

# ST. RAPHAEL PARISH

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Bishop Sidney M. Metzger  
800 McKelligon Drive  
El Paso, Texas 79902

April 27, 1976

Dear Bishop:

I spoke with Father Holley on Wednesday, the 21st, and told him about our conversation of that morning. I informed Father that his assignment at St. Raphael's is immediately terminated and that I would have his things packed and shipped to wherever he wished. Of course, Father was deeply humiliated and mortified and very apologetic.

After reflecting on Father's situation for a few days, I would like to make a proposal in his behalf. Bishop, I believe that Father Holley has the makings of a good Priest. He is talented in many areas and easily meets people. However, his problem must be faced up to. He cannot let this problem ruin the rest of his life. I share your skepticism about the traditional approach of psychiatry to this problem and some of the therapists that I have worked with in El Paso, I have lost a good deal of faith in them.

My proposal is this: I know that Father Frias could use help at the Immaculate Conception. I propose that you send Father to the Immaculate with the understanding that Father Frias knows what the problem is and that Father Holley and myself will have a regular schedule of appointments. I feel that my training in Reality Therapy could be of some use to Father.

Bishop, I know what I propose is very risky and if you think it is worth merit, I would suggest that one or two others from the Priest's Personnel Board be consulted. It should also be understood that if you extend this opportunity to Father Holley his best efforts and hard work would be required. I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to Father Holley and I await your response.

In Christ,

*Dixon*  
A. Dixon Hartford

cc: Father David A. Holley