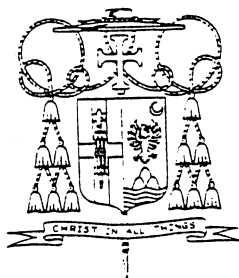


ASF

FORTIER



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
 FILE: confidential
 October 5, 2001
 AUTHORIZED: [Signature]

Mr. Roger Fortier
 P.O. Box 14
 Concord, NH 03302

Dear Roger:

I received a voice mail from Father Bernie Campbell yesterday telling me that you

[REDACTED]

I will keep you in prayer.

The news that your appeal to the Supreme Court was denied is disappointing, and I hope you are bearing up underneath it. God is good. He will show you a way to deal with this well.

I wish I could be with you at this time. However, geography and commitments don't allow it. Do know, though, that you continue to be in my prayer, and I hope that it will not be too long before I have another opportunity to visit with you and Gordon. If you think there is something I can do, please drop me a line and let me know. Don't let it wait.

Take care, Roger.

Warm regards,

[Signature]

Bishop of Manchester

TELEPHONE MESSAGE

TO: Bishop McCormack
FROM: Roger Fortier via Fr. Bernie Campbell
TELEPHONE: 233
RE: Three items
DATE & TIME: October 21, 12:25 PM
(voice mail)

Fr. Campbell was at the State Prison yesterday and Roger Fortier asked him to convey the following to you:

1. [REDACTED]
2. His appeal to the Supreme Court was denied
3. [REDACTED]

He asked Fr. Campbell to pray for him and convey these messages to Bishop McCormack.

June 1, 1978

Mr. Roger Fortier
1 Park Avenue
Merrimack, N.H. 03054

Dear Roger,

Upon recommendation of the Diocesan Vocation Board, Most Reverend Bishop Gendron is pleased to announce your assignment to St. Joseph's Parish in Salem, N.H. I have also informed Rev. Karl Dowd of your assignment to his parish and he is looking forward to the opportunity of working with you.

I am in hopes that your assignment will include a variety of challenges and experiences. These should include hospital, care of the shut-ins, home visitations, baptismal catechesis, liturgy and any other areas mutually agreed upon between yourself and the pastor. The assignment will be effective Wednesday, June 14 until Wednesday, August 9th. These dates are flexible and should be discussed with Fr. Dowd.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for accepting this challenge and I pray that you will have a rich experience in St. Joseph's Parish.

If there are any questions, please feel free to call or write any time. If anything comes up during the summer, feel free to let us know if we can be of assistance.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Rev. Paul E. Groleau
Vocation Director

PEG:ed

CC: Rev. Karl Dowd

P.S. Rev. Karl Dowd has asked me to inform you that you are indeed invited to participate and attend clergy day at Camp Fatima on June 14th. If you plan to attend or would like more details, please contact Fr. Dowd at St. Joseph's in Salem. Tel. no. 898-4933 as soon as possible.

June 1, 1978

Rev. Karl E. Dowd
St. Joseph
33 Main Street
P.O. Box 976
Salem, N.H. 03079

Dear Karl,

I am pleased to announce that Daniel Messier and Roger Fortier have been assigned to St. Joseph's parish. Dan has completed Third Theology at Theological College and Roger has just completed Second Theology at Mt. St. Mary's Seminary. They are certainly looking forward to a rich summer experience with you. May I take this opportunity to thank you for supporting this summer program. Our seminarians really look forward to these assignments. You have no idea how much you contribute to their lives by affording them this unique opportunity. It is also a great support to the Diocesan Vocation Program. It is priests like yourself who really help make this work so much easier.

Dan and Roger should be getting in touch with you soon. This assignment is effective Wednesday, June 14th until Wednesday, August 9th. These dates are certainly flexible. However, the program is designed for a minimum of 8 weeks. The salary is \$250.00 per month. We also encourage that they take at least a week off, if not more, before returning to school.

Dan and Roger have received the ministry of Acolyte and Reader. This means that they are ordinary ministers of the Eucharist and are commissioned by the Bishop to distribute communion anywhere in the Diocese of Manchester. However, this is not done instead of the priest but as a support to him. Since Dan has received the ministry of Reader and has completed his third year of theology, he is encouraged to preach under proper supervision. Proper supervision means that he share his homily with you before the Sunday celebration and to follow this with a critique session.

Rev, Karl Dowd

Page 2

Other areas in which Dan and Roger could be involved might include hospital ministry, shut-ins, baptismal catechesis, parish visitations, liturgy (lector, cantor, eucharistic minister etc,..), marriage preparation and any other area you might find to be important for him and the parish.

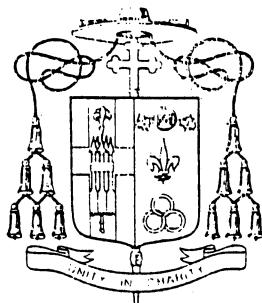
If there are any questions, please feel free to call or write. May I also ask if it would be possible for Dan and Roger to be free the weekend of August 4,5,6th to attend the annual Seminarian Retreat at the Oblates in Hudson.

My best wishes -

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Paul E. Groleau
Vocation Director

PEG:ed



ODORE JOSEPH

By the Grace of God and the Apostolic See

BISHOP OF MANCHESTER

+

To all who shall examine this letter
Greetings in Our Lord!

We hereby affirm and certify that our beloved son .

ROGER ARMAND FORTIER

of the **DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER** having been examined,
approved and found worthy, in an ordination ceremony held in
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH, NASHUA, N.H.

on the 19th day of MAY 1979, according to the
rite of the Holy Roman Church, with all rules being observed,
was promoted in our Lord to the order of

DIACONATE

Given at Manchester, New Hampshire in the Episcopal
Offices under our sign and seal and with the assistance of our
Chancellor on the 19th day of MAY 1979.

George E. Ham
By order of the Most Reverend Bishop
Chancellor

+ *Odore J. Henderson*
Bishop of Manchester

1. Yes, I do feel that the parish assignment has offered me a broad range of experience in ministry. I was involved with hospital visitation, home visitation, communion calls, taught 9th grad CCD, catechesis with the parents of the first communion class, baptismal catechesis, marriage preparations, prepared the parish bulletin, worked on childrens liturgies, worked with the folk group, organized a scripture study and reflection group.
2. I feel that there was a great need for a deacon here at Sacred Heart, and because of the openness of the pastor and his involving me in many different areas of ministry here, I feel I was able to make a contribution to the needs of the parish.
3. I've experienced growth in leadership, self-confidence and in my prayer life.
4. I feel there is always room for growth in my life, especially in the area of self-confidence.
5. We had no need to set aside specific time for discussion of my ministry, because we are in constant dialogue about my ministry here at the parish.
6. No other member of the parish staff could have better served as my supervisor.
7. I feel that Fr. Desjardins and I have had a high degree of communication. Fr. Fillion is in residence, though he keeps to himself, I've had no difficulty communicating with him when the occasion arises. I would have to say that communication with Fr. Drapeau is fair.
8. I feel this parish should be considered as a future assignment for deacons, because Fr. Desjardins gives you the opportunity to share all the possible duties that a deacon could have, and he is open and challenging.
9. I feel that the vocation director has done a great job during the internship program, his regular visits keep him up on what is going on in the assignment. I am grateful for his openness and willingness to help at all times.
10. The presentations by all the departments were very helpful and informative, with regards to the services they are providing for the diocese. I was very impressed with the presentation by the Catholic Charities office, which provides many services which I was not aware of. The practical experience in the tribunal was of great help, it is an area of ministry which we will run into very often.. It has helped me be very sensitive to the deep hurt that some of these people are experiencing. The only suggestion I would have would be to lengthen each program with an overnight, so that we might share liturgy together and to also share our own experiences in the ministry we are involved.

11. Overall, I feel that Mt. St. Mary's Seminary has prepared me well for service in the Diocese of Manchester. My main reason for the favorable evaluation is the Mount's very strong spiritual program. Academically, the Mount is strong in most departments. The strongest department is the dogma dept., the weakest is the moral dept. The scripture dept. is strong and the history dept. is getting better.
12. I have found great support here in the diocese, from the parishioners, from the parishioners, from my supervisor, from the members of the vocation board, and from the bishops.
I am not presently a member of a support group, but I would be interested in joining one.
13. I have taken adequate time off to rest and I do not feel that I have taken too much time off.
- 14-17 answered on questionnaire.
18. I would be very happy to stay here where I have served as a deacon. Fr. Desjardins and I work very well together, we share together, and most importantly and perhaps the reason for such a successful assignment, is that we pray together.

NAME Roger A. Fortier

DEACON ASSIGNMENT Sacred Heart Parish, Manchester, N.H.

SUPERVISOR Rev. George Desjardins

(Please respond to these questions on separate sheets of paper)

1. Do you feel that your parish assignment has offered you a sufficiently broad range of experiences in ministry? Please explain the chief areas of involvement.
2. Do you feel that there was a real need for the services of a deacon and that you were therefore able to contribute significantly to serving the needs of the parish?
3. In what areas have you experienced growth through this experience of parish ministry?
4. In what areas do you now feel the need for further growth?
5. Was a specific time set aside on a regular basis for you to meet with your supervisor and discuss your diaconal ministry? How frequently has this been done, and how fruitful have these discussions been?
6. Could another member of the parish staff have better served as your supervisor?
7. Please evaluate the degree of genuine communication that you have experienced with your supervisor. (Also, if there are other priests in the rectory, how would you evaluate your communication with them?)
8. Please give your candid evaluation of whether this parish should be considered in the future for the assignment of deacons. Why or why not?
9. Please give your candid evaluation of the vocation director's role in your deacon internship experience and suggest changes that he should consider in dealing with deacons in future internship assignments.
10. Evaluate each of the following areas which have been part of your internship on a diocesan level. Please make suggestions as to how they can be improved in the future.
 - a. Marriage Tribunal - initial presentation
 - b. Marriage Tribunal - weekly practical experience
 - c. Catholic Charities presentation

- 2 -

d. Chancery Office

e. Youth - Religious Education

d. Are there any other areas that you would suggest should be included in the future?

11. Please evaluate how well you feel that your seminary has prepared you for ministry in the Diocese of Manchester. Please specify areas of strengths and weaknesses in the seminary programs and any suggestions that you consider would be helpful for us to bring to the attention of the seminary administration.
12. Have you experienced adequate support from your parishioners, those living with you in the rectory, and your peers here in the diocese? Are you a member of a priest support group? If not, would you be interested in joining one?
13. It is important that you take adequate time for rest and recreation. Have you taken enough time off? Have you taken too much time off?
14. Regarding future assignments in the priesthood, please describe any special experience, training (e.g. degree or non-degree studies) and talents that should be considered in making your assignments.
15. Please indicate your personal preference with regard to PARISH work. (Mark as #1 the kinds of parishes in which you have the deepest interest; mark as #2 those in which you have a moderate interest; mark as #3 those in which you have a little interest; and mark as 0 those in which you have no interest.

 No special preference 2 Bilingual parish (specify) *French* 2 City parish 2 North 1 East 1 Suburban parish 1 South 3 West 3 Rural parish 2 Seacoast 2 Manchester area Other

16. As you know, it is understood that in the Diocese of Manchester no priest will be considered for specialized ministry until he has been ordained for 3 to 5 years and has been involved in parish ministry during that time. For future reference, please indicate your interest in the following specialized fields:

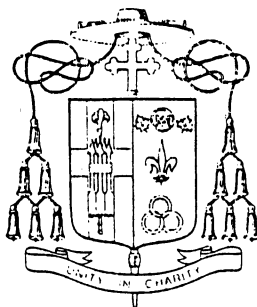
 Adult Education Pre-Marriage Work Chancery Office Radio and TV Catholic Charities Religious Education (CCD) Campus Ministry Retreats and Days of Renewal Counseling Sacred Music Ecumenism Urban Affairs Educational Administration Vocation Work High School Teaching Youth Work

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Chaplain | <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Life Center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interracial Work | <input type="checkbox"/> Reserves |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Journalism | <input type="checkbox"/> Further Studies (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manchester Mission | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marriage Tribunal | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Military Chaplain | |

17. With what foreign languages are you familiar? Please indicate your degree of fluency.

<u>Language</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Slight</u>
<u>FRENCH</u>	_____	<u>X</u>	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

18. How would you feel about remaining in the parish where you have served as a deacon following your ordination to the priesthood?



ODORE JOSEPH

By the Grace of God and the Apostolic See

BISHOP OF MANCHESTER

+

To all who shall examine this letter
Greetings in Our Lord!

We hereby affirm and certify that our beloved son

Roger Armand Fortier

of the Diocese of Manchester having been examined,
approved and found worthy, in an ordination ceremony held in

St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester, New Hampshire

on the 26th day of April 1980, according to the
rite of the Holy Roman Church, with all rules being observed,
was promoted in our Lord to the order of

PRIESTHOOD

Given at Manchester, New Hampshire in the Episcopal
Offices under our sign and seal and with the assistance of our
Chancellor on the 26th day of April 1980.

George E. Ham
By order of the Most Reverend Bishop
Chancellor

+ Odore J. Gendron
Bishop of Manchester

FR Roger Fortier

2307

BISHOP'S HOUSE
657 RIVER ROAD
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
03105

June 4, 1980

Rev. Roger A. Fortier
Sacred Heart Church
223 South Main St.
Manchester, N. H. 03102

Dear Father Fortier:

Subsequent to our recent conversation, and upon the recommendation of the Diocesan Personnel Board, I am pleased to confirm your appointment as Associate Pastor of St. John the Baptist Church, Manchester, N.H., effective June 18, 1980.

I have every confidence that the dedication you have shown as a Deacon will enable you to work harmoniously and fruitfully with Monsignor Lesmerises and Father Martel in caring for the needs of the people of St. John's. I pray that your first assignment as a priest will be both fulfilling and memorable.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

FR Roger Fortier

BISHOP'S HOUSE
657 RIVER ROAD
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
03105

2300

June 4, 1980

Rev. George A. Desjardins
Sacred Heart Church
223 South Main Street
Manchester, N.H. 03102

Dear Father Desjardins:

I would like to inform you that, upon recommendation of the Diocesan Personnel Board, I am appointing the Rev. Roger A. Fortier as Associate Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish, Manchester, N.H., effective June 18, 1980.

As a result, I would like to take this occasion to sincerely thank you for all the help and guidance you have given him during his days with you as a Deacon. I know that much of the success and happiness he will experience as a priest will be due to your kindness and assistance during his Diaconate.

Assuring you of my prayers for the continued fruitfulness of your priestly ministry, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

We are sending you to St. John the Baptist Parish in Manchester, as your first priestly assignment. Msgr. Lesmerises is delighted with your appointment to the parish. I think you will find it to be a great challenge. It is a very large French speaking parish, but I think that you will find the people to be exceptionally friendly and very supportive of their priests. As you know, Father Ham will be meeting with you and Msgr. Lesmerises for the next two years, to be sure that the initial assignment for you as a priest will be as happy as humanly possible.

File - TR Fortier



Department of Priestly Life and Ministry

2310

Diocese of Manchester 153 Ash Street Manchester, New Hampshire 03105 (603) 669-3100

June 15, 1981

Most Rev. Odore J. Gendron
Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, N.H. 03105

Dear Bishop Gendron,

This is to advise you that Father Roger A. Fortier, St. John the Baptist Parish, Manchester made his annual retreat at St. Anselm Abbey, Manchester, N.H. beginning at 5:35 P.M. on Monday, June 8, 1981 and closing after lunch on Friday, June 12, 1981. The retreat director was Abbot Leonard J. Cassell, O.S.B. of St. Mary's Abbey, Morristown, New Jersey.

Sincerely in The Lord,

John F. Burke
John F. Burke
Director

JFB/tl

June 11, 1984

Rev. Roger A. Fortier
St. John the Baptist Rectory
117 Youville Street
Manchester, N. H. 03102

Dear Father Fortier:

Subsequent to our recent conversation and upon the recommendation of the Diocesan Personnel Board, this letter will confirm your appointment as Associate Pastor of Holy Rosary Parish in Rochester, effective June 27, 1984.

I am grateful for the fine pastoral work you have done during your years at St. John the Baptist, and I am confident that this same priestly dedication will enable you to work happily with Monsignor Gilles Simard, the Pastor, and Father Eugene Pelletier, your fellow Associate Pastor, in caring for the needs of the good people of Holy Rosary.

In closing, let me assure you of my prayers that your new ministry will be fruitful in every way.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

June 11, 1984

Rev. Msgr. Gilles J. Simard
Holy Rosary Rectory
189 North Main Street
Rochester, New Hampshire 03867

Dear Monsignor Simard:

This letter will confirm the appointment of the Reverend Roger Fortier as Associate Pastor of Holy Rosary Parish in Rochester, effective June 27, 1984. I am confident that Father Fortier will work happily and effectively with you in caring for the needs of the good people of your parish.

Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

117 R. Hill

2313

June 11, 1984

Very Rev. Paul L. Gregoire, V.F.
St. John the Baptist Rectory
117 Youville Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03102

Dear Father Gregoire:

This letter will confirm the appointment of Father Roger Fortier as Associate Pastor of Holy Rosary Parish in Rochester, effective June 27, 1984. He will be replaced as Associate Pastor of St. John the Baptist on that same date by Father Dennis J. Audet.

I am confident that Father Audet will work happily and effectively with you in caring for the needs of the good people of your parish.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester



CHANCERY OFFICE
153 ASH STREET
P.O. BOX 310
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
03105-0310



DIocese OF MANCHESTER

September 26, 1984

C O N F I D E N T I A L M E M O R A N D U M

RE: Father Roger A. Fortier

On September 26th, a [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] (telephone [REDACTED]) called Father Christian. Her family had been friendly with Father Fortier while he was at St. John the Baptist. She called, stating that approximately a week ago an Officer Thomas from the Derry Police Department had come to their home stating that he had evidence that Father Fortier was a homosexual and wanting to question her son. Apparently, he had been questioning a number of young men in the parish.

On that same date Father Christian called and spoke to Officer Thomas. Officer Thomas had apparently been under the delusion that the Diocese knew all about these matters. Father Christian assured him that this was not so, and that we had never heard, since his ordination, that Father Fortier had any difficulties of this sort. Father Christian also stated that if he did have these problems we certainly did want to give him assistance and make sure that he was not harming anyone else. Officer Thomas stated that the Derry police had received reports that a priest from Manchester was bringing young men to the home of a homosexual in Derry. The priest turned out to be Father Fortier. Officer Thomas had questioned some of the young men and also had spoken to Father Fortier. He claimed that Father Fortier (a) admitted he was a homosexual, (b) admitted to one case of solicitation (apparently no actual sexual activity occurred here), (c) had on occasion served alcohol to minors, (d) had on occasion shown some pornographic film to minors. Father Christian indicated that he would be contacting Father Fortier himself, and that the Diocese would be most anxious to work in cooperation with the police if that was necessary. Officer Thomas did not seem to indicate any immediate criminal charges were being filed, although he stated the case was still open.

On September 27th, Father Christian met with Father Roger Fortier. Father Fortier was most cooperative and admitted that he had experienced some difficulties while at St. John's. He specifically admitted to each of the charges the police officer had

indicated. He stated, however, that he realized these actions had been wrong and that since he had been in Rochester he had turned over a new leaf and started fresh. Father Christian requested that Father Fortier agree to (a) begin seeing Dr. Henry Ouellette of the Clergy Counseling Services immediately. Father Christian indicated that he would share with Dr. Ouellette the basic problems involved; (b) to allow Dr. Ouellette to write to Father Christian that he was actually in therapy, treating the problem in question; and (c) to allow Dr. Ouellette to notify Father Christian if he were to leave treatment before this was mutually agreed to. Father Christian urged Father Fortier to be as open and honest with Dr. Ouellette as possible, even though Father Fortier claimed to Father Christian that he had nothing to hide. Father Christian insisted that he be completely honest with the psychologist. He stated that if Father Fortier did not bring this problem under control and he were convicted, he would certainly end up in jail with the Bishop being helpless to assist him. He also indicated that in the event of any public scandal there was every likelihood that the Bishop would be unable to allow Father Fortier to function as a priest in the Diocese of Manchester, and that it was probable he might not even be able to function as a priest anywhere.



2310
CONSULTATION SERVICE FOR CLERGY and RELIGIOUS

282 CONCORD STREET MANCHESTER, N. H. 03104

603-668-0014

October 25, 1984

Reverend Francis J. Christian
Chancery Office
153 Ash Street
P. O. Box 310
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105

Dear Father Christian:

I write as requested, with the permission of Father Fortier, to report that he has been visiting me regularly for counseling. He has been dealing with the material that was discussed by you at his meeting with you recently concerning complaints received by you from the Derry Police Department.

Father Fortier has also agreed to continue counseling until such time that we would both feel that there is no longer need for it. Hoping that this report is sufficient to meet your needs, I remain

Sincerely,

Henry P. Guertin-Ouellette, Ph.D.

HG-0:ae

AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFORMATION

2317

I hereby authorize: Henry B. Luster - Ouellette

to release to: Rev Francis J Christian

any and all information with respect to my medical and psychological condition, including medical history, psychological evaluation, diagnosis, treatment, recommendations, and any copies of reports pertaining to such information.

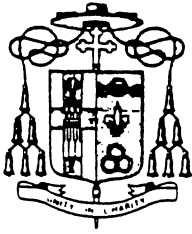
QUALIFICATIONS: Letter dated Oct 25, 1984
Copy attached

Rev. Francis J. Christian

Signature of Client

Witness

Date



Dr. Roger Fortier

2318

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

MOST REVEREND ODORE J. GENDRON, D.D.

August 21, 1986

Rev. Roger A. Fortier
Holy Rosary Rectory
189 North Main Street
Rochester, New Hampshire 03867

Dear Father Fortier:

In response to the recommendation of Brother Roger Lemoyne, SC, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, I am pleased to appoint you to the Diocesan School Board. This appointment is made with the understanding that you have indicated your willingness to accept this nomination, and your term is to be effective for a period of three years.

I also take this opportunity to express my personal appreciation to you for your willingness to accept this appointment, in addition to your many other responsibilities.

With every prayerful good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

cc/ Sister Pauline Lebel
Brother Roger Lemoyne

December 6, 1987

Most Rev. Odore J. Gendron
153 Ash Street
Manchester, NH 03105


Dear Bishop Gendron:

Enclosed, please find a copy of the letter which I received from Dr. Alexander concerning my recent visit to the Lahey Clinic. I pray that this will be of help to you, in whatever decision you may have to make.

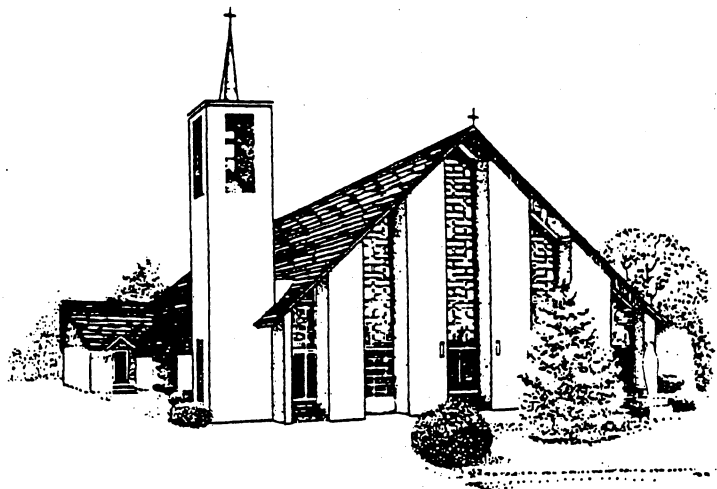
I wish to thank you for having seen me a few weeks ago, for it was a relief to get these things off my mind.

May the Lord bless you during this season.

In Christ,


Rev. Roger A. Fortier

2321



Holy Rosary Church
189 North Main Street
Rochester, New Hampshire 03867

December 19, 1987

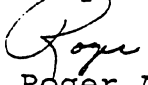
Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron D.D.
153 Ash St., P.O. Box 310
Manchester, NH 03105-0310

Dear Bishop Gendron:

As per our conversation last tuesday, and upon recommendation by my doctors, I am hereby requesting a six month sick leave, effective January 4, 1988.

I am grateful for your understanding and I ask your prayers so that I may return in good health, ready to be of service to you and the people of God in this diocese.

Sincerely in Christ,


Rev. Roger A. Fortier

Address in Florida:

1000 19th St. No.
Jacksonville Beach, Fla. 32250

FR R. Folke

2322

December 23, 1987

Rev. Roger A. Fortier
Holy Rosary Church
189 North Main Street
Rochester, New Hampshire 03867

Dear Father Fortier:

Subsequent to your letter of December 19th and our recent meeting, and upon the recommendation of your doctors, I hereby grant your request for a six-month leave of absence for reasons of health effective January 4, 1988. I pray that this period of recuperation will allow you to begin ministry again in the early summer in a happy and fruitful fashion.

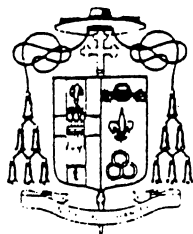
Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes,
I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

TR K Fortier

2323



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

MOST REVEREND ODORE J. GENDRON, D.D.

May 26, 1988

Reverend Roger A. Fortier
St. Aloysius Rectory
48 West Hollis Street
Nashua, New Hampshire 03060

Dear Father Fortier:

Subsequent to our recent conversation, this letter will confirm your appointment as Associate Pastor of Infant Jesus Parish in Nashua effective June 15, 1988. I am confident that you will work happily and effectively with Father Eddy N. Bisson, the Pastor, in caring for the needs of the good people of the parish.

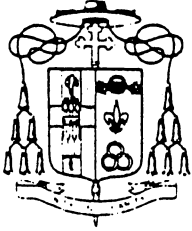
Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes,
I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

FR R Fortier

2324



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

MOST REVEREND ODORE J. GENDRON, D.D.

May 26, 1988

Reverend Eddy N. Bisson
Infant Jesus Rectory
121 Allds Street
Nashua, New Hampshire 03060

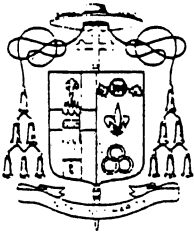
Dear Father Bisson:

Subsequent to our recent conversation, this letter will confirm the appointment of Father Marcel I. Martel as Associate Pastor of St. Mary Parish in Manchester effective June 15, 1988. He will be replaced as Associate Pastor of Infant Jesus on that same date by Father Roger A. Fortier. I am confident that Father Fortier will work happily and effectively with you in caring for the needs of the good people of your parish.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester



Fr. Fortier

2325

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

MOST REVEREND ODORE J. GENDRON, D.D.

September 18, 1989

Rev. Roger A. Fortier
St. Aloysius Rectory
48 West Hollis Street
Nashua, New Hampshire 03060

Dear Fr. Fortier:

Subsequent to our recent conversation, I am pleased to confirm your appointment as Associate Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Manchester effective October 4, 1989. I am confident that you will be able to work happily and effectively with Father Leonard Foisy, the Pastor, in caring for the needs of the good people of the parish.

I have explained to Father Foisy the fact that, upon recommendation of your physician, you are to return to ministry gradually and function on a part-time basis at least initially. Once you arrive at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, I suggest you meet with Father Foisy to arrive at a mutually acceptable definition of your ministry for the time being. If I can be of any assistance in this regard, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes,
I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

Fr. Roger Fortier

2323

January 9, 1991

Rev. Roger A. Fortier
Holy Angels Rectory
8 Atkinson Depot Road
Plaistow, NH 03865

Dear Father Fortier:

Subsequent to our recent conversation and upon the recommendation of the Diocesan Personnel Board this letter confirms your appointment as Pastor of Saint Peter Parish in Farmington, effective February 6, 1991. Will you please arrange to take the customary oath of office before my delegate in the Chancery prior to that date.

I know that the first assignment of every priest as a pastor is a special moment in his life. I am confident that your priestly dedication and your personal talents will enable you to work happily and effectively with the good people of Saint Peter's.

If I can be of any assistance to you in the weeks and months ahead, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Your friend,

Leo E. O'Neil
Bishop of Manchester



SECRETARIAT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND CANONICAL AFFAIRS

Diocese of Manchester, 153 Ash Street, P.O. Box 310, Manchester, NH 03105-0310 603-669-3100

2327

PROFESSION OF FAITH FOR PASTORS

I, Roger A. Fortier, with firm faith, believe and profess all and everything that is contained in the Symbol of Faith, that is:

I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth, of all that is seen and unseen. I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from True God, begotten, not made, one in being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from Heaven: By the power of the Holy Spirit, He was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died and was buried. On the third day He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His Kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. I believe in the one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

With firm faith I believe as well everything contained in God's word, written or handed down in tradition and proposed by the Church -- whether in solemn judgment or in the ordinary and universal magisterium -- as divinely revealed and calling for faith.

I also firmly accept and hold each and every thing that is proposed by that same Church definitively with regard to teaching concerning faith or morals.

What is more, I adhere with religious submission of will and intellect to the teachings which either the Roman Pontiff or the College of Bishops enunciate when they exercise the authentic magisterium even if they proclaim those teachings in an act that is not definitive.

(OATH OF FIDELITY ON ASSUMING AN OFFICE TO BE EXERCISED IN THE NAME OF THE CHURCH: [Formula to be used by the Christian faithful referred to in Canon 833, Nos. 5-8].)

I, Roger A. Fortier, on assuming the office of Pastor, promise that I shall always preserve communion with the Catholic Church whether in the words I speak or in the way I act.

With great care and fidelity I shall carry out the responsibilities by which I am bound in relation both to the Universal Church and to the particular Church in which I am called to exercise my service according to the requirements of the law.

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In carrying out my charge, which is committed to me in the name of the Church, I shall preserve the deposit of faith in its entirety, hand it on faithfully and make it shine forth. As a result, whatsoever teachings are contrary I shall shun.

I shall follow and foster the common discipline of the whole Church and shall look after the observance of all ecclesiastical laws, especially those which are contained in the Code of Canon Law.

With Christian obedience I shall associate myself with what is expressed by the holy shepherds as authentic doctors and teachers of the Faith or established by them as the Church's rulers. And I shall faithfully assist Diocesan Bishops so that apostolic activity, to be exercised by the mandate and in the name of the Church, is carried out in the communion of the same Church.

May God help me in this way and the holy Gospels of God which I touch with my hands.

Signed: WITNESS: DATE: 

June 7, 1993

CONFIDENTIAL

Rev. William D. Perri, s.P.
St. Michael's Center
13270 Maple Drive
St. Louis, MO 63127

Dear Father Perri:

I spoke on the phone with Joan Thorne on June 3rd, and was delighted to hear that Roger Fortier has made such a positive adjustment to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. His positive attitude is certainly encouraging. I hope that he will bring the same attitude to St. Michael's when he joins you for therapy with his other lifestyle difficulties. It is in regard to these questions that I write, so that you may be made aware of the presenting issues and thus be in a better position to assist Roger.

Roger was ordained in 1980. Shortly before his ordination a member of his family approached the Diocese, expressing concerns that Roger was an active homosexual. This family member could give no definitive proof of this matter, and when confronted Roger denied the truth of the allegations. He was subsequently ordained. Several years after ordination Roger became involved in a police investigation involving the endangerment of minors. While the investigation did not lead to any legal action, Roger admitted to me at the time that he had been imprudent in bringing young men into the rectory and allowing them to view pornographic materials as well as partake of alcoholic beverages. This same sort of activity apparently also took place at the home of a male friend of long acquaintance in the town of Derry, where that man was living. Roger was requested at that time to seek counseling with a diocesan psychologist, which he did for some period of time. Again, in all of this there was never any direct evidence that Roger was acting out sexually in an active fashion.

It has recently come to my attention that for the past two or three years Roger has regularly visited this male friend mentioned earlier, who now lives in Atlanta, Georgia. While there he and this man have cruised the gay bars and actively engaged in homosexual encounters. I have also learned that

-2-

for a number of years Roger has cruised, particularly in the Nashua, New Hampshire area, where he has made numerous homosexual contacts. When confronted with these latter two points, Roger did not deny them and seemed to recognize that this is an area in his life that requires a great deal of understanding and control.

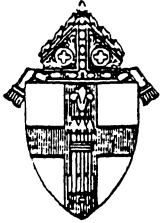
I tried to make it clear to Roger that the Diocese is concerned about both his drinking and his lifestyle problems, both because of our concerns for his personal health as well as for the Church. I tried to make it clear to him that he can minister as a priest only if and when these problems are controlled. Roger has done good work as a priest, and I would hate to see him jeopardize his future ministry because of his unwillingness or inability to deal with these issues.

If I can be of any further assistance to you please feel free to call upon me. I thank you and your staff in advance for all the help you will offer to Roger in the months ahead.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

(Msgr.) Francis J. Christian
Secretary
Chancellor



Secretariat for Pastoral Services
Diocese of Manchester

2331

December 16, 1993


MEMORANDUM

RE: Father Roger A. Fortier

On December 15th, 1993, I spoke by telephone with Father Fortier, to discuss the attached memo.

Father Fortier told me that he had already spoken with [REDACTED] to inform him that he could not have any official function in the parish. He was somewhat disturbed that parishioners had jumped to conclusions on the basis of appearances, but he understood that his creditability and effectiveness as pastor was at stake, and had informed Tom that because of perceptions it would be better for him to not serve the parish in any official capacity.

Father Fortier indicated to me that he had discussed this issue in his monthly phone call to St. Louis, and felt that he had handled everything appropriately.


(Msgr.) Francis J. Christian
Secretary
Chancellor

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

2332

CENTRAL AVENUE

DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03820

(603) 742-4837

Dec. 15, 1993

To: Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Christian

From: Very Rev. Daniel O. Lamothe, V.F.

Daniel Lamothe

On Tuesday, Dec. 14, 1993, I met with Father Roger Fortier at St. Peter's in Farmington because [REDACTED] had appeared on the scene at the same time Father Fortier returned to the parish. A number of people were upset. Father Gary Belliveau and Paul Gregoire encouraged me to go to see him right off about this matter. Gary explained that it was the concensus of the Finance Committee and Pastoral Council that [REDACTED] not be involved in ministerial duties. The leadership did not want him involved with money or young students. The first week of Roger's return to the parish [REDACTED] was seen assisting Father Fortier. He appeared in the church sanctuary and also took a class of Religious Education. Parents were upset about this.

[REDACTED] has a police record involving domestic violence. His reputation in the town is not good. Seven months ago I spoke with the Chief of Police who recommended that he should immediately be dismissed from the rectory (at the time he was working for Roger in the rectory.) The man is not welcome with Little League or scouting because when he was involved with youth programs money disappeared. Gary Belliveau explained also that there was a "radical" change in the collection the very first weekend that [REDACTED] was no longer on hand. [REDACTED] only reappeared on the scene by attending Mass the two weeks before Father Fortier's return.

I felt it was important to talk with Roger about this matter. I explained that there had been no complaints about him, the complaints were only about [REDACTED] involvement. Roger's reaction was that people should not be telling him who his friends could be. I said that no one can say anything about his choice of friends but ministerial involvement is another matter. It was unwise to have [REDACTED] there while working or doing duties in the rectory, church sanctuary, and that it was most unfortunate that [REDACTED] ended up taking a class of Religious Education. I told him that it was the feeling of the Council and Finance Committee that [REDACTED] have no work or ministerial involvement.

Roger intended to make his regularly scheduled call to St. Louis and would be reaccessing whether or not he should stay in Farmington. There were tears in his eyes. I feel it will be very difficult for him to part company with [REDACTED]. Roger goes to the [REDACTED] to discuss [REDACTED]. He wonders if all this is too much for him. I wished him well and told him my reason for visiting him was for his own welfare (including his personal health and ministerial situation).

AFTERCARE PROGRESS REVIEW
ST. MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY

2333

NAME: MSGT. FRANCIS V. CHRISTIAN PARTICIPANT: Reverend Roger A. Fortier

RELATIONSHIP TO PATIENT: CHANCELLOR of Diocese

PHONE NUMBER: 603-669-3100 WORKSHOP DATE: May 23 - 27, 1994

Please respond to the following questions as fully and as honestly as you can. This is a progress review that will be sent to you every six months for two years as part of St. Michael's Aftercare program. If you need additional space, please attach a separate sheet of paper.

How do you evaluate Brother/Father in the following important areas of his sobriety/recovery?

I. Current status.

A. For alcoholics and chemical dependents.

1. Has he abstained from alcohol and other mood-altering chemicals? TO my knowledge - y

2. Has he had abstinence in his bottom-line sobriety? AS BEST I CAN
determine - yes

3. Does he have a sponsor in each of the 12-Step Programs he attends? I am unsure of this

B. For those with biological, psychological, social and/or spiritual issues, including chemical dependency or not.

1. Has he been experiencing problems? NOT TO my knowledge

2. Is he in therapy? How often? I AM UNAWARE OF THIS

3. Does he attend any groups? I AM UNCERTAIN

II. Current Assignment:

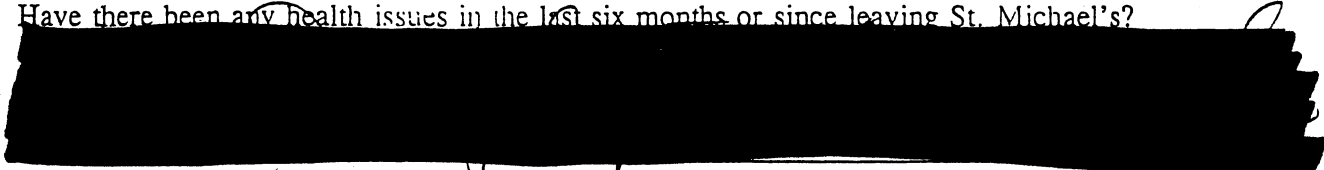
A. Describe the nature of his work. Roger is pastor of a relatively small one man parish near the seacoast of N.H.

B. To the best of your knowledge, is he fulfilled in his current ministry? He appears happy and successful.

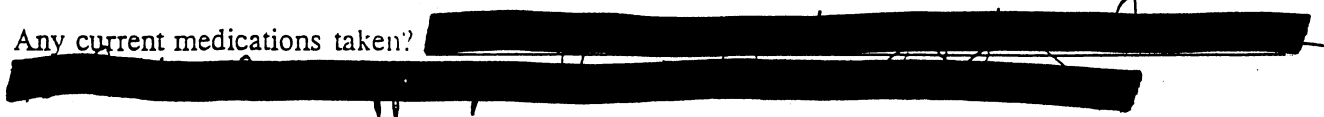
C. Please describe Father/Brother's relationship with the diocese/congregation. It is warm with more or less regular communication over various matters.

D. Are there any difficulties or concerns regarding Father/Brother's current assignment? Not to my knowledge

III. Medical Status:

A. Have there been any health issues in the last six months or since leaving St. Michael's? 

B. Has there been a need to see any health professionals for any reason? CF A

C. Any current medications taken? 

IV. Psychological Status:

A. Does Brother/Father experience stress as a problem in his life? To my knowledge, nothing of an extra-ordinary nature

B. How well does he get along with peers in his rectory/community living? He lives by himself but has regular contact with friends and a priest support group.

C. Is there any indication of prolonged depression? Not to my knowledge.

V. Sexual Status:

A. Do you know of any problems in regard to sexuality? NO

VI. Spiritual Life:

A. Does Brother/Father see a spiritual director? I am uncertain of this

B. How often?

C. Do you see growth in this area for him?

VII. Additional Comments:

**AFTERCARE PROGRESS REVIEW
ST. MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY**

2330

ME: (Rev Msgr) Francis J Christian PARTICIPANT: Reverend Roger A. Fortier

RELATIONSHIP TO PATIENT: Chancellor of Diocese of Manchester

PHONE NUMBER: (603) 669-3100 WORKSHOP DATE: October 24 - 28, 1994

Please respond to the following questions as fully and as honestly as you can. This is a progress review that will be sent to you every six months for two years as part of St. Michael's Aftercare program. If you need additional space, please attach a separate sheet of paper.

How do you evaluate Brother/Father in the following important areas of his sobriety/recovery?

I. Current status.

A. FOR ALCOHOLICS, CHEMICAL DEPENDENTS AND ANYONE WHO ATTENDS A 12-STEP PROGRAM.

1. Has he abstained from alcohol and other mood-altering chemicals? (AA ONLY) To the best
of my knowledge.
2. Has he had abstinence in his bottom-line sobriety? (AA, SLAA, SA, OA, ETC.)

To the best of my knowledge.

3. Does he have a sponsor in each of the 12-Step Programs he attends? _____

To the best of my knowledge.

B. FOR THOSE WITH BIOLOGICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, SOCIAL AND/OR SPIRITUAL ISSUES, INCLUDING CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY OR NOT.

1. Has he been experiencing problems? _____

2. Is he in therapy? How often? _____

3. Does he attend any groups? _____

II. Current Assignment:

- A. Describe the nature of his work. He is currently pastor of St Peter's Parish in Farmington which is the assignment he had prior to attending the program at St. Luke's.
- B. To the best of your knowledge, is he fulfilled in his current ministry? In recent conversations with me he has indicated that things are going very well in the parish and that he is quite satisfied with his present ministry.
- C. Please describe Father/Brother's relationship with the diocese/congregation. His relationship with the diocese is good and there are no problems with the lines of communication.
- D. Are there any difficulties or concerns regarding Father/Brother's current assignment? No.

III. Medical Status:

- A. Have there been any health issues in the last six months or since leaving St. Michael's? I have questioned Roger on his heart problems and have been assured that his doctor is currently satisfied with his medical situation.
- B. Has there been a need to see any health professionals for any reason? To the best of my knowledge he has regular appointments with his doctor who carefully monitors his heart disease.
- C. Any current medications taken? I assume he takes medications for his heart but am unaware of what or in what dosages.

IV. Psychological Status:

- A. Does Brother/Father experience stress as a problem in his life? He led me to believe in our most recent conversation that he is not experiencing any major stress problems.

B. How well does he get along with peers in his rectory/community living? Roger lives alone
but to the best of my knowledge has regular contact with priest support groups.

C. Is there any indication of prolonged depression?
No.

V. Sexual Status:

A. Do you know of any problems in regard to sexuality? To the best of my knowledge Roger
is experiencing no problems with celibacy or sexuality.

VI. Spiritual Life:

A. Does Brother/Father see a spiritual director? I do not know whether he sees a spiritual
director regularly or not.

B. How often? _____

C. Do you see growth in this area for him? _____

VII. Additional Comments:

From everything that he says and from all appearances, it appears that Roger
has made a successful step back into ministry. He seems happy and there have
certainly been no problems in the parish that has been brought to the attention
of the diocese. We have no knowledge of any ongoing problems of the sort that
led to his entry into your program.

**AFTERCARE PROGRESS REVIEW
ST. MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY**

2345

NAME: Msgr. Francis J. Christian PARTICIPANT: Reverend Roger A. Fortier

RELATIONSHIP TO PATIENT: Chancellor of the Diocese of Manchester

PHONE NUMBER: (603)669-3100 WORKSHOP DATE: March 20 - 24, 1995

Please respond to the following questions as fully and as honestly as you can. This is a progress review that will be sent to you every six months for two years as part of St. Michael's Aftercare program. If you need additional space, please attach a separate sheet of paper.

How do you evaluate Brother/Father in the following important areas of his sobriety/recovery?

I. Current status.

A. FOR ALCOHOLICS, CHEMICAL DEPENDENTS AND ANYONE WHO ATTENDS A 12-STEP PROGRAM.

1. Has he abstained from alcohol and other mood-altering chemicals? (AA ONLY) Yes, to the best of my knowledge.

2. Has he had abstinence in his bottom-line sobriety? (AA, SLAA, SA, OA, ETC.)

Yes, to the best of my knowledge.

3. Does he have a sponsor in each of the 12-Step Programs he attends? Yes.

B. FOR THOSE WITH BIOLOGICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, SOCIAL AND/OR SPIRITUAL ISSUES, INCLUDING CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY OR NOT.

1. Has he been experiencing problems? _____

2. Is he in therapy? How often? _____

3. Does he attend any groups? _____

Current Assignment:

- A. Describe the nature of his work. Roger is pastor of St. Peter Parish, Farmington.
It is a relatively small community, primarily a middle class laboring
population.
- B. To the best of your knowledge, is he fulfilled in his current ministry? Roger seems to be very
happy in his current assignment, and functioning quite effectively.
- C. Please describe Father/Brother's relationship with the diocese/congregation. The relationship
between Roger and the Diocese is good, and I believe he is open and frank.
Dialogue has taken place on an occasional basis.
- D. Are there any difficulties or concerns regarding Father/Brother's current assignment? To the
best of my knowledge everything is going very well in Roger's assignment. He
seems happy with the parish, and the people appear happy with his ministry.

III. Medical Status:

- A. Have there been any health issues in the last six months or since leaving St. Michael's? [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- B. Has there been a need to see any health professionals for any reason? _____
- C. Any current medications taken? _____

IV. Psychological Status:

- A. Does Brother/Father experience stress as a problem in his life? The last time I spoke to Roger
he did not indicate any serious problems with stress.

B. How well does he get along with peers in his rectory/community living? Roger lives in his rectory alone, but continues to have a good support system.

C. Is there any indication of prolonged depression?
Not to my knowledge.

V. Sexual Status:

A. Do you know of any problems in regard to sexuality? I have no knowledge of any current problems.

VI. Spiritual Life:

A. Does Brother/Father see a spiritual director? I do not know.

B. How often? _____

C. Do you see growth in this area for him? _____

VII. Additional Comments:

From everything I see and hear, I believe that Roger has benefited greatly from his treatment at St. Michael's, and has made an excellent transition back to parish ministry. He is aware of his physical limitations, and has spoken to me in this regard about what the future might hold for him as we ask priests to take on additional pastoral responsibilities, e.g., twinned parishes, etc. I have assured Roger that we will not ask him to do more than he would be comfortable in assuming.

AFTERCARE PROGRESS REVIEW
ST. MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY

2350

NAME: Msgr. Francis J. Christian PARTICIPANT: Reverend Roger A. Fortier

RELATIONSHIP TO PATIENT: Chancellor of the Diocese of Manchester

PHONE NUMBER: (603)669-3100 WORKSHOP DATE: August 7 - 11, 1995

Please respond to the following questions as fully and as honestly as you can. This is a progress review that will be sent to you every six months for two years as part of St. Michael's Aftercare program. If you need additional space, please attach a separate sheet of paper.

How do you evaluate Brother/Father in the following important areas of his sobriety/recovery?

I. Current status.

A. FOR ALCOHOLICS, CHEMICAL DEPENDENTS AND ANYONE WHO ATTENDS A 12-STEP PROGRAM.

1. Has he abstained from alcohol and other mood-altering chemicals? (AA ONLY) Yes, to the best of my knowledge.

2. Has he had abstinence in his bottom-line sobriety? (AA, SLAA, SA, OA, ETC.)

Yes, to the best of my knowledge.

3. Does he have a sponsor in each of the 12-Step Programs he attends? Yes, to the best of my knowledge.

B. FOR THOSE WITH BIOLOGICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, SOCIAL AND/OR SPIRITUAL ISSUES; INCLUDING CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY OR NOT.

1. Has he been experiencing problems? _____

2. Is he in therapy? How often? _____

3. Does he attend any groups? _____

II. Current Assignment:

- A. Describe the nature of his work. Continues to be assigned to St. Peter's Parish, Farmington, a small fairly rural community.
- B. To the best of your knowledge, is he fulfilled in his current ministry? Roger indicates that he is very happy in his present situation.
- C. Please describe Father/Brother's relationship with the diocese/congregation. The relationship open, cordial, and supportive.
- D. Are there any difficulties or concerns regarding Father/Brother's current assignment? No, to the best of my knowledge.

III. Medical Status:

- A. Have there been any health issues in the last six months or since leaving St. Michael's? [REDACTED]
- B. Has there been a need to see any health professionals for any reason? See answer to A above.
- C. Any current medications taken? See answer to A above.

IV. Psychological Status:

- A. Does Brother/Father experience stress as a problem in his life? His health obviously is a concern for him. To the best of my knowledge there are no other significant stress problems.

B. How well does he get along with peers in his rectory/community living? Roger lives alone, and seems happy with this arrangement. He has regular contact with priest support groups.

C. Is there any indication of prolonged depression?
Not to my knowledge.

V. Sexual Status:

A. Do you know of any problems in regard to sexuality? To the best of my knowledge there is no ongoing problem in this regard.

I. Spiritual Life:

A. Does Brother/Father see a spiritual director? I have no knowledge of this area of his life.

B. How often? I have no knowledge of this area of his life.

C. Do you see growth in this area for him? I have no knowledge of this area of his life.

VII. Additional Comments:

VI. SPIRITUAL LIFE

- A. I have no knowledge of this area of his life.
- B. I have no knowledge of this area of his life.
- C. I have no knowledge of this area of his life.