

REDACTED

Memo to: Rev. Charles Higgins

From: Barbara Thorp, LICSW

Re: St. Agatha's, Milton (cannot identify priest)
(See page 2 note.)
Rev. Joseph P. Reilly

Date: May 19, 2002

Interview conducted in [redacted]; home in [redacted] is chronically disabled by [redacted] and lives in a [redacted]. She grew up in Quincy and attended St. Agatha's Parochial School continuing on to Archbishop Williams High School where she graduated in 19[redacted]. She grew up in a very religious family and recalls daily Mass attendance and weekly Saturday confession. She describes a one time incident of abuse that occurred as best she can recall between 1961 – 1963. She remembers that at least three priests served in the parish at that time, but cannot "see" in her memory the face of the priest that abused her. The three priests that she recalls were Fr. Riley, Fr. Saunders, and Msgr. Gallagher.

She describes the incident in the following manner: She went into the confessional and the priest asked her how old she was. He then asked her to come out of the confessional and go into the sacristy with him. She had never been in the sacristy before and recalls being fascinated by the idea of going into this room with the priest. She was not fearful, but curious. She said he asked her to sit in a chair opposite him. He again asked her how old she was and was she a woman yet? She told him she did not understand his question. He said, "Have you started bleeding yet?" She still did not know what he was talking about. He then lifted up her dress (she remembers it was plaid) and sticking his finger in her vagina he asked her if she was bleeding from here. She recalls making up the lie that her mother was waiting for her in the parking lot and getting up and running out of the Church. [redacted] was afraid to tell anyone because she was fearful that she would get into trouble for lying about her mother being in the parking lot.

[redacted] describes a life long struggle with depression and drug addiction. In 19[redacted] she attempted suicide and was hospitalized for two months. She has had many hospitalizations for depression. She has been on disability for depression since 1990. She was diagnosed with [redacted] in 1994 and has since had [redacted] replaced. She is under psychiatric care, but has never discussed her concerns about the incident of abuse. I encouraged her to address this with her therapist. She lives alone with her [redacted] and appears to live a severely isolated life. She has also had episodes of self-mutilating behavior and showed me several sores on her breast.

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She has a spiritual longing, but has not attended Church in many years. She expressed an interest in an opportunity to renew her faith and would be open to a pastoral volunteer or visitor who would be willing to discuss matters of faith with her. She also requested that we check the names of the priests that she recalled to see if any complaints of abuse had been made against them in the past.

After a review of the record it appears that the abuse described by _____ was likely perpetrated by Fr. Joseph P. Reilly deceased 1992.

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