

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

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TO: FILE
FROM: Reverend William J. Lynn *WJL*
ITEM: Meeting with Reverend Michael McCarthy
RE: Reverend Michael McCarthy (1965)
DATE: July 14, 1992

As directed in the Issues Minutes of May 21, 1992, Monsignor James Molloy and I met with Reverend Michael McCarthy, Administrator of St. Kevin Parish in Springfield on June 18, 1992 in order to convey Cardinal Bevilacqua's directions to Father McCarthy concerning the pastorship of St. Kevin Parish.

Monsignor Molloy related to Father McCarthy his understanding of the Cardinal's directions as related verbally to him by Monsignor Cullen:

1. Cardinal Bevilacqua has decided it is in Father McCarthy's best interest not to be appointed pastor of St. Kevin Parish. The reason for this is the possibility that if appointed pastor of St. Kevin Parish, he could be the subject of great publicity and tarnished reputation should the complainant go public with his story.
2. Monsignor Molloy stated that there is the possibility of Father McCarthy being appointed pastor at another parish after an interval of time has passed. This parish would be distant from St. Kevin Parish so that the profile can be as low as possible and not attract attention from the complainant. Monsignor Molloy stated that the Archbishop was not implying doubt about Father McCarthy's ability to be a pastor.
3. In response to a question from Father McCarthy, Monsignor Molloy stated that neither he nor Father Lynn read Father McCarthy's psychological report. The report had been reviewed by Cardinal Bevilacqua and was hand-delivered by Monsignor Cullen to be placed in Father McCarthy's file. The envelope which had been opened by the Cardinal was sealed with tape. Since the written release authorized delivery of the report only to His Eminence, neither Father Lynn nor Monsignor Molloy had any knowledge of the content of the report.

ADD 001243

A memo recording a meeting shortly after Cardinal Bevilacqua learns that Fr. McCarthy had been accused of sexually abusing boys. According to his aide, the Cardinal says the priest could be appointed pastor at a "distant" parish "so that the profile would be as low as possible." GJ-831

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4. Monsignor Molloy advised Father McCarthy that, for the present, activities in the parish should be carried on a "business as usual" basis. The information provided to Father McCarthy should be kept to himself.
5. Monsignor stated that when the time comes for Father McCarthy to move, assistance can be provided to him should he wish it, to prepare a statement which can explain his transfer to the people of the parish.

Father McCarthy's response to the above was the following:

1. He did not agree with the evaluation he received from Dr. Miraglia.
2. At first he stated that he knows he did not go to St. Kevin Parish with a right to succession but he feels he has done a good job and for him to be taken out of the parish, he finds drastically unacceptable.
3. He expressed concern for the parish and the people because they seemed to be confused about the situation.
4. He assured us he will not contribute to any of this "going public." If the Cardinal desires, he is willing to change dioceses.
5. If he were appointed pastor of St. Kevin Parish, he would keep Father Scully, the Pastor Emeritus on at the parish. If he is transferred, then he advises both he and Father Scully should leave.
6. He does not agree with this decision of Cardinal Bevilacqua but is willing to be obedient in what the Cardinal desires.
7. With regards to a future parish, he stated he does not want to be stationed in Philadelphia County at all. He prefers to stay in Delaware County because he has never been stationed anywhere else in 55 years. He would like to be stationed in a parish where he has help. He feels he has worked very hard at St. Kevin and is not willing to have to "clean a place up" again. He would like to be at a parish that can support itself financially.

To summarize, by the conclusion of the meeting, Father McCarthy stated he is open to either being pastor of St. Kevin Parish or another parish if that, what is deemed best by Cardinal Bevilacqua.