in local civic and fraternal organizations. He attributes this to the heavy demands on his time at I.C. and Messmer. One of the comment sheets carries this observation that "he tried to give 100% of himself to everything and spread himself too thin".

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

It is very evident that Ron enjoys celebrating the Eucharist - it is at the heart of his life. Most of those who wrote comments were aware of this and they see Ron as a deeply spiritual man. He works hard at homily preparation and from the feed-back he has received, he feels that his homilies are effective.

LIFE STYLE

The subject of priestly fraternity has been fully covered in other sections of this resume.

In the area of spiritual development Ron sees himself as having changed

and grown. He spells out very clearly in the biographical questionnaire, how his motives for entering the priesthood changed and deepened. His prayer life also has changed; it is now less formal and structural. Prayer is interwoven into his day, into his work; he sees prayer as a more integral part of his priestly work and life.

His vision of Christ has also changed in that he no longer sees Jesus as Teacher in the academic sense, but more as Teacher-Companion, a model that moves Ron toward a simple life that is marked by the poverty that enables him to give more of himself to others. "Jesus is the horizon against which all things should be set and evaluated." is, I think, the way Ron put it.

He has not as yet drawn up his last will but has given some thought to it.

OTHER YOU

Ron states without hesitation that the source of greatest happiness for him is the presence of Jesus in his life. Jesus is the energizing center of his life. Those who wrote comments reflect this in saying that they find Ron to be a very prayerful priest who is committed to the Lord.

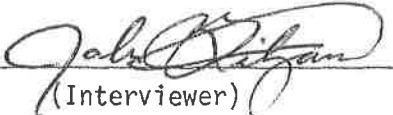
His greatest unhappiness comes from the experiences with the institutional church in which he felt victimized at times by misinformation and politicking. He does, however, see this in terms of issues and not personalities.

His greatest fears are that he might lose his zeal and suffer loneliness. A number of his admirers wrote that they were concerned that Ron suffered from loneliness. They feel that because of his reserve he is probably experiencing more loneliness than he should.

GOALS

Ron set three goals for himself;

- to become more involved in organizations with priests and other adult leaders - more than with the youth.
- to find time to get more background in counselling.
- to begin using more opportunities for continuing education.


(Interviewer)

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO MAKE ANY CORRECTIONS, COMMENTS, OR ADDITIONS TO THE ABOVE
ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER AND SEND THE RESUME AND COMMENTS TO THE VICAR FOR
PRIEST PERSONNEL.

Rev. Ron Engel
(Priest Interviewed)

September 1, 1984
(Date)

ARCHDIOCESE
OF MILWAUKEE

345 NORTH NINETY FIFTH STREET • P. O. BOX 2018 • MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201 • PHONE 414/476 2101

VICAR FOR PRIEST PERSONNEL

May 31, 1983

The Reverend Ronald G. Engel
Immaculate Conception Parish
[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Dear Father Engel:

Following the recommendation of the Personnel Board regarding your assignment, and with the concurrence of the Archbishop, I herewith transfer you from your present position as Associate Pastor at Immaculate Conception Parish, Milwaukee, and appoint you Pastoral Coordinator at Messmer High School, Milwaukee, effective June 21, 1983. You will kindly report on that date to the Principal, Dr. Gary Candelario.

In keeping with the Term of Office Policy inaugurated August 1, 1980, your assignment will exist for a period of up to six years from its effective date and after that will be reviewed for possible extension.

Accept my prayers and good wishes as you move on to a new area of priestly work.

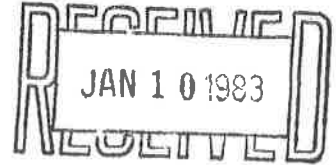
Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Reverend Joseph A. Janicki
Vicar for Priest Personnel

ADOM008840

ARCHDIOCESAN PERSONNEL BOARD

6033 West Lloyd Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53213
475-0150



January 7, 1983

The Reverend Ronald G. Engel
Immaculate Conception Parish
[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

Dear Ron,

I hope this letter finds you in good health at the beginning of this New Year and pleased with the degree of success you enjoy in your ministry at Immaculate Conception Parish.

The Personnel Board notes that you will have completed your 6th year this Spring in your first appointment as Associate Pastor at Immaculate Conception. You are aware, I am sure, that the Term of Office Policy (cf., Clergy Manual II-29) requires that an Associate Pastor transfer after 6 years of service in his first or second appointment; and while it is true that the Term of Office Policy allowed every Associate to set his first term from the date the policy was approved by the Archbishop in 1980, the spirit of the policy implies that priests like yourself not remain in the same assignment for the maximum number of years allowable.

Therefore, Ron, after conferral with Father Joseph Janicki, Vicar for Priest Personnel, the Board recommends that you plan to transfer from your current assignment in June, 1983, even though you previously set your term for 1985. I write to you now in order that you may take sufficient time to reflect on the wisdom of this recommendation and to plan accordingly. I trust that the confidence which you have gained from the good work you have accomplished to date will serve to encourage you to be open now to sharing your priestly ministry in another parish of our Archdiocese. One of our Board members will personally contact you to discuss this in February.

Thank you for your continuing good work in the ministry and your cooperation with the Board on this matter.

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

Reverend Joseph F. Hornacek
Executive Secretary
Priests' Personnel Board

cc: Reverend Joseph Janicki,
Vicar for Priest Personnel

ADOM008841


Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Metropolitan Tribunal
3501 S Lake Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912

Decrees & Evidence
Administrative Penal Process (In Progress)
Reverend Ronald Engel
CDF Prot. N.: 558/2010



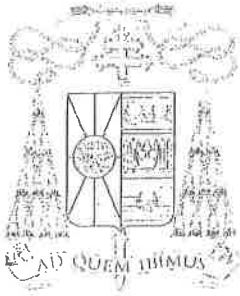
With due regard to *SACRAMENTORUM SANCTITATIS TUTELA* and the revised *substantive norms*, Article 30§§1&2, promulgated 21 May 2010, these documents are subject to the restrictions of the pontifical secret.

At the direction of the Most Reverend Jerome E. ListECKI, Archbishop of Milwaukee, these documents are forwarded from the care of the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee on 30 September 2011.



Very Reverend Paul B.R. Hartmann, JCL
Judicial Vicar

ADOM050338



TIMOTHY MICHAEL DOLAN

Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia
Archiepiscopus Milvauchiensis

PRECEPT

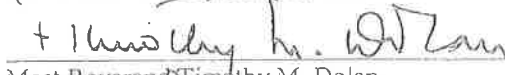
In response to the pastoral needs of this Christian community, in virtue of my authority as diocesan bishop (c. 381, §1), and in accord with the provisions of canon 49, I formally place upon Reverend Ronald Engel the following obligations:

- 1) To refrain from all contact with minors, vulnerable adults, and other persons or categories of persons who have proven to be occasions of temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 2) ~~To cease until further notice all public ministry including the celebration of Eucharist; Eucharist~~ may be celebrated in a private setting alone or with only another priest or priests in attendance; the celebration of any other sacraments will require explicit permission of a local ordinary in each case;
- 3) To avoid all places and situations that, from past experience, have been occasions of serious temptation in the area of sexual morality;
- 4) To cease any and all activities and relationships that may be described under the broad category of pastoral counseling.

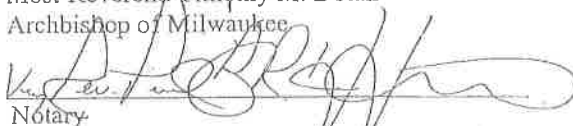
The reasons motivating this decree are the allegations of sexual activities in violation of the obligation of clerical celibacy (c. 277, §1) which have also resulted in your being prevented from the exercise of your pastoral office. These restrictions are seen as necessary and prudent precautions and will remain in effect until notice of revocation.. Any violations of this precept could result in penal action and this decree shall serve as canonical warning to that effect.

This decree shall be executed by means of its communication to Reverend Ronald Engel by Very Reverend Joseph Hornacek.

Given this 30th day of April, 2004



Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee



Notary

SEAL

September 7, 2010

Reverend Ronald Engel

[REDACTED]
Milwaukee, WI 53217-8076

Dear Ron,

I hope that you have used some of the summer to reflect on our conversation at the end of May. As we discussed, there is no possibility that you will be able to return to ministry as a result of your actions. If you remember I asked that you consider your love for the Church and seek voluntary laicization.

The generally held position that acquisition or possession of pornographic images of minors by a cleric is a serious delict has now been confirmed by the latest norms from the Vatican. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith retains jurisdiction over these cases.

Therefore, I am asking that you prepare a letter requesting laicization, addressed to Pope Benedict XVI, and send it to me by September 21, 2010. I must inform you that if I do not have such a letter from you by that date, I will prepare the dossier on your case and seek involuntary laicization according to proper canonical processes from the Congregation.

In the interim, you will be hearing from Father Pat Heppe about financial matters. I am releasing you from any clerical restrictions that would impede your pursuit of secular employment and encourage you to seek such gainful employment especially to cover your health benefits. You remain under canonical precept restricting any exercise of public ministry or representation by title or garb as a priest and all faculties have been withdrawn.

Please contact Father Heppe if you have any questions about this matter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Jerome E. Listecki

Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki
Archbishop of Milwaukee

March 14, 2011

Most Reverend Angelo Amato, SDB
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Piazza del S. Uffizio 11
00193 Rome, Italy

Your Excellency:

In accord with the norms of *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, I am submitting for your consideration the case of a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Reverend Ronald G. Engel has been accused of possession of child pornography. The summary of these allegations is enclosed. Father Engel has accepted a deferred prosecution from the United States Department of Justice but denies or minimizes the gravity of his offense.

This case has progressed slowly for several reasons. The Archdiocese was unable to begin its own internal procedures until the Department of Justice had completed its investigation. Once a deferred prosecution agreement was reached, my predecessor, Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, took charge of the case. He asked experts to review the question of whether possession of child pornography constituted a canonical delict. He attempted to persuade Father Engel to seek voluntary laicization. He met with him multiple times in this regard but was unsuccessful in eliciting his cooperation.

Archbishop Dolan requested that the Diocesan Review Board examine the case and make recommendations to him. They seriously deliberated this matter before them to determine

- what factual information was on hand
- whether additional information needed to be obtained and, if so, what information
- whether what is factually determined to have occurred constitute a breach under the *Charter and Norms for the Protection of Children and Youth*.

The factual information they concluded was the admission, both to the Vicar for Clergy at the time the Department of Justice first approached him and in the Deferred Prosecution Agreement, that Father Engel did have pictures of nude children on his computer. They found that his explanation that they were for art purposes was contradicted by the report from his therapist referring to "libidinal voyeuristic interests." The same report says that "he has maintained that the nature of his interest" was "artistic." The opinion of the Board was that this attempt at a defense yields to contrary facts, especially the frequency with which the sites were accessed and the titles of the sites. Logging in to sites called "all x boys," "erect x boys" and "virgin x boys" one would not conclude that these were sites for art. The Board members also were concerned that the focus was on pubescent boys, not older teens or adults, The use of a "scrubber" for his computer was also viewed as an indication that the material being downloaded was not in the category of art or he would not have worried about it.

Most Reverend Angelo Amato, SDB
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith – p. 2

The members of the Board noted that the Deferred Prosecution Agreement indicated that there was probable cause to believe that Engel violated federal statutes related to child pornography. Therefore, they concluded that the computer material was child pornography. They also concluded that acquisition and possession of child pornography was a violation of the *Charter*. The Board recommended that this case be deemed substantiated. They further noted that sexual exploitation of a minor does not require that the minor feel exploited or know he/she is being exploited. Having recommended that the *Charter* had been violated, there was also the recommendation that Father Engel was not suitable for ministry.

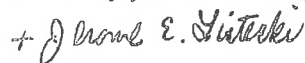
With these recommendations in hand, Archbishop Dolan again encouraged Father Engel to seek voluntary laicization. Father Engel requested the opportunity to live a life of prayer and penance possibly in a monastic setting. Archbishop Dolan agreed to permit him to seek such a living situation. No such opportunity had presented itself prior to Archbishop Dolan's transfer to the Archdiocese of New York.

Upon taking possession of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, one matter I sought to review was the status of any cases pending with the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith or any that could potentially need to be referred there. Father Engel's case was one that came to my attention. With the clarification of the law in July 2010, that "the acquisition, possession, or distribution by a cleric of pornographic images of minors under the age of fourteen, for purposes of sexual gratification, by whatever means or using whatever technology" (*Norms on Graver Delicts*, Art. 6, §1, 2^o) constitutes a grave delict reserved to the Congregation, I advised Father Engel to consider voluntary laicization. I gave him a period of time in Fall 2010 to consider this option. He refused to seek laicization.

Therefore, I now submit for your consideration this commission of a delict and ask that you advise me on how to proceed. Since there is an admission of the acquisition and possession of child pornography, a lengthy fact finding investigation through a judicial penal process seems unnecessary, in my opinion. Therefore, I seek the authority of the Congregation to conduct an administrative penal process. If your determination is that this case should proceed to a dismissal by decree of your Congregation, I would cede to that judgement. Father Engel has had sufficient time over the last six years, with financial support from the Archdiocese, to acquire skills needed to support himself by secular employment.

With sentiments of esteem, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki
Archbishop of Milwaukee



CONGREGAZIONE
PER LA DOTTRINA
DELLA FEDE

00120 Città del Vaticano, 9 April 2011
Palazzo del S. Uffizio

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

APR 28 2011

Prot. N. 558/2010 -- 35134

CONFIDENTIAL

Your Excellency,

Thank you for your correspondence of 14 March 2011 regarding the **Rev. Ronald G. ENGEL**, a priest of your diocese accused of possession of child pornography.

After having carefully examined the *Acta*, and in light of Your Excellency's comments, this Congregation authorizes you to initiate an administrative penal process in accordance with can. 1720 *CIC*. Your Excellency is kindly requested:

- 1) to inform the accused of the allegations and proofs, while affording him the opportunity, via his canonical advocate, of a proper defence;
- 2) to evaluate accurately all the proofs and the evidence with the assistance of two assessors who are competent and renowned for their prudence;
- 3) to issue a decree in accordance with cc. 1342-1350 *CIC*, if the delict can be proven with certainty. The decree should contain the reasons *in iure et in facto*.

If Your Excellency were to consider it opportune to request the *penalty of dismissal from the clerical state or some other perpetual penalty*, the imposition of such penalty should be requested first from this Congregation. In the event that a decree were to be issued by this Dicastery, the accused would always have the right to present his recourse to the Ordinary Session of the Cardinal and Bishop Members of this Congregation (*Feria IV*).

Your Excellency is also reminded of the obligation to adhere to the norms of *CIC* can. 281.

With prayerful support and best wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely in Christ,

✠ **Luis F. LADARIA, S.I.**
Titular Archbishop of Thibica
Secretary

His Excellency
The Most Reverend **Jerome E. LISTECKI**
Archbishop of Milwaukee
3501 South Lake Drive
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207-0912
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



JEROME EDWARD LISTECKI

Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia
Archiepiscopus Milvauchiensis

Prot. N.: CDF 558/2010 - 35134
MKE 02/11 APP

DECREE

Having been authorized by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith to undertake an administrative penal process in the matter of the

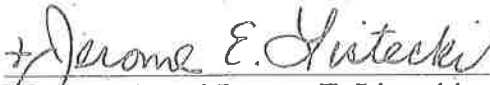
Reverend Ronald G. ENGEL


I herewith decree the opening of this process in accord with the norm of canon 1720.

Two assessors shall be appointed. A defense brief will be solicited upon a review of the allegations by the procurator/advocate for the accused.

I appoint the Reverend Philip Reifenberg as Promoter of Justice (CIC canon 1430). I also appoint the Very Reverend William Kohler as Notary for this process (CIC canons 483 & 484)

Given this 17th day of May 2011


Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecky
Archbishop of Milwaukee


Very Reverend William Kohler
Notary

Confidential
Sexual Abuse
Investigation

Prepared by: Robert F. Beyer
February 2006

Allegation

In February of 2003, a federal undercover operation investigated a company called "Regpay", located in Minsk, Belarus. The investigation showed that Regpay owned and operated various members-only internet websites containing child pornography. In June of 2003, federal agents seized Regpay's customer database, containing records for each customer who purchased access to one of Regpay's child pornography websites. The seized information included the purchaser's name, home address, e-mail address, credit card number, names of websites purchased, and date(s) of purchase.

In October of 2003, federal agents reviewed Regpay's customer database, and found that a Ronald Engel was one of Regpay's paying customers. Further investigation showed that Ronald Engel purchased access to five different pornographic websites on eleven occasions between July 30, 2002 and June 15, 2003. The investigation further identified Ronald Engel as Fr. Ronald Engel, who was employed as an assistant pastor at St. Veronica's Parish, 353 E. Norwich St., Milwaukee, WI 53207, with a home address of [REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53209.

On April 28, 2004, a federal search warrant was executed at Fr. Engel's residence. His computer processing unit, an external hard drive, eleven 3.5 inch floppy disks, and various other items were seized. On May 5, 2005, the business manager from St. Veronica's Parish turned over to the federal agents a parish computer which was used by Fr. Engel. *Why?*

A forensic examination of the computers and related computer equipment showed that the computers contained a program called "Evidence Eliminator". None of the computer hardware contained child pornography or child erotica. A check of the seized floppy disks showed that four of the disks contained sixty-eight deleted but recoverable graphic images of

nude young males. One of the floppy disks contained twenty-one images of what is known as “Japanese anime”, showing computer generated images of children engaged in sexual acts, with many of the images involving bondage.

On December 12, 2005, Fr. Engle signed a Deferred Prosecution Agreement, which also included a ten year waiver of the statute of limitations. No federal or local criminal charges were issued as a result of this agreement.

Preface

On Tuesday, December 6, 2005, I contacted Attorney Thomas Brown to schedule an interview with his client, Fr. Ronald Engel. Mr. Brown provided me with a brief background regarding the case against Fr. Engel. He indicated Fr. Engel purchased access to some websites with a credit card, and that information became known to federal agents. The federal agents seized Fr. Engel's computer. The websites accessed by Fr. Engel contained a variety of material, including artistic nude pictures of underage people, as well as, inappropriate pictures. Fr. Engel's interest was principally in pictures of pubescent or slightly prepubescent boys who were nude but were not engaged in suggestive conduct. The pictures Fr. Engel viewed were the same as pictures found in fine art books. They were simply nude pictures. He was not interested in the inappropriate sexual pictures also found on the websites. The federal agents did not find any pictures of a sexually explicit nature on any of the items that they seized from Fr. Engel.

Fr. Engel also bought a program that erases things on a computer. He would log onto the websites, look at the material, feel guilty, and erase it from his computer. Fr. Engel would later get the urge to look at the pictures again, repeat the process, and purge the pictures. Fr. Engel understands that it was wrong, and feels guilty.

Mr. Brown does not feel that the federal government even had enough evidence to charge Fr. Engel. No one has been charged with the general pornographic statute in twenty-five years. In addition, Milwaukee District Attorney, E. Michael McCann has refused to prosecute Fr. Engel. Deferred prosecution agreements usually require an admission of guilt. The agreement Fr. Engel signed does not include that admission. Mr. Brown said there would have been a possibility that Fr. Engel would not have been charged with anything if he had not entered into the deferred prosecution agreement.

Mr. Brown provided me with a copy of the ten page executed deferred prosecution agreement and waiver of statute of limitations signed by Fr. Engel.

Interview

Interview of: Fr. Ronald G. Engel, w/m, 11-3-50, of [REDACTED]
Milwaukee, WI 53209, [REDACTED]

On Monday, January 30, 2006, at 9:00 a.m., I interviewed Fr. Ronald Engel. The interview took place at the office of Attorney Thomas Brown, 330 E. Kilbourn Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202. Mr. Brown was present during the interview. [REDACTED] who is Fr. Engel's spiritual advisor, was also present at Fr. Engel's request. Fr. Engel indicated that he has no reservations about talking to me in the presence of [REDACTED]

Fr. Engel lives at [REDACTED] Milwaukee WI, which is his family's home. He shared the home with his mother until she died in 2003. Fr. Engel first started viewing pictures of nude boys on the internet about five years before his mother died, when she had a heart attack. He was the primary caregiver for his mother since his brother lives on the west coast. His mother later developed cancer and required chemotherapy during the last couple years of her life. Fr. Engel worked his full forty to fifty hours a week at St. Veronica's Parish, located at 353 E. Norwich St., Milwaukee, WI 53207, while also taking care of his mother's needs. He got two to three hours of sleep a night. Fr. Engel had a relationship problem with the administrator at St. Veronica's Parish, so he did not have the best work situation.

Fr. Engel found the members-only pay sites by happenstance. While looking on the internet for music albums by boy choirs and for artwork, he bumped into the members-only pay sites. The websites described themselves as being non-pornographic according to federal law and referred to legal nudity. Fr. Engel subscribed to the websites and found hundreds of folders containing thousands of albums. He opened folders which had albums of just nude pictures.

They contained simple nudes, athletic posed nudes, nudist families, along with black and white pictures of boys from the 1950's and 1960's. The black and white pictures of boys were both clothed and unclothed, but were not posed pictures. Some of the pictures were of Europeans. The pictures were of single individuals who were not engaged in sexual activity. He compared the pictures of the nudes he looked at on the websites to nude models in an art class. Fr. Engel looked at the pictures and thought about his own childhood and his homosexuality, which he was never comfortable with. After viewing the pictures, Fr. Engel would feel guilty and try to cancel the subscription. Sometimes he would not get a reply back from the website, so he shredded his password and was locked out of the website. Fr. Engel would later approach these websites again in a binge reaction. He repeated the process of looking at the pictures, feeling guilty, and either trying to cancel his subscription or shredding the files and his password, which again locked him out of the website. Fr. Engel never engaged in any sexual activity after viewing the nude pictures, and he always viewed the pictures by himself. To him, viewing the pictures was not so much for sexual arousal, but was more of a nostalgic or childhood thing.

Why? } Fr. Engel only used his home desktop computer to view the nude websites. He never used the computers at St. Veronica's Parish to view nude pictures. Fr. Engel did have a program through McAfee that he used to delete information from both his personal computer at home and the computer he used at St. Veronica's Parish. There were five computers at St. Veronica's Parish that various people had access to, so Fr. Engel used the McAfee program to delete his personal information. Regarding the deleting of nude images from Fr. Engel's home computer, Mr. Brown added that Fr. Engel would have deleted the material for one of two reasons. The first reason would have been that Fr. Engel knew he was doing something illegal. The second

reason would have been that he did not feel comfortable with the images on his computer, felt guilty, and deleted the images to keep them from himself.

The deferred prosecution agreement showed that Fr. Engel accessed five different member-only pay websites eleven times between July 30, 2002 and June 15, 2003. Fr. Engel said he may have gone back to the websites that he subscribed to more than once before shredding them, but he doesn't remember how often. There were other websites he viewed that were forerunners to the websites listed in the deferred prosecution agreement. Fr. Engel could not say exactly how often he viewed the nude websites, but said it was only occasional, and not on a regular basis. He does not think that he viewed nude websites many more times than the ones listed in the deferred prosecution agreement. He viewed the websites for a few minutes to an hour or so. Fr. Engel does not recall seeing pornographic images while accessing the websites. After viewing the nude pictures he would then feel dumb and foolish, and "shut it down". Fr. Engel looked at the pictures and then destroyed them. He never wanted to keep any of the images, and did not want to close the day out with possession of the nude images. He just wanted to go to confession.

Fr. Engel said the deleted images recovered from the floppy disks seized from his home may have been adult images. He would have deleted them from the disks before ending the day because he never kept anything. The twenty-one images of "Japanese anime" which were recovered from one of the floppy disks were very animated. Fr. Engel does not know how the federal agents could determine that the animated images were of children. He believed it was an adult website, and doesn't remember children on the website. The second paragraph on page four of the deferred prosecution agreement has a sentence that states, "He denied downloading any of the images and claimed not to have done anything wrong". I asked Fr. Engel if he lied to

the federal agents because they did in fact recover floppy disks from his residence with downloaded images. Fr. Engel said he told the agents the truth, but does not know how they heard it. He told the agents he didn't feel he did anything wrong because the statements from the websites he accessed indicated the images were not pornographic.

Fr. Engel's internet provider was Core.com. The deferred prosecution agreement showed that between February 25, 2004 and March 24, 2004, a one month period, Fr. Engel accessed the internet 135 times. Fr. Engel said that only a portion of those times were for looking at nude pictures. Many of the times he accessed the internet during that time period were because he was logging on to E-Bay, Amazon.com, or various art sites. Fr. Engel decided to stop accessing the members-only pay websites shortly before the federal agents conducted their search warrant. He realized that looking at the pictures was stupid, dumb, and was "grief activity", so he "shut everything down". The seizure of his computer ended his computer use. Fr. Engel does not have a computer or access to a computer at this time.

Fr. Engel began to realize that he was homosexual in his late twenties during conversations with a spiritual director. The spiritual director questioned Fr. Engel regarding his thoughts and viewpoints on certain issues. Fr. Engel never talked about his sexuality, except to counselors, and would have never told his family or close friends about it. Fr. Engel does not relate to being gay. He never felt comfortable with the issue. He always had a conflict with his feelings over being homosexual. In his mind, he was never looking at pornography.

Fr. Engel related that he was never sexually abused. I asked him why looking at nude pictures of young boys made him think of his childhood. Fr. Engel thought that maybe it was because he moved back to his family home with his mother after being gone for twenty years. He felt like a little kid again because he was in his mother's space. Looking at nude pictures was

a tension related activity. His low point was the critical nature of his mother dying, because she was the keeper of his childhood memories.

Fr. Engel has had no desire to look at nude pictures for the last year and a half. He has no need to look at nude pictures as a way of talking to himself about his feelings. Fr. Engel has close friends that now know about his sexuality and can talk to them about his feelings. He is presently seeing a counselor that he has seen over forty-five times since his mother's illness and this case. At [REDACTED] urging, Fr. Engel approached then Archbishop Weakland about attending The Southdown Institute near Toronto, Canada to deal with his issues, but it never happened. Fr. Engel does not feel he is addicted to pornography at this time, because where he was when he couldn't talk to anyone, and where he is now are so different.

Fr. Engel said the priesthood is at the heart of everything he ever wanted as far back as he can remember. Being away from the Eucharist, ministry, and parishioners has been "hell". Viewing nude pictures has never affected his duties as a priest at St. Veronica's Parish. There was never any connection with the pictures and what he did at work. Fr. Engel feels he can effectively continue to be a priest. However, he realizes that in today's environment parish work may not work out, so possibly he would be better suited for duties as a Chaplain, for example. The deferred prosecution agreement prohibits Fr. Engel from having any unsupervised contact with children. I asked Fr. Engel how he would deal with young Mass servers and the possibility that he would be alone with them in the sacristy. Fr. Engel said he has not had unsupervised activity with minors for the last twenty years, so that would not be a problem. He always kept the sacristy door open, and stayed separated from the altar boys in the past. Usually there was also always someone else present.

Mr. Brown mentioned that the deferred prosecution agreement that Fr. Engel signed did not have an admission of wrongdoing in the agreement because Fr. Engel did not violate any federal law. Fr. Engel signed the agreement because the case was embarrassing to him and to the Catholic Church. Fr. Engel did not want to discredit the Church. Fr. Engel said that even if the issue was about possession of an art book containing nude photos, what would people think if the case went to trial?

Fr. Engel has not worked since being relieved of his priestly duties almost two years ago. He always thought the case would come to a close, but something always occurred to delay the case. Fr. Engel could not think of any additional information or comments that he wanted to make at this time.

██████████ related that he is Fr. Engel's spiritual advisor and that Fr. Engel has in the past shared with him everything that was talked about today. He said Fr. Engel has no desire to see sexual activity by minors. He had a curiosity and it was inappropriate. What he did was not illegal, but Fr. Engel did feel guilty morally. It was a means for Fr. Engel to relieve stress, although that is not an excuse. Fr. Engel is a good priest and has a desire to continue his priestly duties. He is not a risk to children. ██████████ said Fr. Engel in no way intended to embarrass the Church, so he struggled with the deferred prosecution agreement.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No.

RONALD G. ENGEL,

Defendant.

DEFERRED PROSECUTION AGREEMENT AND
WAIVER OF STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

The United States of America, by its attorneys, Steven M. Biskupic, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, and Brian E. Pawlak, Assistant United States Attorney, and the defendant, Ronald G. Engel, individually and by counsel, Attorney Thomas E. Brown, hereby enter into this deferred prosecution agreement and waiver of statute of limitations. The parties hereby agree that the facts detailed herein summarize the evidence the government currently has in its possession which could be used to prosecute Engel.

BACKGROUND

On or about February 2003, a federal undercover operation coordinated out of the District of New Jersey targeted for criminal investigation a company called "Regpay," located in Minsk, Belarus. In July and August 2003, undercover federal agents confirmed Regpay owned and operated various members-only internet websites containing child pornography. Evidence

obtained from undercover sources and other investigations by Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents uncovered that the funds from US-based customers accessing Regpay's child pornography websites were transferred into an account maintained by a company known as "Connections", located in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

On or about June 2003, ICE agents from Florida seized Regpay's customer database. This database was housed on a server located in Texas. The customer database contained Regpay's records for each customer who purchased access to one of Regpay's child pornography websites. This information included the purchaser's name, home address, e-mail address, credit card number, names of websites purchased, and date(s) of purchase. This information was then forwarded to various agents in other jurisdictions including this jurisdiction.

On or about early October 2003, federal agents reviewed Regpay's customer databases, and discovered that Ronald Engel was one of Regpay's paying customers. The purchasing information contained on Regpay's customer database for Ronald Engel is as follows:

Customer Name	Customer Address	Website	Purchase Date
Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$57.90/month	July 30, 2002 (Refund)
Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$57.90/month	October 21, 2002
Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$57.90/month	April 8, 2003
Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$57.90/month	June 15, 2003

Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$44.90/month	February 4, 2003
Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$47.90/month	August 29, 2002 (Refund)
Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$47.90/month	September 22, 2002
Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$47.90/month	February 3, 2003
Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$47.90/month	March 6, 2003
Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$47.90	February 24, 2003
Ronald Engel, aka [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207	[REDACTED] \$47.90/month	April 15, 2003 (Refund)

Evidence obtained from Core.com for the two e-mail addresses associated with the afore described website memberships, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] confirmed that both were registered to Engel. Specifically the account listed to Ronald Engel, [REDACTED] Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53207. Two telephone numbers were on file. The day time telephone number Engel provided to Core.com listed to St. Veronica Congregation, [REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207. Through investigation, ICE determined that Engel was employed there as the associate pastor.

Evidence obtained from SBC, Dallas, TX, indicated that the second telephone number was listed to "Rev. Ronald Engel," with a service address of [REDACTED], Milwaukee, WI, 53209. The billing address is listed to "Rev. Ronald Engel," [REDACTED] Milwaukee, WI 53207. An examination of the outgoing call data information provided by SBC for the period of February 25, 2004 to March 24, 2004

lists 146 outgoing calls. Of those 146, 135 are calls to [REDACTED] the primary local access number for Core.com.

On April 28, 2004, a federal search warrant was executed at Engel's residence located at [REDACTED] Street, in the City and County of Milwaukee, State and Eastern District of Wisconsin. Seized during that search were a computer processing unit (CPU), various storage medium, an external hard drive and various other items.

During the execution of the search warrant, Engel agreed to provide a non-custodial statement to the agents. Engel admitted to purchasing memberships to the websites listed above and visiting them on "an on and off" basis. He denied downloading any of the images and claimed not to have done anything wrong.

On May 5, 2005, the business manager for St. Veronica's Parish turned over to ICE an Acer CPU, model AP6100 and Seagate hard drive owned by the parish. The business manager indicated that Engel used the computer regularly and that the parish wanted it to be searched for child pornography.

ICE conducted a forensic examination on the CPUs and related computer equipment taken from Engel's home and his place of business. Found on both of these computers was a program called "Evidence Eliminator." Evidence Eliminator's web page advertises itself with the following: Evidence Eliminator is proven to defeat the exact same forensic software as used by the US Secret Service, Customs Department, the Los Angeles Police Department and the UK Metropolitan Police and Scotland Yard." No child pornography or child erotica was found on any of the computer hardware.

Taken from Engel's residence were 11, 3.5 inch floppy disks. Located on four of the disks were 68 deleted but recoverable graphic images of nude young males. Some of the images had the following web addresses listed on the image: [REDACTED] (Hot boys from Russia); and [REDACTED]

In addition, one of the floppy disks contained 21 images of what is known as "Japanese anime." ^{Child Porn} These computer generated images depict children engaged in sexual acts, many of which involve bondage.

STATUTES

The facts available to the government at this time, establish probable cause to believe that Engel violated the following federal statutes within Title 18: § 2252(a)(2), Receiving visual depictions of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct; § 2252(a)(4)(B), possession of the same; § 2252A(a)(2), Receiving child pornography, § 2252A(a)(5)(B) possession of the same; and § 1466A, Obscene visual representations of the sexual abuse of children.

AGREEMENT

The United States has agreed to defer prosecuting Ronald G. Engel for his role in the felony offenses briefly outlined in this agreement and for any other potential violations associated with this current investigation, of which the government is presently aware based upon its investigation. In exchange for not prosecuting him now, Engel agrees to the following:

1. That neither he, nor anyone on his behalf, nor at his behest, may engage in the accumulation, collection, selling, transportation, shipping, transferring, viewing and

trading, of pornographic or erotic images of children by computer or by any other means.

2. That he not commit any additional state, federal, or local criminal offenses.
3. That he not take any employment or position, whether paid or unpaid, which would place him in a direct or implied position of trust, control, supervision or prominence to, with or over children. That he understands the purpose of this paragraph is to minimize all unsupervised contact between him and children. That he understands that he cannot hold a position in or out of the priesthood which would place him in unsupervised contact with children. Thus if he were to remain in the priesthood, he would have to assume a position/assignment which would not in any way place him in unsupervised contact with children.

~~4. That he agrees to waive any applicable statute of limitations under the laws of the~~ }
United States in relation to the potential charges against him for a period of ten years
from the date he signs this agreement. 10 years

5. That he agrees that the period covered by this waiver shall be tolled and excluded from any calculation of time for the purpose of (a) any applicable statute of limitations of the laws of the United States Code, and (b) any constitutional, statutory, or other claim concerning pre-indictment delay relating to any violations arising out of events that are the subject of this investigation.

6. It is solely within the government's discretion to determine when and if he violates this agreement. This determination shall not be appealable or subject to any type of mediation or arbitration, and the United States Attorneys Office shall be the final determinant of whether or not a violation has occurred.
7. That he understands and agrees that the statute of limitations, which he has agreed to waive, is an important statutory right regarding the time period that the United States has to bring charges against him. He further understands that he is waiving his six month right to a speedy trial regarding these potential charges.
8. That he has had sufficient opportunity to discuss this matter with his counsel, Attorney Thomas E. Brown
9. That he and his counsel understand that the statute of limitations, as set forth in Title ~~18, United States Code, Section 3282, is not jurisdictional, and is an affirmative~~ defense which may be waived. *See United States v. Ross*, 77 F.3d 1525 (7th Cir. 1996), and *United States v. Meeker*, 701 F.2d 685 (7th Cir. 1983).
10. That he shall cooperate in any investigation conducted by the United States or its agents to determine if he has violated this agreement. Non-cooperation in such an investigation shall be considered a violation of this agreement. However, "non-cooperation" does not include Engel invoking his right to consult with an attorney prior to speaking with law enforcement agents regarding any alleged violation or having an attorney present during any such conversation.

11. That he understands if he violates any conditions set forth in this agreement, the United States retains the unqualified right to present this case to a federal grand jury and seek an indictment.
12. That he understands that certain original evidence gathered against him in this investigation shall not be preserved for the entire 10 year period of this agreement. Illustrative, but not exclusive of this proposition, is the computer hard ware which was seized. This hard ware shall be returned to its lawful owners if it does not contain contraband. That he has no objection to this process and waives any evidentiary objection to the introduction of a summation of what evidence the hard ware contained when it was forensically examined, were he to violate this agreement, and the United States indicted him under this agreement. He further understands that by ~~entering into this agreement he does not waive or give up any other defenses he may~~ have to these charges not specifically enumerated within this agreement, including by way of example and not by exclusion, whether the images found contain actual juveniles and any constitutional challenges to the statutes themselves.
13. That he understands that he has no privacy interest in any evidence which has been gathered against him by the United States. That such evidence may be released by the United States to individuals or organizations at the government's discretion. Likewise, although this agreement shall not be filed in the United States District Clerk's Office, unless there were a violation of this agreement, the defendant has no privacy rights to this agreement and the United States may disclose its existence or contents to any individuals or organizations at its discretion. He further understands the United States

could be compelled to turn over any information it possesses about him either by specific court order or through other procedural means including a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

For its part, the United States concedes that at the end of the ten-year period, the United States will no longer have jurisdiction to prosecute Engel for any violations of Title 18 of the United States Code he may have committed by collecting the images described in this agreement in the Eastern District of Wisconsin. In addition the United States is authorized to represent that the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office has reviewed the available materials in this case for prosecution and in consultation with the United States and its decision to enter into this deferred prosecution agreement, has declined to initiate criminal proceedings against Engel for the substantive allegations contained in this agreement.

STEVEN BISKUPIC
United States Attorney

By:



BRIAN E. PAWLAK
Assistant United States Attorney

I, Ronald G. Engel, have read the agreement set forth above, and I have carefully reviewed it with my attorney. I understand it and voluntarily, knowingly and willfully agree to this agreement without force, threat, or coercion. No other promises or inducements have been made to me other than those contained in this agreement. I am satisfied with the representation of my attorney in this matter.

Date:

12-6-05



THOMAS E. BROWN
Counsel for Defendant

2011 E...

R. J.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross
14 September 2010
Numbers 21 + John 13 + Philippians 2

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

SEP 21 2010

Most Reverend Jerome E. ListECKi
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Dear Jerome

During this past Lent I had requested to meet with you as my bishop for a spiritual review and evaluation of my current penitential lifestyle. When in response, on May 27th, we met for the first time, I tried as transparently as possible to present you with three areas: 1.) a personal history of my priestly vocation, 2.) a contrite review of some matters surrounding my 2004 suspension, 3.) a summary of my current situation and life as a priest :

1]

Within the atmosphere of a strong faith-centered family, I had an early and life-defining experience of Jesus. This experience was especially characterized by the faithful and forgiving love of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Since the early 1950's and throughout my 60 years, I have experienced Jesus calling me to an ever deeper participation in his cross. My response has included a lifelong, freely embraced and faithful virginity centered within the Eucharist and within Church service.

2]

In the more recent time, related to my suspension, I had experienced a 5-year span of unprecedented transition involving the primary care of my terminally ill mother. I periodically mismanaged my stress. I engaged in the brief and sporadic viewing of inappropriate materials. I responded to these personally grieved lapses thru immediate and concerted prayer, sacramental penitence and spiritual counsel.

3]

During these last 7 years comprising my suspension, I have made an ever deeper commitment to Jesus. Through His grace, I have tried in the private forum to live a priesthood of greater integrity marked by daily Eucharistic prayer, weekly spiritual direction, penitential poverty and caring service. Because of my love for the Church, I have made every effort to maintain an active relationship with my bishop.

✠ ✠ ✠

In our May 27th meeting, you directed me (in view of the above) to prayerfully consider "voluntary laicization" as a "sacrificial act of my priesthood." This suggestion resonated with other previous "sacrificial acts" which I had embraced out of a contrite spirit and faithful love for the People of God. I am not sure that either the spiritual motive for or the prayerful character of these acts were fully understood or believed:

1]

Subsequent to the 2 years that my situation was under civil review, my attorney -- Mr. Thomas Brown, in conversation with the federal authorities, presented me with two options: 1.) a trial in which a jury defined whether or not the computer materials in question were pornographic or 2.) a 10-year deferred prosecution agreement that, in keeping with my honest understandings and sincere intentions, did not contain an personal admission of violating federal law.

In conversation with Attorney Brown, I was informed that there was a "reasonable argument" that a jury would discover that the computer materials in question were not pornographic as currently defined by federal statutes. Nevertheless, I made the difficult decision to enter into the 10-year deferred prosecution agreement. I did this because, first and foremost, I genuinely did not want to risk exposing my beloved Church and my beloved Parishioners (both past and present, younger and older) to an embarrassing media circus that would inevitably surround a trial where definitions of obscenity, pornography would be graphically debated.

2]

In person and in correspondence, I several times concertedly offered Archbishop Dolan everything that I had (the financial value of all my personal, familial and material property) asking for a *prayer-and-penitence covenant* which would involve a penitential life of service within a cloistered eucharistic community.

It was and is my love for Jesus, for His Church and His Priesthood, that motivated my above decisions and actions.

59 continued

Therefore, I have taken to heart your request to consider “voluntary laicization” as yet another appropriately contrite and “sacrificial act of priesthood.” Both in prayer and in conversation with my spiritual director, I have reflected long and hard on your words. I found myself prayerfully rereading the Ordination Rite. And, along with your words of May 27th, I revisited your reflections in “Love One Another” on May 18th and September 14th :

1]

On May 18th, you reflected on your own ordination, saying – *“I remember wondering what God had in store for me. There’s no way that I ever would have imagined the journey that has been my priestly life. In that manner, a priestly vocation is comparable to the vocation of marriage. When a couple pledge their life to one another, they allow the mystery of the two becoming one to create something far greater.”* On Sept. 14th, you recounted a five-year running invitation from Deacon Scott Jamieson to serve as a retreat master...an invitation that you “promised” to fulfill despite innumerable roadblocks and delays. You stated – *“But a promise is a promise, and I knew that I needed to keep this commitment if only for reasons of personal integrity.”*

2]

Consequently, I trust that you will understand me when I say that I am unable to request voluntary laicization. The profound invitation and promise that I have experienced in Jesus throughout these 60 years, ...the profound mystery of two becoming one experienced in the sacramental vows of ordination...lead me to say - *“But a promise is a promise, and I know that I need to keep this commitment if only for reasons of personal integrity.”* However the Church ultimately believes it necessary, with regard to my person, to define its good in the public forum; nevertheless, I know that I am and I will remain a priest forever. The Priesthood of Jesus will continue to call, to challenge and to shape me for the rest of my life.



Since 2004, it was explained to me by Archbishop Dolan that the Review Board discernment of 2006 was the first phase of the Church’s “spiritual” due process. Repeatedly, I was told that my case needed to go to Rome. I was informed that, subsequent to an equally full and prayerful review by both the Archbishop’s canonical advocate and my canonical advocate - Fr. Pat Lagges, the Holy Father needed to review my case and to make a decision.

~~With regard to the above, let me highlight my experience of the Milwaukee process by naming and describing three things: 1.) one troubling memory of April 2004, 2.) one ongoing frustration of these past 5 years, 3.) one overwhelming concern about the archdiocesan plan for October 1st.~~

1]

The day after I was first interviewed by the federal authorities, I met directly and indirectly with several groupings of Archdiocesan officials that included Archbishop Dolan; Bishop Sklba; Vicar Rev. Joe Hornacek, Vice Vicar Rev. Bill Kohler, a female resource psychologist for the Review Board, and Chancellor Barb Cusack. In a variety of conversations both with them and among themselves, they expressed not being sure if the viewing of certain inappropriate materials(whether of a lesser obscene degree or of a greater pornographic degree) constituted a violation of the Dallas Charter. They needed to have Cusack call Washington to find out.

2]

Regardless of repeated requests and assurances, my canonical advocate – Fr. Pat Lagges has yet to be given the opportunity to fully access, to critically review and to share with me the content of my Review Board file. It is my understanding that Fr. Lagges has formally protested this one characteristic of the Milwaukee process. It is my recollection of several conversations with Fr. Lagges that (in many dioceses), as soon as the Review Board makes its recommendation regarding a priest’s case, the file is usually released to both the Archbishop’s canonical advocate and the priest’s canonical advocate as a means of facilitating due process.

3]

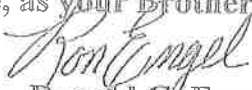
In late 2006 – early 2007, after a brief verbal summary of the Review Board’s recommendation, Archbishop Dolan stated that my case was a difficult one because it did not involve any physical-sexual abuse of an individual. Rather, +Dolan seemed to indicate that my case involved a violation of a grayer, less defined area of the Dallas Charter, in which the viewing of certain inappropriate materials was deemed serious. Throughout several years of conversation, Archbishop Dolan seemed to maintain an understanding that my behavior, though serious and with serious consequences, was a “lesser” violation of the Charter...and open to some pastorally merciful considerations.

On September 16th, you issued a formal letter both to the diocese and to the public media, accompanied by a televised interview. You announced that on October 1st the names of 9 priests (which includes me) would be added to the Archdiocesan List of Clergy with "A Substantiated Allegation of the Sexual Abuse of a Minor." The immediate recorded response of some members of the public was outrage concerning those priests who "molest" and "rape" children.

Consequently, I am deeply disturbed by the real, potential for injurious misrepresentation of my person and my situation when my name is added to "the List." In the current parlance of the secular media, a List of those with a "substantiated allegation of the sexual abuse of minor" seems to translate into a List of "felony sex offenders" who have physically raped a child. Such an interpretation of me and of other priests whose case-situation is similar would not be accurate and could be gravely damaging. Indeed, any such misperceptions and misunderstandings of the Archdiocesan List could lead certain basic public and private agencies associated with other priests and myself to wrongly deny or to wrongly terminate access to essential services and benefits, to residency rights and employment opportunities.

In view of these concerns and my heartfelt understanding of my vocation, I sincerely believe that the further two phases of the Church's due process mentioned above should prayerfully proceed. Thank you for this opportunity to respond.

With Care, as your Brother in Jesus,



Rev. Ronald G. Engel

ronaldengel@att.net

[Redacted] -Milwaukee, WI 53217-8076 [Redacted]

CC:

[Redacted]

Rev. Patrick Lagges Canonical Advocate
Mr. Thomas Brown Civil Attorney

bcc: Bishop Richard Sklba
Very Rev. Curt Frederick
Barbara Anne Cusack

Office of Archbishop Dolan

MAR 10 2006

Memo

To: Reverend Ron Engel
From: +Timothy M. Dolan
Date: March 7, 2006

T.M.D.

Ron:

As you asked, here is my summary of our fruitful and fraternal meeting of Friday, March 3, 2006.

1. I reported to you that the Archdiocesan Review Board had recommended to me that you not be returned to active ministry. The charges against you they find accurate and substantiated sufficiently enough to move toward a canonical proceeding. The use of a computer to view child pornography - - particularly the graphic type reported - - is a violation of the Charter. Seeking some type of ministry which has no contacts with minors is unrealistic, so that portion of the Deferred Prosecution Agreement is not applicable.
2. I reported to you that I have accepted their recommendation.
3. What now?
 - a. You could choose to petition for voluntary laicization. You indicated that you do not intend to do so.
 - b. I need to submit the case to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith for their review and further instruction. I would be asking for some form of canonical process, either judicial or administrative. Your canonical advisor would be provided with an opportunity to review the documentation prior to its submission to CDF and would be afforded the opportunity to present a statement.
 - c. Usually, a request for a "life of prayer and penance" is reserved for one of advanced age or frail health. However, I would be open to a consideration in your case. You understand, as we discussed, that this would mean no public ministry, although you would preserve your priestly identity and right to celebrate Mass. You also desired some continued connection with me and the archdiocese. You mentioned a hope for

some entrance into a religious community. That initiative would be up to you, although I renew to you my pessimism about that happening. We would also have to be clear about the fact that the diocese can no longer provide the level of financial support it has been up until now.

I encouraged you to bring this to your canonical advocate, spiritual director, and your counselor, and then to work with Curt Frederick about next steps.

Thanks, Ron