

March 12, 1996

Bishop Norman McFarland
Diocese of Orange
2811 Villareal Dr.
Orange, Ca. 92667

Bishop McFarland:

On Sunday, march 10, my children [REDACTED] attended a confirmation meeting at our parish San Francisco Solano, Rancho Santa Margarita. Father Michael Pecharich is the parish priest, and these incidents listed below occurred on Sunday at this meeting.

1. Father Michael put his hands in the back pocket of a young boy and stood there talking to him.
2. he said to the same boy commenting on his pants that he needed hips and he should go to the "Butt Store."
3. He got mad at group of boys and said they 'pissed him off and to shut-up.'
4. He approached our son and pulled hair off his leg and told him to put it on his chest.

We won't begin to speculate what motivates Father Michael's inappropriate conduct. Our children were scandalized and shocked that a priest would behave in such a manner. We have decided as their parents that they not be subjected to any further incidents such as these. Therefore, we are not allowing them to attend the retreat weekend on March 29-30, which is the final requirement for Confirmation aside from this weekend they have completed all

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other requirements. We have enclosed a copy of our son's letter to Father Michael explaining their preparation and request to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, which has been approved.

Our problem lies in that we are anxious for our children to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, however, we cannot in good conscience allow them to continue to be in the presence of Father Michael. We ask permission that they be exempted from this weekend requirement and still be allowed to be confirmed by you on Sunday, April 28.

We are sure you would agree is extremely important for [REDACTED] to be armed with graces of the Holy Spirit in a world such as this. It would not be fair to prevent them from receiving this Sacrament because of the behavior of Father Michael. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated. We can be reached at any time at [REDACTED]

God Bless You [REDACTED]

cc: Father Pecharich