

Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Office of the Abbot

17 May 1983

The Most Reverend John R. Roach  
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Dear Archbishop Roach:

The Personnel Committee and I are now in a position to recommend a number of appointments in the archdiocese.

Brother ~~Martin Rath~~<sup>OSB</sup> will be ordained on June 4, 1983. He was a Brother of our community for many years but decided to study for the priesthood some four or five years ago. We would like to assign him to Saint Bernard's Parish in Saint Paul. The appointment would begin on July 1, 1983.

At this time we would like to set the date for the appointment of the new pastor of Saint Bernard's Parish in Saint Paul. It is October 15, 1983. I wrote you earlier about the possible appointment of ~~Father Brennan Maier~~. Presently he is pastor of Saint Boniface Parish in Cold Spring, Minnesota. We would like him to have a sabbatical before assuming the work in Saint Paul. Father Burton Bloms will leave Saint Bernard's Parish in early July. He too will be on sabbatical for about six months before accepting an appointment in the Diocese of Crookston.

We would also like Father Cyprian Seitz to become chaplain of Divine Redeemer Hospital in South Saint Paul. This appointment would be effective on June 10, 1983. Father Edwin Stueber, who was chaplain at Divine Redeemer Hospital until recently, found it necessary to return to the abbey for rest and recuperation.

I look forward to your being with us on the afternoon of our graduation exercises.

The blessings of Pentecost be with you!

Sincerely,

*Jerome Theisen*

Abbot Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.

JT/ev

Phone 612 363-2544

ARCH-021038

*P*  
*Letting  
Fr. Bloms  
has been  
thanked*

Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Office of the Abbot

17 May 1983

The Most Reverend John R. Roach  
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Dear Archbishop Roach:

The Personnel Committee and I are now in a position to recommend a number of appointments in the archdiocese.

Brother ~~Martin Rath~~ <sup>Bloms</sup> will be ordained on June 4, 1983. He was a Brother of our community for many years but decided to study for the priesthood some four or five years ago. We would like to assign him to Saint Bernard's Parish in Saint Paul. The appointment would begin on July 1, 1983.

At this time we would like to set the date for the appointment of the new pastor of Saint Bernard's Parish in Saint Paul. It is October 15, 1983. I wrote you earlier about the possible appointment of Father Brennan Maiers. Presently he is pastor of Saint Boniface Parish in Cold Spring, Minnesota. We would like him to have a sabbatical before assuming the work in Saint Paul. Father Burton Bloms will leave Saint Bernard's Parish in early July. He too will be on sabbatical for about six months before accepting an appointment in the Diocese of Crookston.

We would also like Father Cyprian Seitz to become chaplain of Divine Redeemer Hospital in South Saint Paul. This appointment would be effective on June 10, 1983. Father Edwin Stueber, who was chaplain at Divine Redeemer Hospital until recently, found it necessary to return to the abbey for rest and recuperation.

I look forward to your being with us on the afternoon of our graduation exercises.

The blessings of Pentecost be with you!

Sincerely,

*Jerome Theisen*

Abbot Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.

JT/ev

Phone 612 363-2544

Marie

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Office of the Archbishop

June 17, 1983

The Right Reverend Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.  
Abbot  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, MN 56321

Dear Father Abbot,

Thank you for your letter presenting Reverend Brennan Maiers, O.S.B.,  
as pastor of St. Bernard's Parish in St. Paul

Upon your recommendation, I am pleased to appoint Father Maiers as  
pastor at St. Bernard's. The effective date of his appointment will  
be October 15, 1983. Father Maiers will receive the faculties of the  
Archdiocese upon taking up residence at St. Bernard's.

As pastor Father Maiers is required to make a Profession of Faith.  
A form for him to use will be sent to him. The completed form is to  
be returned to the Chancery.

The appointment of Father Maiers will be officially published in The  
Catholic Bulletin one week prior to the effective date of the  
appointment.

Father Maiers will be contacted by the local Dean who will discuss  
with him the possible for his installation as pastor. He will be  
installed as pastor because we want to demonstrate the relationship  
St. Bernard's Parish has with the whole Archdiocese. Installation  
should also help to build community within the parish.

Upon your recommendation, I am also appointing Father Martin Rath, O.S.B.,  
who was ordained a priest on June 4, 1983, to be the associate at St.  
Bernard's Parish in St. Paul. The date of his appointment will be  
July 1, 1983.

Father Rath will receive the faculties of the Archdiocese when he  
takes up residence at St. Bernard's.

The appointment of Father Rath will be published in The Catholic Bulletin  
one week prior to the effective date of his appointment.

I also want to welcome Father Cyprian Seitz, O.S.B., into the Archdiocese  
as chaplain of Divine Redeemer Hospital in South St. Paul. He will  
receive the faculties of the Archdiocese on June 10, 1983 when he takes  
up residence at the hospital.

Abbot Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.  
June 17, 1983

Page 2

I presume that Father Maiers, Father Rath and Father Seitz are all registered in the State of Minnesota so they can perform marriages as civil officials. For that reason, we will not have them registered in Hennepin County as we ordinarily do.

I do ask that Father Maiers, Father Rath and Father Seitz make an appointment to visit the Chancery to meet with the Chancellor, Father Robert Carlson, and also to meet with the Vicar for Religious. At that time they will receive a copy of the faculties of the Archdiocese.

Since this is Father Rath's first appointment after ordination, we will also ask him to make the Profession of Faith. A copy of this letter will be sent to him along with a Profession of Faith that he can return to the Chancery.

It was a pleasure to have Father Burton Bloms, O.S.B., at St. Bernard's Parish during the past few years. He served the people of God very faithfully and we wish him well in his new assignment in the Diocese of Crookston.

I also want to thank Father Edwin Steuber, O.S.B., who was chaplain at Divine Redeemer Hospital. His ministry to the sick and the dying brought much consolation to the patients at the hospital. I hope that his stay at the abbey will help to restore him to complete health.

I appreciate very much, Abbot Theisen, the good work and the dedicated service that the Benedictines give to the people of God in this Archdiocese. May the peace of the Lord be with you now and always!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John R. Roach, D.D.  
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

Marie

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Office of the Archbishop

June 17, 1983

The Right Reverend Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.  
Abbot  
St. John's Abbey  
Collegeville, MN 56321

Dear Father Abbot,

Thank you for your letter presenting Reverend Brennan Maiers, O.S.B.,  
as pastor of St. Bernard's Parish in St. Paul

Upon your recommendation, I am pleased to appoint Father Maiers as  
pastor at St. Bernard's. The effective date of his appointment will  
be October 15, 1983. Father Maiers will receive the faculties of the  
Archdiocese upon taking up residence at St. Bernard's.

As pastor Father Maiers is required to make a Profession of Faith.  
A form for him to use will be sent to him. The completed form is to  
be returned to the Chancery.

The appointment of Father Maiers will be officially published in The  
Catholic Bulletin one week prior to the effective date of the  
appointment.

Father Maiers will be contacted by the local Dean who will discuss  
with him the possible for his installation as pastor. He will be  
installed as pastor because we want to demonstrate the relationship  
St. Bernard's Parish has with the whole Archdiocese. Installation  
should also help to build community within the parish.

Upon your recommendation, I am also appointing Father Martin Rath, O.S.B.,  
who was ordained a priest on June 4, 1983, to be the associate at St.  
Bernard's Parish in St. Paul. The date of his appointment will be  
July 1, 1983.

Father Rath will receive the faculties of the Archdiocese when he  
takes up residence at St. Bernard's.

The appointment of Father Rath will be published in The Catholic Bulletin  
one week prior to the effective date of his appointment.

I also want to welcome Father Cyprian Seitz, O.S.B., into the Archdiocese  
as chaplain of Divine Redeemer Hospital in South St. Paul. He will  
receive the faculties of the Archdiocese on June 10, 1983 when he takes  
up residence at the hospital.

Abbot Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.  
June 17, 1983

Page 2

I presume that Father Maiers, Father Rath and Father Seitz are all registered in the State of Minnesota so they can perform marriages as civil officials. For that reason, we will not have them registered in Hennepin County as we ordinarily do.

I do ask that Father Maiers, Father Rath and Father Seitz make an appointment to visit the Chancery to meet with the Chancellor, Father Robert Carlson, and also to meet with the Vicar for Religious. At that time they will receive a copy of the faculties of the Archdiocese.

Since this is Father Rath's first appointment after ordination, we will also ask him to make the Profession of Faith. A copy of this letter will be sent to him along with a Profession of Faith that he can return to the Chancery.

It was a pleasure to have Father Burton Bloms, O.S.B., at St. Bernard's Parish during the past few years. He served the people of God very faithfully and we wish him well in his new assignment in the Diocese of Crookston.

I also want to thank Father Edwin Steuber, O.S.B., who was chaplain at Divine Redeemer Hospital. His ministry to the sick and the dying brought much consolation to the patients at the hospital. I hope that his stay at the abbey will help to restore him to complete health.

I appreciate very much, Abbot Theisen, the good work and the dedicated service that the Benedictines give to the people of God in this Archdiocese. May the peace of the Lord be with you now and always!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John R. Roach, D.D.  
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

September 22, 1983

Reverend William Hennen  
Church of St. James  
496 View Street  
St. Paul, MN 55102

Peace!

At your earliest convenience, please contact Father Brennan  
Majers, O.S.B., who has been appointed pastor at the Church  
of St. Bernard, St. Paul.

The effective date for the appointment is October 15, 1983.

Within two weeks of this appointment, two alternate dates for  
his installation as pastor should be set.

Please contact the Auxiliary Bishops' secretary, Mila, 291-4427  
at the Chancery, to find out whether the Archbishop or one of his  
Auxiliary Bishops will be available to preside at the installation  
ceremonies. If a Bishop is unable to preside, then you as Dean  
will be asked to preside in the name of the Archbishop.

God's blessing!

Reverend Urban S. Wagner, OFM Conv.  
Vice-Chancellor

USW:nw  
Enc.

1983  
in  
Arch

September 22, 1983

Reverend William Hennen  
Church of St. James  
496 View Street  
St. Paul, MN 55102

Peace!

At your earliest convenience, please contact Father Brennan  
Maiers, O.S.B., who has been appointed pastor at the Church  
of St. Bernard, St. Paul.

The effective date for the appointment is October 15, 1983.

Within two weeks of this appointment, two alternate dates for  
his installation as pastor should be set.

Please contact the Auxiliary Bishops' secretary, Mila, 291-4427  
at the Chancery, to find out whether the Archbishop or one of his  
Auxiliary Bishops will be available to preside at the installation  
ceremonies. If a Bishop is unable to preside, then you as Dean  
will be asked to preside in the name of the Archbishop.

God's blessing!

Reverend Urban S. Wagner, OFM Conv.  
Vice-Chancellor

USW:mw  
Enc.

September 22, 1983

Reverend Brennan Maiers, O.S.B.  
Church of St. Bernard  
197 W. Geranium Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55117

Peace!

Welcome to your new pastorate!

Something new has been added in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. There is now a Rite of Installation for new pastors.

The booklet: RITES OF INSTALLATION, is enclosed with this letter. You and the Dean will determine which rite you want to use for your installation.

Also enclosed is a Profession of Faith that we are asking you to sign and return to the Chancery as soon as possible.

A copy of the appointment letter sent to your Provincial is likewise included.

God's blessings!

Reverend Urban S. Wagner, OFM Conv.  
Vice-Chancellor

USW:mw  
Enc.

September 22, 1983

Reverend Brennan Maiers, O.S.B.  
Church of St. Bernard  
197 W. Geranium Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55117

Peace!

Welcome to your new pastorate!

Something new has been added in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. There is now a Rite of Installation for new pastors.

The booklet RITES OF INSTALLATION, is enclosed with this letter. You and the Dean will determine which rite you want to use for your installation.

Also enclosed is a Profession of Faith that we are asking you to sign and return to the Chancery as soon as possible.

A copy of the appointment letter sent to your Provincial is likewise included.

God's blessings!

Reverend Urban S. Wagner, OFM Conv.  
Vice-Chancellor

USW:mw  
Enc.

1983  
In  
Arch

# PROFESSION OF FAITH

I, Brennan Charles Maiera, OSB., with firm faith, believe and profess all and everything that is contained in the Symbol of Faith that is:

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is seen and unseen.  
We 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 rose again  
in fulfillment of the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and 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.  
We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

I firmly embrace and accept  
all and everything which has been either defined by the Church's solemn deliberations  
or affirmed and declared by its ordinary magisterium concerning the doctrine of faith  
and morals, according as they are proposed by it,  
especially those things dealing with the mystery of the Holy Church of Christ,  
its sacraments and the sacrifice of the Mass,  
and the primacy of the Roman Pontiff.

Gregory Soukup, O.S.B.  
Signature of Witness

Rev. Brennan Maiera, OSB.  
Signature

Given at St. Bernard's Parish on this, the 15 of October 1983.

# PROFESSION OF FAITH

I, Bruno Charles Maers OSB, with firm faith, believe and profess all and everything that is contained in the Symbol of Faith that is:

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is seen and unseen.  
We 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 rose again  
in fulfillment of the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and 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.  
We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

I firmly embrace and accept  
all and everything which has been either defined by the Church's solemn deliberations  
or affirmed and declared by its ordinary magisterium concerning the doctrine of faith  
and morals, according as they are proposed by it,  
especially those things dealing with the mystery of the Holy Church of Christ,  
its sacraments and the sacrifice of the Mass,  
and the primacy of the Roman Pontiff.

Bruno Charles Maers, OSB  
Signature

Gregory Soukup, OSB  
Signature of Witness

Given at Sto Bernardus Parish on this, the 15 of October 1983.

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

4-10-84

*Confidential*

*Rev. Brennan Maloney, OSB*

The Chancery

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

4-10-84

Confidential

Rev Brennan Maier, OSB

The Chancery

April 10, 1984

Thomas R. Hughes  
Attorney at Law  
770 University Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55104

Dear Mr. Hughes:

The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis is aware of the charges made against Brennan Maiers, a priest of St. John's Abbey, and the Pastor of St. Bernard's Parish in St. Paul, Minnesota.

I have personally met with Brennan and have recommended a process where he might get the therapy that he needs. Brennan is seeing psychiatrist at our request and will be dealing with the issue which resulted in his inappropriate actions.

We are very satisfied with Father Brennan's pastoral ministry, and we personally feel that a therapeutic approach is in his best interest, and at the same time will allow him to continue to function in his present assignment. If it would be helpful, I would be willing to supervise Father Brennan in this therapeutic process.

Sincerely,

Auxiliary Bishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
and Chancellor

RJC:mo

April 10, 1984

Thomas E. Hughes  
Attorney at Law  
770 University Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55104

Dear Mr. Hughes:

The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis is aware of the charges made against Brennan Malers, a priest of St. John's Abbey, and the Pastor of St. Bernard's Parish in St. Paul, Minnesota.

I have personally met with Brennan and have recommended a process where he might get the therapy that he needs. Brennan is seeing psychiatrist at our request and will be dealing with the issue which resulted in his inappropriate actions.

We are very satisfied with Father Brennan's pastoral ministry, and we personally feel that a therapeutic approach is in his best interest, and at the same time will allow him to continue to function in his present assignment. If it would be helpful, I would be willing to supervise Father Brennan in this therapeutic process.

Sincerely,

Auxiliary Bishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
and Chancellor

RJC:mo

CONFIDENTIAL  
STATISTICAL INFORMATION  
FOR CHANCERY USE

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

NAME Father Brennan C. Maiers, O.S.B.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY Abbot Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.  
PLEASE CONTACT: Name

St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota 56321  
Address

(612) 363-2011(Central Front Office) (363-2544--Abbot's Offi  
Telephone

MY NEXT OF KIN ARE:

Stan Maiers, Route 2, Stewart, Minnesota 55385 (612) 562-2192  
Name Address Telephone

Sister Mary JEan Maiers, C.S.J., St. Mary's Hospital, Mlps, Mn (612) 337-4000--center  
Name Address Telephone

Ginny Weis, 332 Hennipen Avenue, Glencoe, Minnesota 55336 (612) 864-3532  
Name Address Telephone

My Last Will & Testament is located at St. John's Abbey Archives, Collegeville

SPECIAL BURIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

My burial will be from St. John's Abbey in Collegeville according to the  
custom of our monastery.

A religious priest or deacon is asked to give the name, address and telephone number of the major superior.

This information requested of all priests and deacons will make it easier for us to carry out your wishes in case of an emergency. You may make changes at any time by sending us up-dated information.

Please send the completed form to: The Chancery, 226 Summit Avenue,  
12/86 St. Paul, MN 55102

CONFIDENTIAL  
STATISTICAL INFORMATION  
FOR CHANCERY USE

EASE PRINT OR TYPE

NAME Father Brennan C. Maiers, O.S.B.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY  
PLEASE CONTACT: Abbot Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.  
Name

St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota 56321  
Address

(612) 363-2011(Central Front Office) (363-2544--Abbot's Office)  
Telephone

MY NEXT OF KIN ARE:

Stan Maiers, Route 2, Stewart, Minnesota 55385 (612) 562-2192  
Name Address Telephone

Sister Mary JEan Maiers, C.S.J., St. Mary's Hospital, Mpls, Mn (612) 337-4000--center  
Name Address Telephone

Ginny Weis, 332 Hennipen Avenue, Glencoe, Minnesota 55336 (612) 864-3532  
Name Address Telephone

My Last Will & Testament is located at St. John's Abbey Archives, Collegeville

SPECIAL BURIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

My burial will be from St. John's Abbey in Collegeville according to the  
custom of our monastery.

When a religious priest or deacon is asked to give the name, address and telephone number of the major superior.

This information requested of all priests and deacons will make it easier for us to carry out your wishes in case of an emergency. You may make changes at any time by sending us up-dated information.

Please send the completed form to: The Chancery, 226 Summit Avenue,  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
12/86

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop Roach  
Bishop Carlson  
Fr. Kevin McDonough

**DATE:** February 16, 1990

**FROM:** Fr. Michael J. O'Connell

Mr. Andrew Eisenzimmer called me yesterday, February 15th, and informed me that Jeffrey Anderson had informed Mr. Eisenzimmer that he is commencing a lawsuit against Fr. Brennan Maiers, current pastor of St. Bernard's Parish alledging sexual abuse of a [REDACTED] in 1966. [REDACTED] was a minor at that time.

Further information will be coming from Mr. Eisenzimmer.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMO TO: Archbishop Roach  
Bishop Carlson  
Fr. Kevin McDonough

DATE: February 16, 1990

FROM: Fr. Michael J. O'Connell

Mr. Andrew Eisenzimmer called me yesterday, February 15th, and informed me that Jeffrey Anderson had informed Mr. Eisenzimmer that he is commencing a lawsuit against Fr. Brennan Maiers, current pastor of St. Bernard's Parish alledging sexual abuse of a [REDACTED] in 1966. [REDACTED] was a minor at that time.

Further information will be coming from Mr. Eisenzimmer.

Hoyles

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop Roach  
Bishop Carlson  
Fr. Kevin McDonough

**DATE:** February 16, 1990

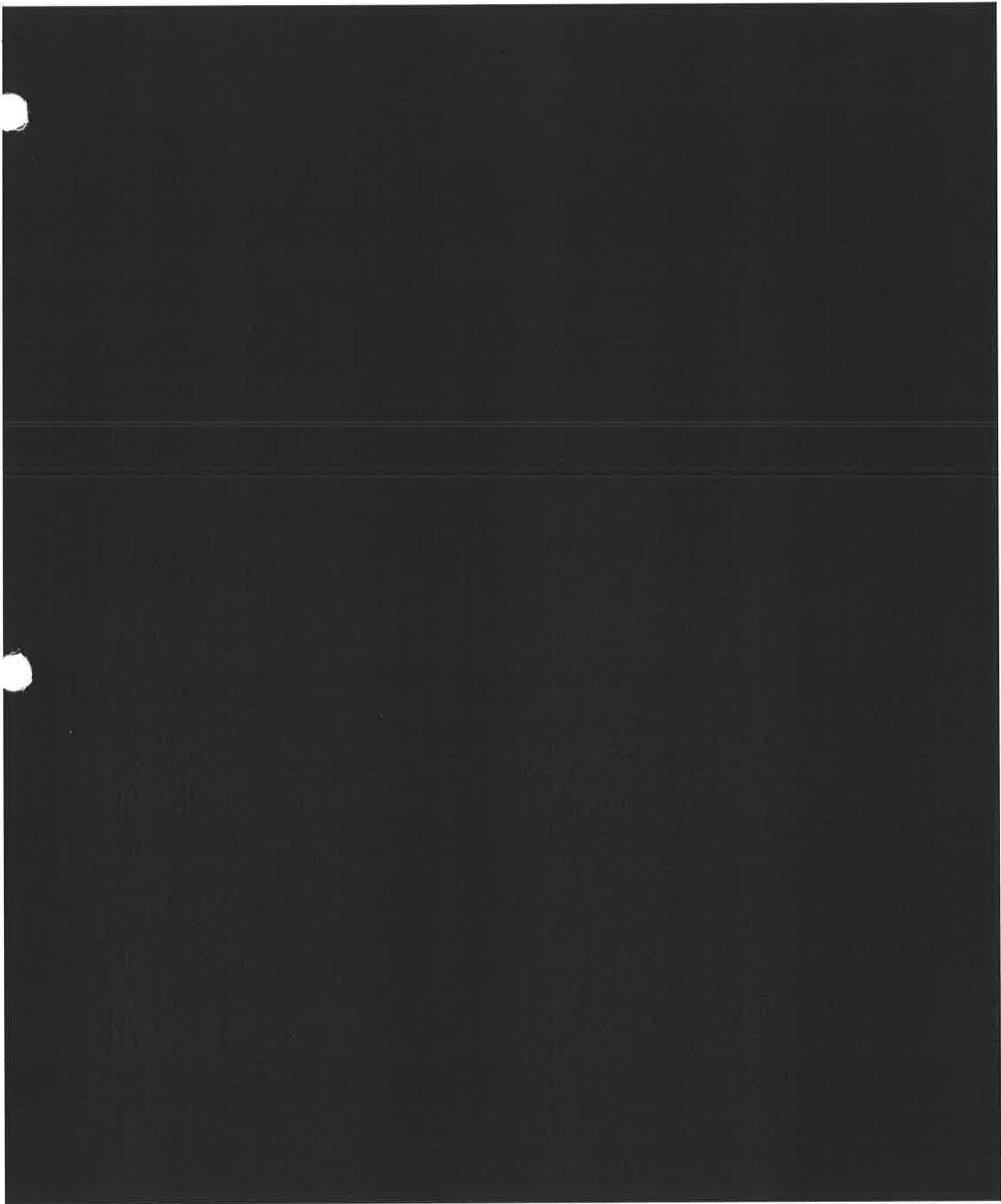
**FROM:** Fr. Michael J. O'Connell

Mr. Andrew Eisenzimmer called me yesterday, February 15th, and informed me that Jeffrey Anderson had informed Mr. Eisenzimmer that he is commencing a lawsuit against Fr. Brennan Maiers, current pastor of St. Bernard's Parish alledging sexual abuse of a [REDACTED] in 1966. [REDACTED] was a minor at that time.

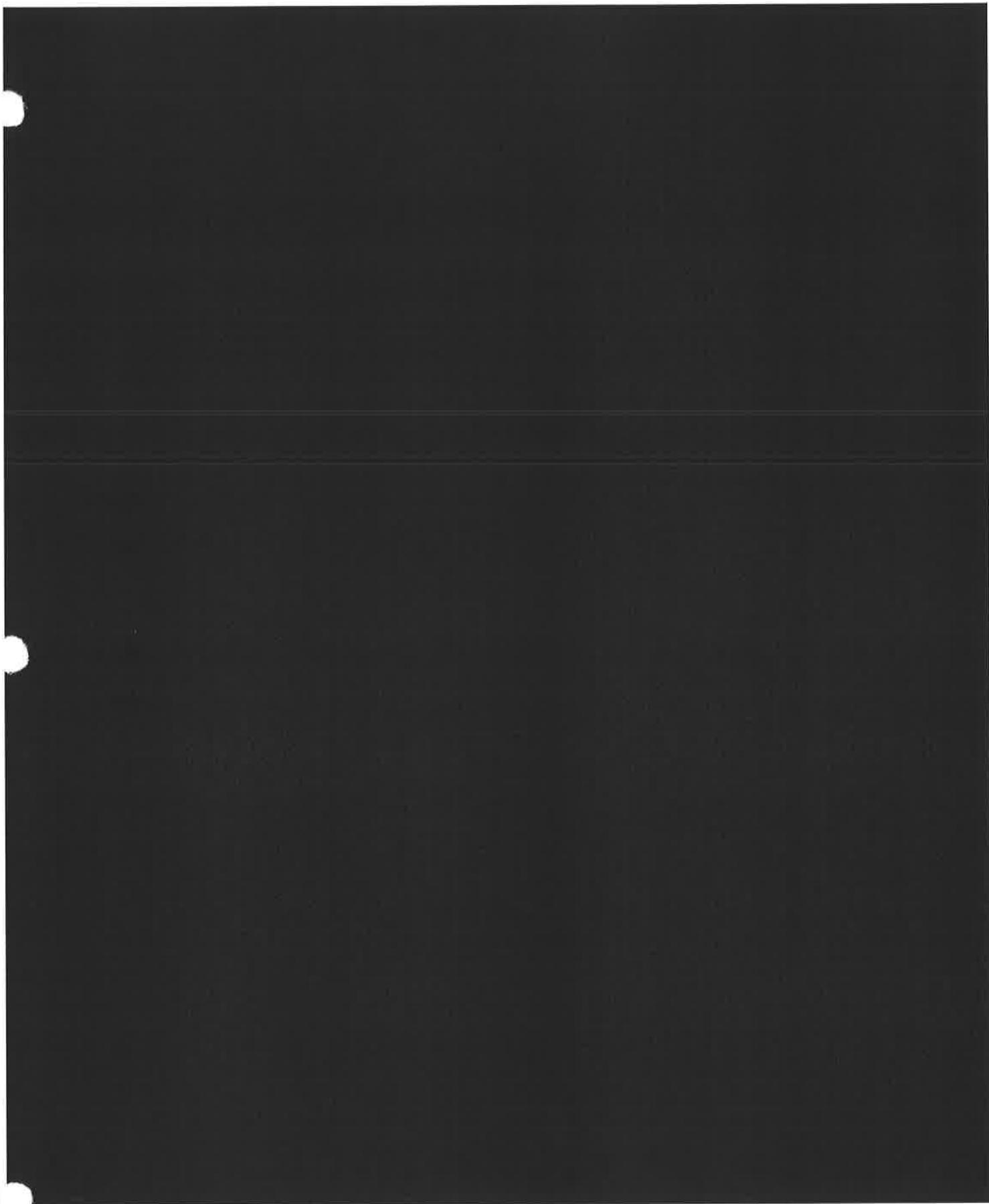
Further information will be coming from Mr. Eisenzimmer.

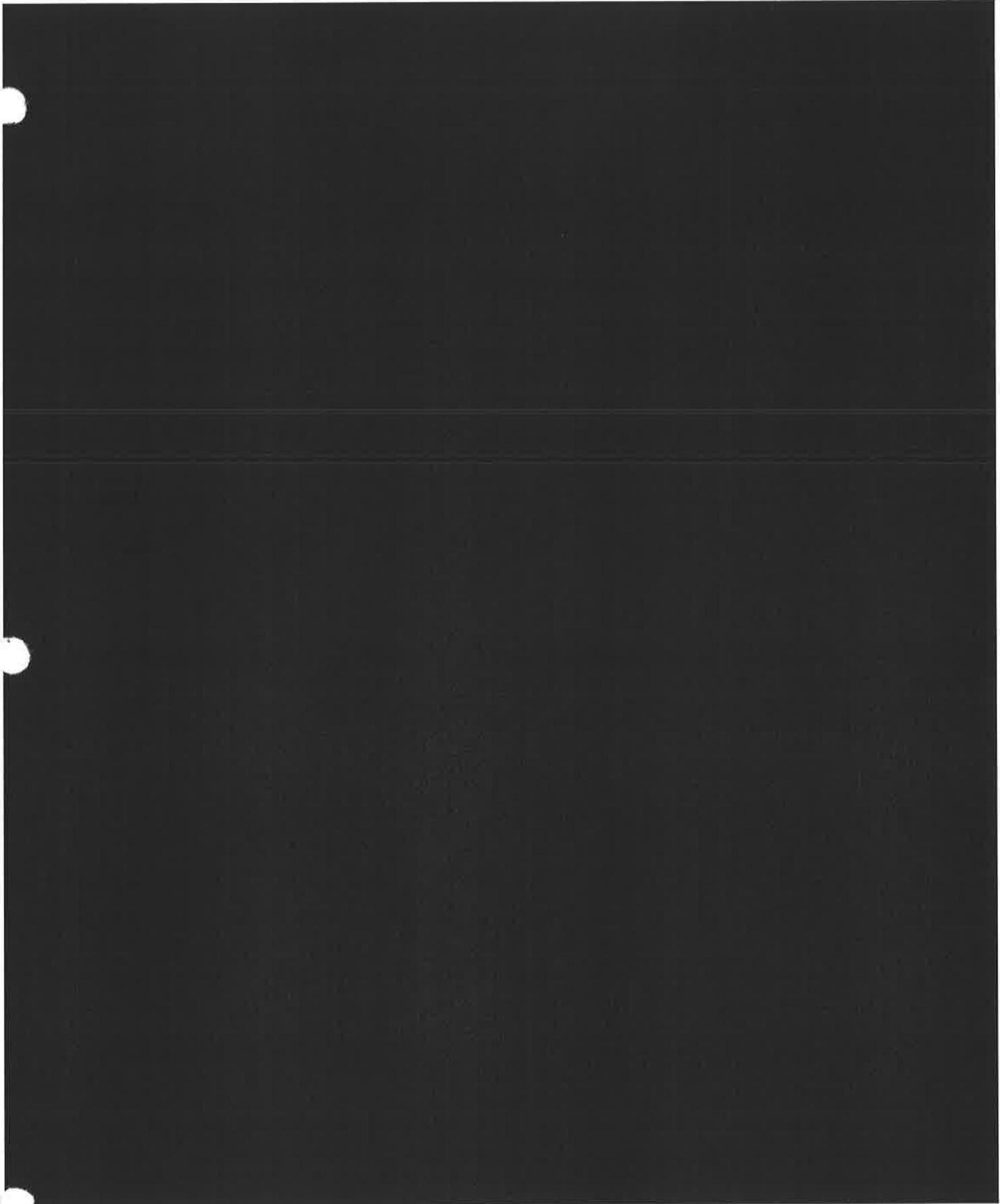


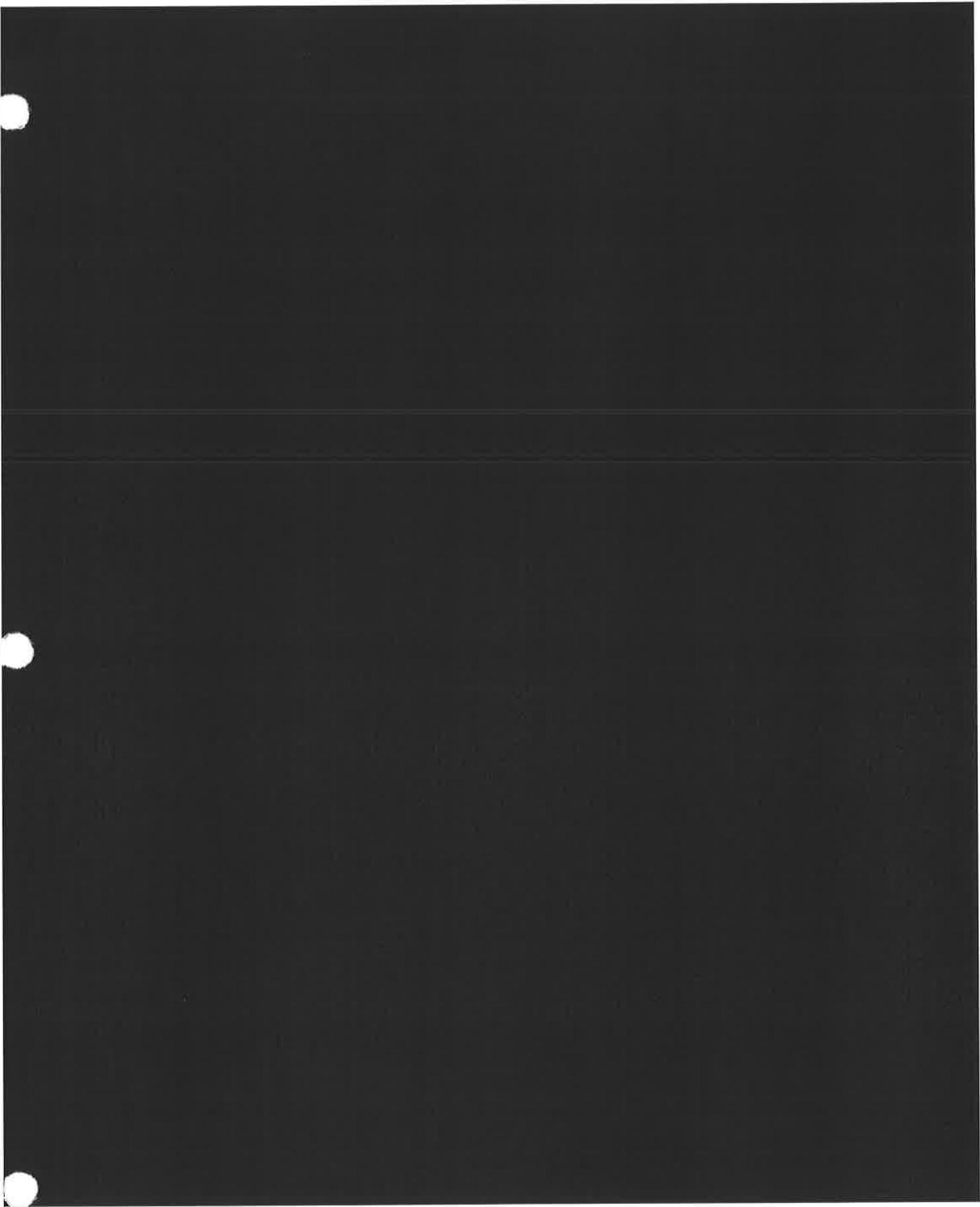


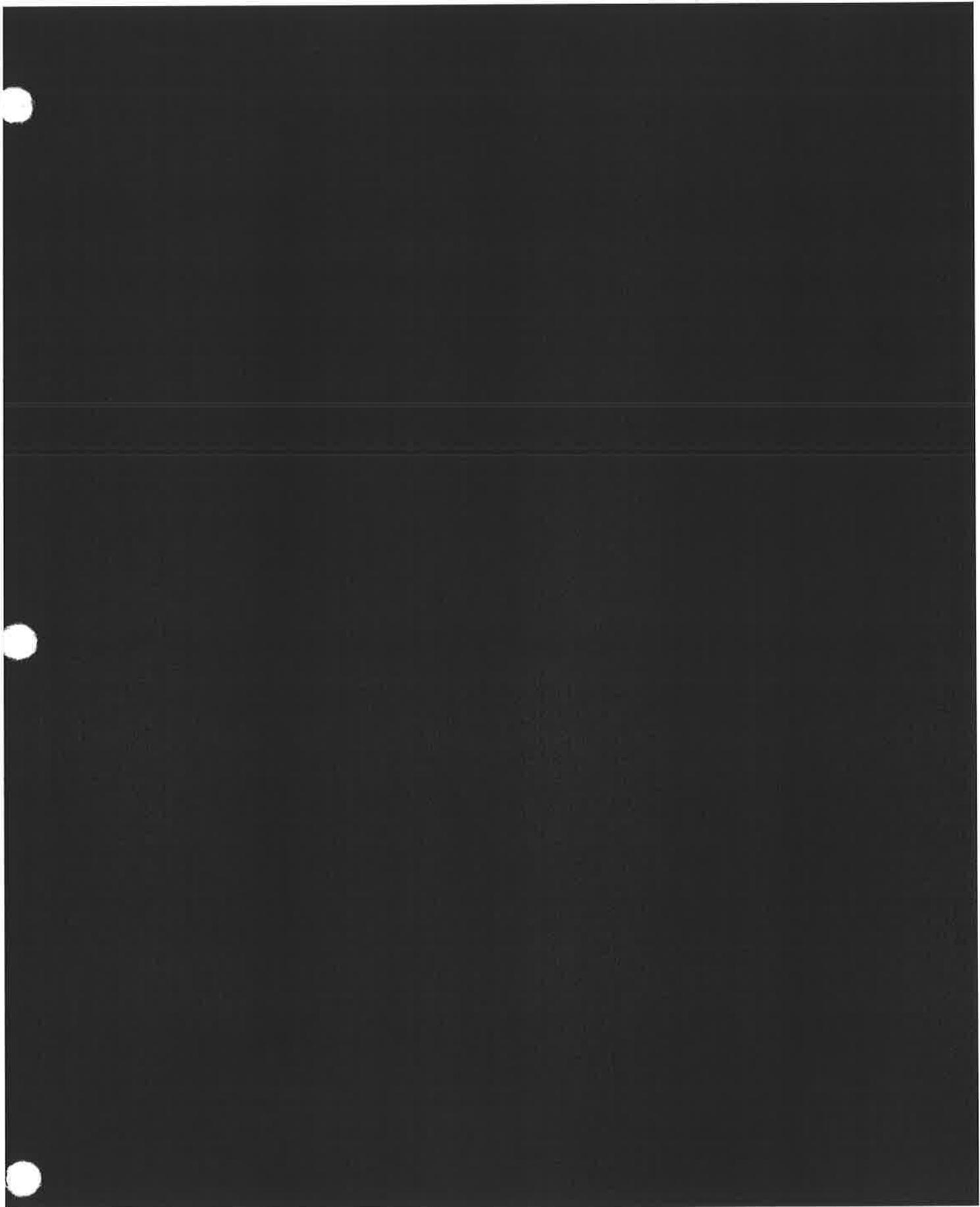


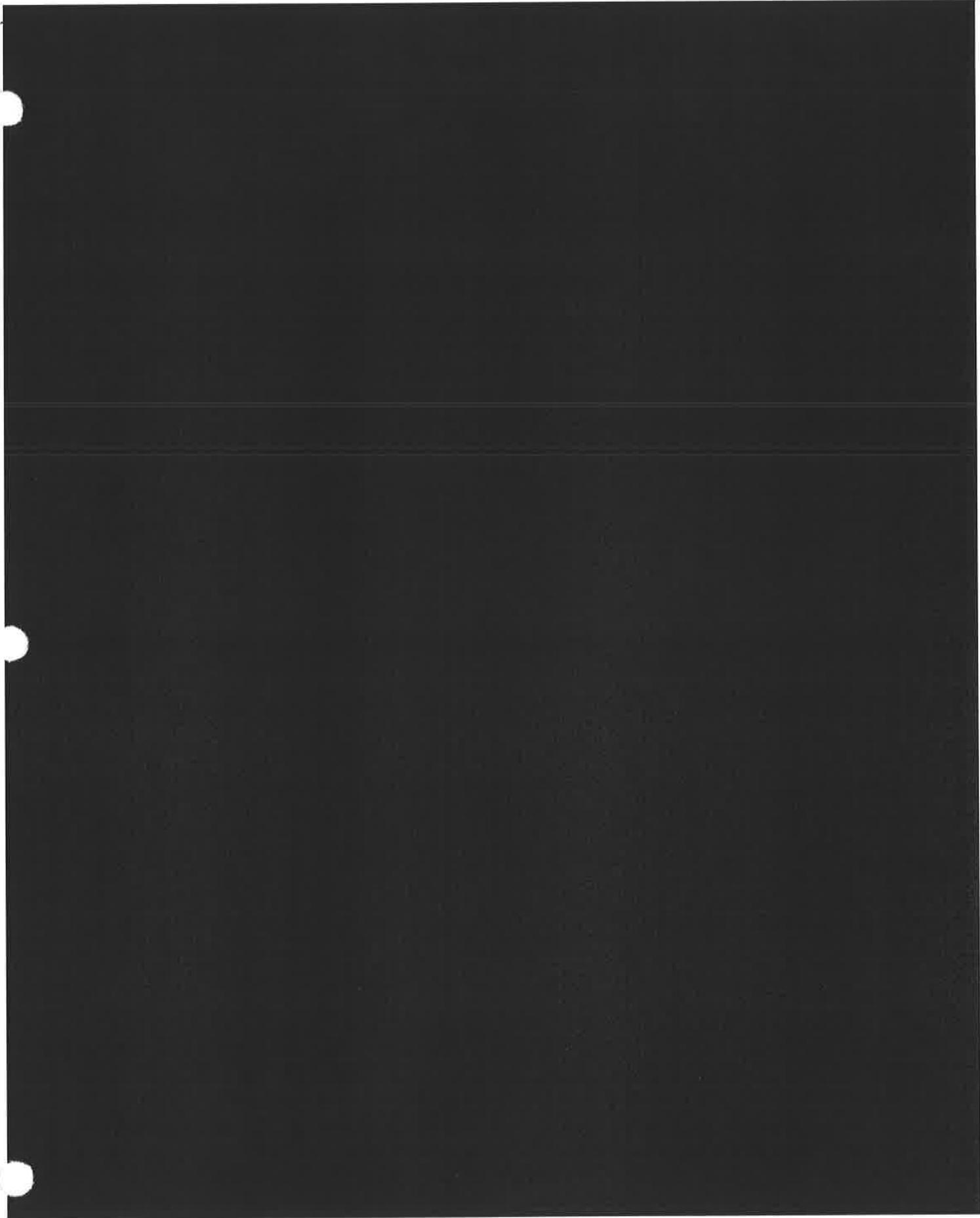


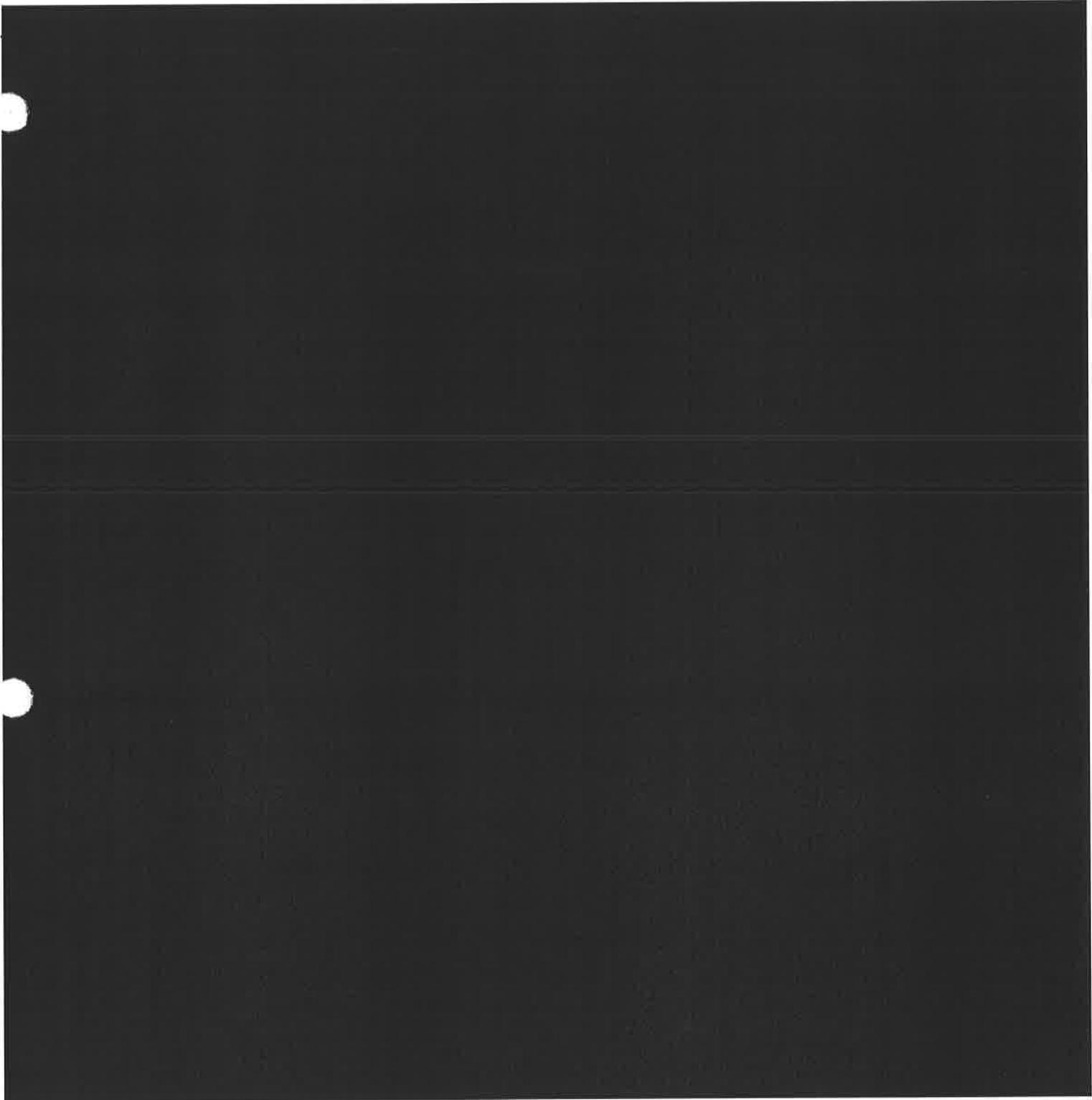












February 21, 1990

MEMO TO: Father Kevin McDonough

FROM: Archbishop Roach

I spoke with Abbot Jerome Theisen on the evening of February 20th about Father Brennan Maiers.

As you told me, they had been aware of the situation which dates back to the mid-sixties, since last October. The Abbot had met with the young man involved and with the family on two or three occasions. They had confronted Father Maiers and he is in the University of Minnesota program currently and has been for the past several months. It was their belief that that was all that really had to be done since the incident was so long ago and there was no repetition of any involvement with minors that they are aware of since that time.

I told him that you would be working on this and making a recommendation to me as to what we do about our own policy and that you, in turn, would be in touch with the attorney at St. John's. He understands that we may have to exercise the policy here, though he did ask that we take a very careful look at the circumstances of the time of the incident, the good record since that time and the particular circumstances at St. Bernard's. I assured him that we would do that, but gave him no promises.

I think that we ought to get the information we can as quickly as possible if we need more and then act on this.

cc- Bishop Carlson  
Father O'Connell

February 21, 1990

MEMO TO: Father Kevin McDonough

FROM: Archbishop Roach

I spoke with Abbot Jerome Theisen on the evening of February 20th about Father Brennan Maiers.

As you told me, they had been aware of the situation which dates back to the mid-sixties, since last October. The Abbot had met with the young man involved and with the family on two or three occasions. They had confronted Father Maiers and he is in the University of Minnesota program currently and has been for the past several months. It was their belief that that was all that really had to be done since the incident was so long ago and there was no repetition of any involvement with minors that they are aware of since that time.

I told him that you would be working on this and making a recommendation to me as to what we do about our own policy and that you, in turn, would be in touch with the attorney at St. John's. He understands that we may have to exercise the policy here, though he did ask that we take a very careful look at the circumstances of the time of the incident, the good record since that time and the particular circumstances at St. Bernard's. I assured him that we would do that, but gave him no promises.

I think that we ought to get the information we can as quickly as possible if we need more and then act on this.

cc- Bishop Carlson  
Father O'Connell

February 21, 1990

MEMO TO: Father Kevin McDonough

FROM: Archbishop Roach

I spoke with Abbot Jerome Theisen on the evening of February 20th about Father Brennan Maiers.

As you told me, they had been aware of the situation which dates back to the mid-sixties, since last October. The Abbot had met with the young man involved and with the family on two or three occasions. They had confronted Father Maiers and he is in the University of Minnesota program currently and has been for the past several months. It was their belief that that was all that really had to be done since the incident was so long ago and there was no repetition of any involvement with minors that they are aware of since that time.

I told him that you would be working on this and making a recommendation to me as to what we do about our own policy and that you, in turn, would be in touch with the attorney at St. John's. He understands that we may have to exercise the policy here, though he did ask that we take a very careful look at the circumstances of the time of the incident, the good record since that time and the particular circumstances at St. Bernard's. I assured him that we would do that, but gave him no promises.

I think that we ought to get the information we can as quickly as possible if we need more and then act on this.

cc- Bishop Carlson  
Father O'Connell

# CONFIDENTIAL

## ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

---

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop John R. Roach  
Bishop Robert Carlson  
Father Michael O'Connell

**DATE:** February 23, 1990

**FROM:** Father Kevin M. McDonough

**RE:** FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

I want to review with you my thinking and recommendations on the Brennan Maiers case. Permit me to review a brief history of what we know, so that we can have a record of our deliberations in his regard.

It is my understanding that we had no reason to know of or even to suspect the possibility of sexual contact between Father Maiers and young people prior to February 16, 1990. Rather, we had heard rumors about adult consensual homosexual activity by Father Maiers in the 1970s. Furthermore, we know that he was cited, but not charged, for soliciting an adult male police officer in the early 1980s. Apparently, no warrant was ever written out for his arrest because the police came to judge the actions of the undercover officer as an act of entrapment.

We first received information concerning an allegation of misconduct with a minor when we received notice of a lawsuit filed against St. John's Abbey and the Diocese of St. Cloud. We received that notice on February 16, 1990. We took no investigatory steps over the long (President's Day) weekend. We opened our own investigation on February 20.

We now know that someone at the Abbey was approached by [REDACTED] last fall, approximately in October. [REDACTED] alleged that Maiers had had some sort of sexual contact with him in 1966 or 1967 when he was approximately nine years old. The Abbey provided [REDACTED] with counseling, and the officials have made regular visits to the [REDACTED] Family to express their concern and offer their support. Meanwhile, they confronted Father Maiers with the allegation. Father Maiers admitted some degree of inappropriate contact with the youth, but claimed that it was an isolated incident, and that it was not followed by any similar behavior ever again in his life. The Abbot referred him to Dr. Eli Coleman, one of the Directors of the University of Minnesota's Program in Human Sexuality, for evaluation, and if necessary, therapy. It is my understanding from Father Brennan that Dr. Coleman has been seeing him on a private practice basis through his Stillwater office rather than as a part of the Program for Human Sexuality. Father Brennan revealed to Dr. Coleman, and to me by telephone, that he had undergone extensive psychological therapy in the 1970s to deal with questions of adult homosexual orientation and activity. It is my understanding that Abbot Jerome at St. John's understands the responsibility of the Archdiocese to protect the safety of the people of its parishes. He is awaiting our determination of the applicability of our policy to Father Brennan's case.

Archbishop John R. Roach  
Bishop Robert Carlson  
Father Michael O'Connell  
Page 2  
February 23, 1990

It seems to me that there are two questions that need to be resolved:

**1. Is it safe for the parishioners of St. Bernard's for Father Brennan to continue there as pastor?**

Our first concern has to be the safety of the people of the parish. The question is whether we have sufficient assurance to believe that Father Brennan does not constitute a danger to young people in the parish. In order to answer that question intelligently, I believe we have to review the information from Dr. Coleman and from Dr. Rosner, the psychiatrist with whom he worked in the 1970s. Father Brennan is providing a release for us for both of these people, and I should have information from them by the end of the week of February 25. In the meantime, I have imposed a prohibition on him against any one-on-one contact or counseling with minors. He tells me he understands the need for this prohibition and will abide by it.

**2. What consequences for the disruption of parish life are involved in leaving Father Brennan as pastor or asking him to resign?**

The threat of publicity attendant on a lawsuit suggests that continuation of Father Brennan's pastorate could become very difficult. It has been pointed out that this might be especially true given the volatility of the pastoral situation at St. Bernard's parish and in the Rice Street neighborhood. With other communities and in other places we might be able to explain to people that the pastor who had been adjudged safe would remain with them even though he had a very painful history behind him. It does not seem to be possible at St. Bernard's.

On the other hand, there would be some serious disruption to parish life if Father Brennan were immediately removed. We are all aware that the parish is about to celebrate its 100th anniversary and to kick off a major capital fund drive. Maybe the best balance between these two concerns would be found by asking Father Brennan to remain in the parish until June, at which time he would resign and be transferred elsewhere.

All of this, of course, is contingent on our being reassured that his ministry at the parish does not constitute a danger to the parishioners. That we will have adequate information to evaluate that by the end of the week of February 25. I propose that we leave him in place, with the restriction noted above, until we have that adequate information. In the meantime, I have scheduled a meeting with him to review the question of parish disruption. I want to hear his perspective on the timing of the fund drive, plans for the centennial, and so on. I would ask that all of us would also be prepared to evaluate that question very carefully.

Archbishop John R. Roach  
Bishop Robert Carlson  
Father Michael O'Connell  
Page 3  
February 23, 1990

In summary, then, if we believe that Father Brennan constitutes a danger to young people in the parish, then we must remove him immediately. If on the other hand, there is some reassurance about the safety of his ministry, we are still faced with the question of how long he can effectively remain in the parish without seriously disrupting parochial life. I propose that we raise this question at our next Council meeting, or sooner if necessary.

KMM:ggr

March 2, 1990

Dr. Richard Rosner  
140 East 83rd Street, Suite 6A  
New York, New York 10028

Dear Dr. Rosner,

I am writing to you at the suggestion of and with the permission of Father Brennan Maier, O.S.B. Father Brennan is a priest of St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota, and is currently working in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis as pastor of one of our parishes. Recently, a young man reported that Father Brennan had engaged in sexual conduct with him while the young man was a minor. This occurred in approximately 1967. More recently, this alleged abuse has become the subject of a civil lawsuit. Although the activity allegedly took place long ago, a recent provision of Minnesota State Law allows such an action to be brought within a certain period of time after the victim becomes aware of damage having arisen from such behavior.

We are currently evaluating Father Brennan's continuation as a pastor in our Archdiocese. There are some longer term issues which must be addressed. However, the most immediate issue which we must address is the question of safety. We are concerned about whether Father Brennan poses an immediate danger to young people in his parochial setting.

I am writing to you to ask for your assistance in that inquiry. Obviously, you have not worked with him for many years and you are unable to cast a light on his current state of mind. Still, you can be of assistance to us if you are willing to do so.

Father Brennan has told me that while he, in fact, did engage in inappropriate conduct with the young man in question in 1967, this was the sole such incident for a relationship in his life. He claims that he did some extensive therapeutic work in the 1970s, primarily under your direction. That therapeutic work was aimed at questions of self-esteem and effectiveness in pastoral ministry. However, in the context of counseling he had to face a variety of questions of sexuality. He says that the issues he identified at the time had to do with questions of homosexual attraction and activity with one or more consenting adults. He reports that he has in recent years maintained celibacy and that he is quite at peace in doing so.

Dr. Richard Rosner  
Page 2  
March 2, 1990

I am writing to ask you whether you would have any reason to challenge the report that he has given above. In particular, I am wondering if you would have any reason to believe that he had had sexual contact with minors during the time when he was counseling with you. Furthermore, I would like your impression about his level of insight into his own personality, including questions of sexuality and his level of insight into the effect of his behavior on others.

Father Brennan told me that he talked with you about releasing his medical records to the proper authorities at St. John's Abbey. I would be happy if you would do so. I could then approach the officials at the Abbey in order to obtain some sort of summary from them of the documents. If at some later date we believed it necessary to see those records in detail, we could attempt to negotiate some sort of release with Father Brennan and the officials of the Abbey. I want you to know, by the way, that it is our standard procedure to argue against the admissibility of medical records in civil actions against priests, and furthermore, to argue against the admissibility of any information about actions, statements, or counseling which took place after the time of any alleged abuse. In other words, we do not believe that the information that you could supply to us would be relevant to the lawsuit in which Father Brennan and others are currently named. I simply want that information in order to help us in our evaluation of the safety of his ministry.

Thank you for whatever help you can provide. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 612/291-4437 (days), 612/647-5341 (evenings), or 612/647-5181 (nighttime or weekends).

Sincerely yours,

Reverend Kevin M. McDonough  
Chancellor  
Episcopal Vicar

KMM:ggr

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS**

---

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop John R. Roach  
Bishop Robert Carlson  
Father Michael O'Connell

**DATE:** March 6, 1990

**FROM:** Father Kevin M. McDonough

**RE:** FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

I spoke by telephone on March 2, 1990, with Dr. Richard Rosner, M.D. Dr. Rosner is currently a clinical professor of psychiatry at the New York University School of Medicine. He is president of the American Board of Forensic Psychiatry and vice-president of the American Academy of Forensic Psychiatry. He has a variety of other quite impressive credentials. He is certified to practice in psychiatry, forensic psychiatry, and in administrative psychiatry.

During the 1970s, Father Brennan Maiers saw Dr. Rosner for counseling. My purpose in speaking to Dr. Rosner was to see whether he could help us with what we are calling the "safety" question in regard to Father Brennan. To that end, I asked him whether his clinical experience with Father Brennan would give him any cause to disbelieve Father Brennan's statement that the sexual contact in the late 1960s is an isolated incident.

Dr. Rosner said that he had no reason to disbelieve Father Brennan's statement. In fact, he said that he would have a good deal of reason to believe Father Brennan. He saw Father Brennan over an extended period of time and he believes that Brennan talked about nearly everything that was on his mind. He found Brennan to be a sincere and committed individual and priest, who was seeking to do the right thing. Although he did not have his records in front of him, it was Dr. Rosner's memory that Father Brennan showed no preoccupation or sexual inclination toward young people.

It was his overall assessment that the struggles Father Brennan was having in the 1970s were situational, that he was an honest man trying to find his way through a confusing time. In particular, Father Brennan was facing some normal early mid-life questions.

I will be in contact with Dr. Eli Coleman as soon as possible. I hope that Dr. Coleman will be able to give us some understanding of Father Brennan's state of mind. If Dr. Coleman's endorsement is anywhere near as positive as that of Dr. Rosner, then I will be prepared to recommend that we have no grounds to be concerned about his safety with young people in ministry.

cc: Dr. Richard Rosner, M.D.  
Abbot Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.  
Reverend Brennan Maiers, O.S.B.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS**

---

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop John R. Roach  
Bishop Robert Carlson  
Father Michael O'Connell

**DATE:** March 8, 1990

**FROM:** Father Kevin M. McDonough

**RE:** FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

On March 7, 1990, I spoke with Dr. Eli Coleman. There was some delay in our getting in touch because of schedule complications for both of us. We had a helpful conversation on the phone, however, once we were able to speak. He has been working with Father Brennan Maiers. You may recall that Father Maiers was referred to him last fall when the Abbey first learned of allegations about sexual misconduct with a minor 20 years ago. I called Dr. Coleman in order to seek his help in answering our concern about the safety of parishioners during Father Brennan's ministry.

Dr. Coleman told me that, from the limited contact he has had so far, there has been no reason to doubt Father Brennan's report that the incident 20 years was an isolated one. In fact, the initial interviews suggest that Father Brennan's profile is very different from what might be expected from an abusive person. However, he is not able to give us a definitive statement at this point. Rather, he is having Father Brennan do a complete work up through the University of Minnesota Program in Human Sexuality. The results of that work up will be released to us so that a final determination can be made.

All the evidence available to us so far suggests that it is entirely reasonable to conclude Father Brennan is not a danger to anyone in his pastoral role. I recommend that he be left in the parish, certainly for the next couple of months. The longer-term questions will have to be addressed at another time.

cc: Dr. Eli Coleman  
Father Brennan Maiers, O.S.B.



**CONFIDENTIAL**

**ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS**

---

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop John R. Roach  
Bishop Robert Carlson  
Father Michael O'Connell

**DATE:** March 8, 1990

**FROM:** Father Kevin M. McDonough

**RE:** FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

On March 7, 1990, I spoke with Dr. Eli Coleman. There was some delay in our getting in touch because of schedule complications for both of us. We had a helpful conversation on the phone, however, once we were able to speak. He has been working with Father Brennan Maiers. You may recall that Father Maiers was referred to him last fall when the Abbey first learned of allegations about sexual misconduct with a minor 20 years ago. I called Dr. Coleman in order to seek his help in answering our concern about the safety of parishioners during Father Brennan's ministry.

Dr. Coleman told me that, from the limited contact he has had so far, there has been no reason to doubt Father Brennan's report that the incident 20 years was an isolated one. In fact, the initial interviews suggest that Father Brennan's profile is very different from what might be expected from an abusive person. However, he is not able to give us a definitive statement at this point. Rather, he is having Father Brennan do a complete work up through the University of Minnesota Program in Human Sexuality. The results of that work up will be released to us so that a final determination can be made.

All the evidence available to us so far suggests that it is entirely reasonable to conclude Father Brennan is not a danger to anyone in his pastoral role. I recommend that he be left in the parish, certainly for the next couple of months. The longer-term questions will have to be addressed at another time.

cc: Dr. Eli Coleman  
Father Brennan Maiers, O.S.B.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

---

MEMO TO: Archbishop John R. Roach  
Bishop Robert Carlson  
Father Michael O'Connell

DATE: March 8, 1990

FROM: Father Kevin M. McDonough

RE: FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

On March 7, 1990, I spoke with Dr. Eli Coleman. There was some delay in our getting in touch because of schedule complications for both of us. We had a helpful conversation on the phone, however, once we were able to speak. He has been working with Father Brennan Maiers. You may recall that Father Maiers was referred to him last fall when the Abbey first learned of allegations about sexual misconduct with a minor 20 years ago. I called Dr. Coleman in order to seek his help in answering our concern about the safety of parishioners during Father Brennan's ministry.

Dr. Coleman told me that, from the limited contact he has had so far, there has been no reason to doubt Father Brennan's report that the incident 20 years was an isolated one. In fact, the initial interviews suggest that Father Brennan's profile is very different from what might be expected from an abusive person. However, he is not able to give us a definitive statement at this point. Rather, he is having Father Brennan do a complete work up through the University of Minnesota Program in Human Sexuality. The results of that work up will be released to us so that a final determination can be made.

All the evidence available to us so far suggests that it is entirely reasonable to conclude Father Brennan is not a danger to anyone in his pastoral role. I recommend that he be left in the parish, certainly for the next couple of months. The longer-term questions will have to be addressed at another time.

cc: Dr. Eli Coleman  
Father Brennan Maiers, O.S.B.

ARCH-020999

March 13, 1990

MEMO TO: Father Kevin McDonough

FROM: Archbishop Roach

I agree with you in your recommendation about Father Brennan Maiers.

I would even be inclined to think that we might consider allowing him to stay on beyond June.

I'm wondering if you have shared all of this with the Abbot. We ought to do that and let him know exactly where things are.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to Archbishop Roach, located at the end of the letter.

March 13, 1990

MEMO TO: Father Kevin McDonough

FROM: Archbishop Roach

I agree with you in your recommendation about Father Brennan Maiers.

I would even be inclined to think that we might consider allowing him to stay on beyond June.

I'm wondering if you have shared all of this with the Abbot. We ought to do that and let him know exactly where things are.

March 13, 1990

MEMO TO: Father Kevin McDonough

FROM: Archbishop Roach

I agree with you in your recommendation about Father Brennan Maiers.

I would even be inclined to think that we might consider allowing him to stay on beyond June.

I'm wondering if you have shared all of this with the Abbot. We ought to do that and let him know exactly where things are.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
TWIN CITIES

Program in Human Sexuality  
Department of Family Practice  
and Community Health  
Medical School  
Research East Building  
2630 University Avenue S.E.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
(612) 627-4360

May 10, 1990

Father Kevin M. McDonough  
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
226 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55102

RE: Father Brennan Maiers, OSB

Dear Father McDonough:

I have completed my evaluation of Father Brennan Maiers. There is no reason to doubt that Father Maiers had an isolated experience with a young parishoner twenty years ago. There is no evidence of any psychosexual conflict and Father Maiers is not in danger to anyone in his pastoral role, as far as I can determine.

He has gone through extensive counseling in the past with Dr. Rosner over this issue and questions regarding his sexuality have been resolved. There is no question that Father Maiers is a sincere, committed individual and priest. He is not in need of any psychotherapy due to any psychosexual conflict or disorder.

As you might know, Father Maiers came to me initially seeking assistance in dealing with the recent accusations of sexual misconduct that occurred twenty years ago. Father Maiers was deeply concerned about trying to be helpful to this young man in any way that he could. He was very willing to undergo counseling to guide him in this process. We were prepared to work with the abbot at St. John's who was working with this young man and his counselor. It was hoped that we might be able to resolve this young man's current difficulties through a counseling process.

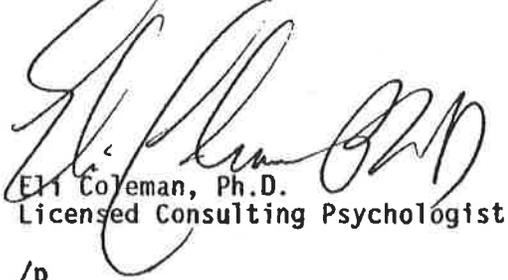
As you know, this has now become a legal matter and has precluded an opportunity for Father Maiers to follow this approach. Now, he is in a position of having to defend himself.

Currently, Father Maiers is handling the situation fairly well. His only need for counseling at this point is some adjustment counseling for the trauma of these allegations and the lawsuit which threatened his entire career, ministry and self-respect. It is my feeling that he is handling the situation very well and should be given all the support that the Archdiocese and abbot can give him. I think it would be unfortunate to remove him from his current position.

May 10, 1990  
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Eli Coleman, Ph.D.  
Licensed Consulting Psychologist

/p



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
TWIN CITIES

Program in Human Sexuality  
Department of Family Practice  
and Community Health  
Medical School  
Research East Building  
2630 University Avenue S.E.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
(612) 627-4360

May 10, 1990

Father Kevin M. McDonough  
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
226 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55102

RE: Father Brennan Maiers, OSB

Dear Father McDonough:

I have completed my evaluation of Father Brennan Maiers. There is no reason to doubt that Father Maiers had an isolated experience with a young parishoner twenty years ago. There is no evidence of any psychosexual conflict and Father Maiers is not in danger to anyone in his pastoral role, as far as I can determine.

He has gone through extensive counseling in the past with Dr. Rosner over this issue and questions regarding his sexuality have been resolved. There is no question that Father Maiers is a sincere, committed individual and priest. He is not in need of any psychotherapy due to any psychosexual conflict or disorder.

As you might know, Father Maiers came to me initially seeking assistance in dealing with the recent accusations of sexual misconduct that occurred twenty years ago. Father Maiers was deeply concerned about trying to be helpful to this young man in any way that he could. He was very willing to undergo counseling to guide him in this process. We were prepared to work with the abbot at St. John's who was working with this young man and his counselor. It was hoped that we might be able to resolve this young man's current difficulties through a counseling process.

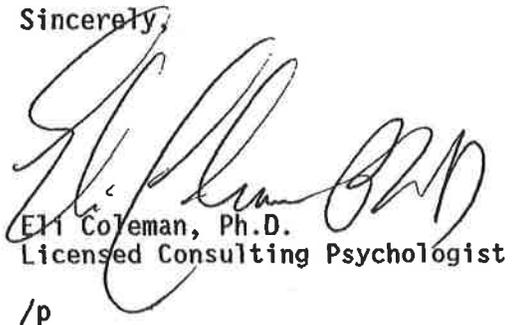
As you know, this has now become a legal matter and has precluded an opportunity for Father Maiers to follow this approach. Now, he is in a position of having to defend himself.

Currently, Father Maiers is handling the situation fairly well. His only need for counseling at this point is some adjustment counseling for the trauma of these allegations and the lawsuit which threatened his entire career, ministry and self-respect. It is my feeling that he is handling the situation very well and should be given all the support that the Archdiocese and abbot can give him. I think it would be unfortunate to remove him from his current position.

May 10, 1990  
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

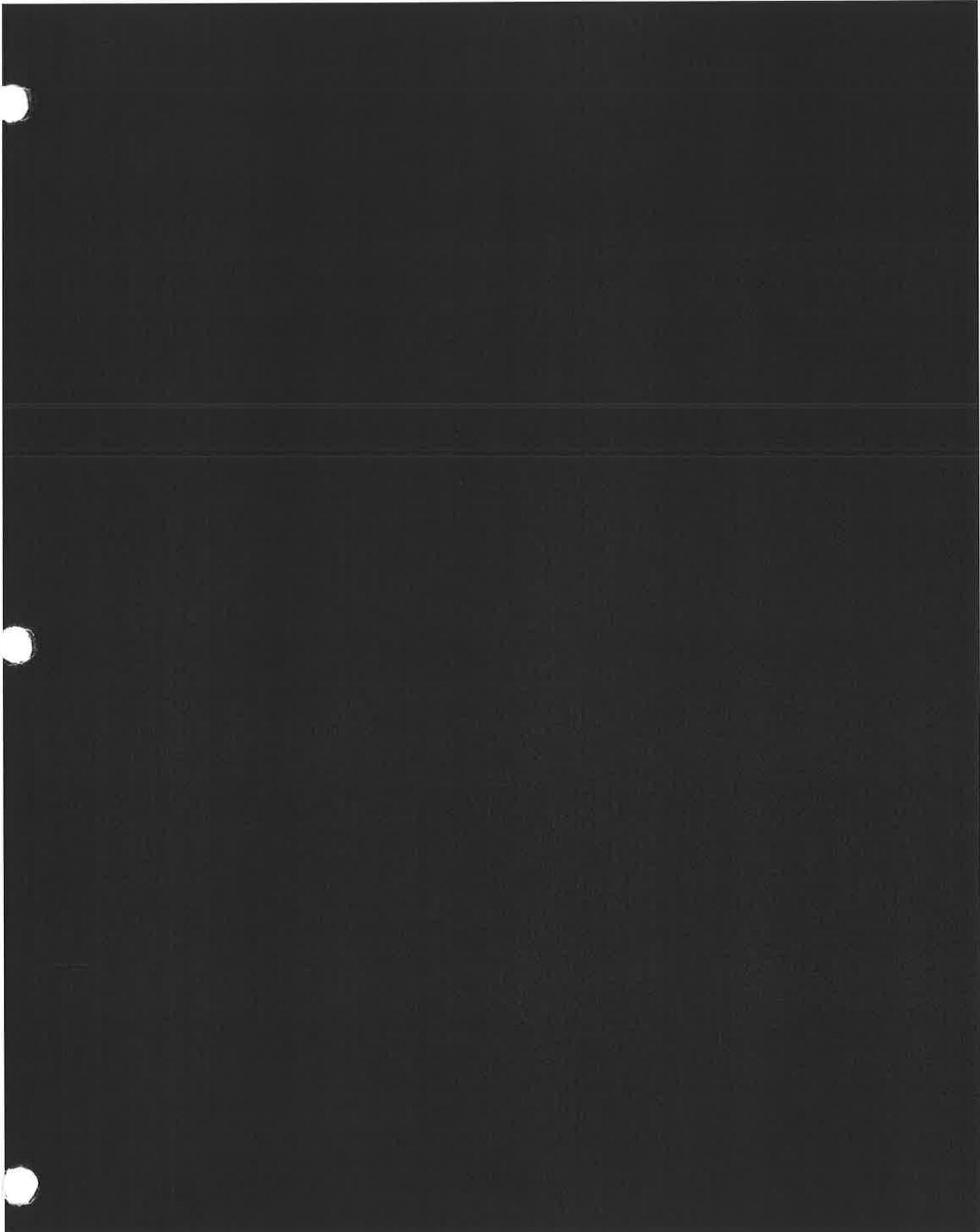
Sincerely,



E.H. Coleman, Ph.D.  
Licensed Consulting Psychologist

/p







5803038v1

ARCH-021002

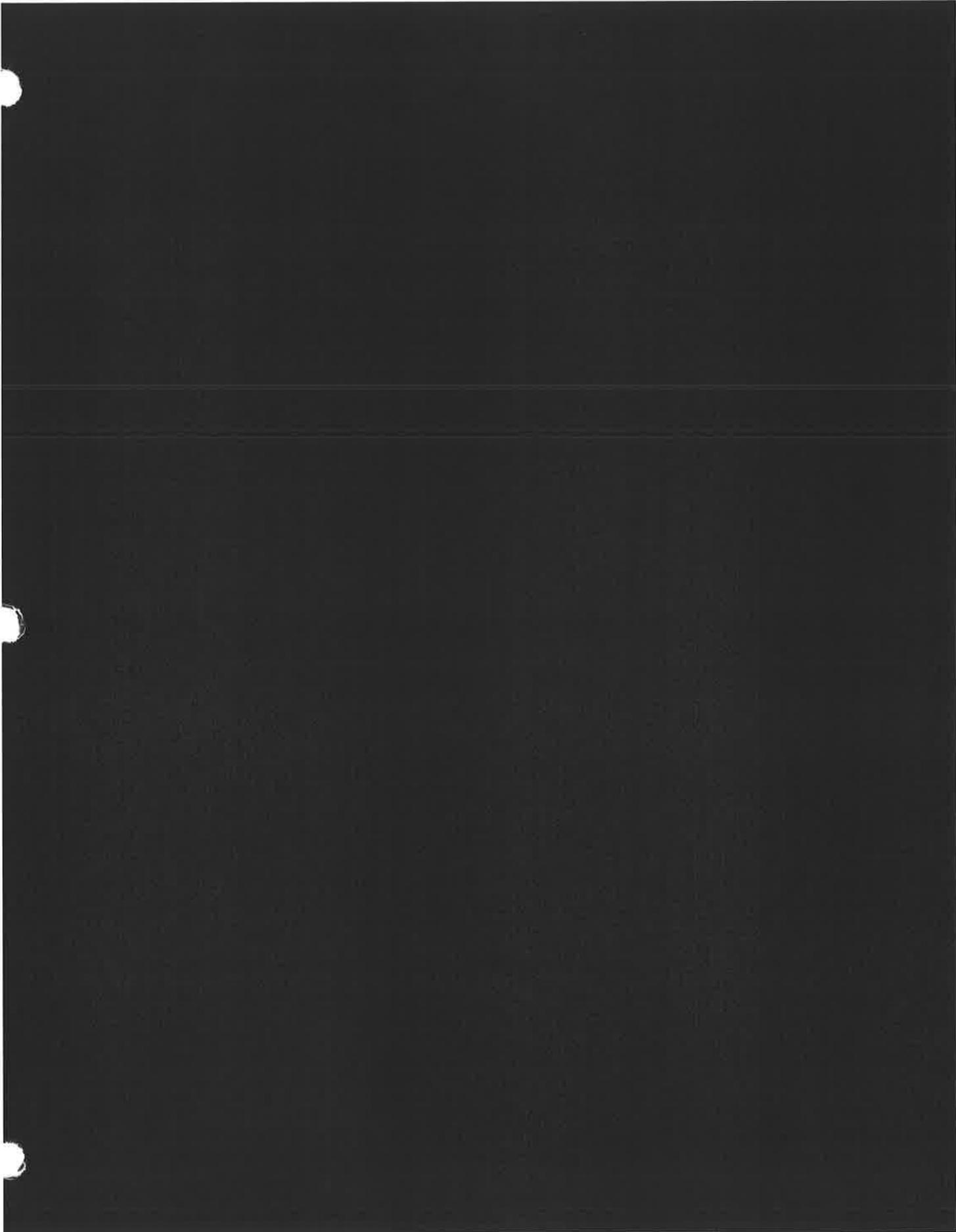


2





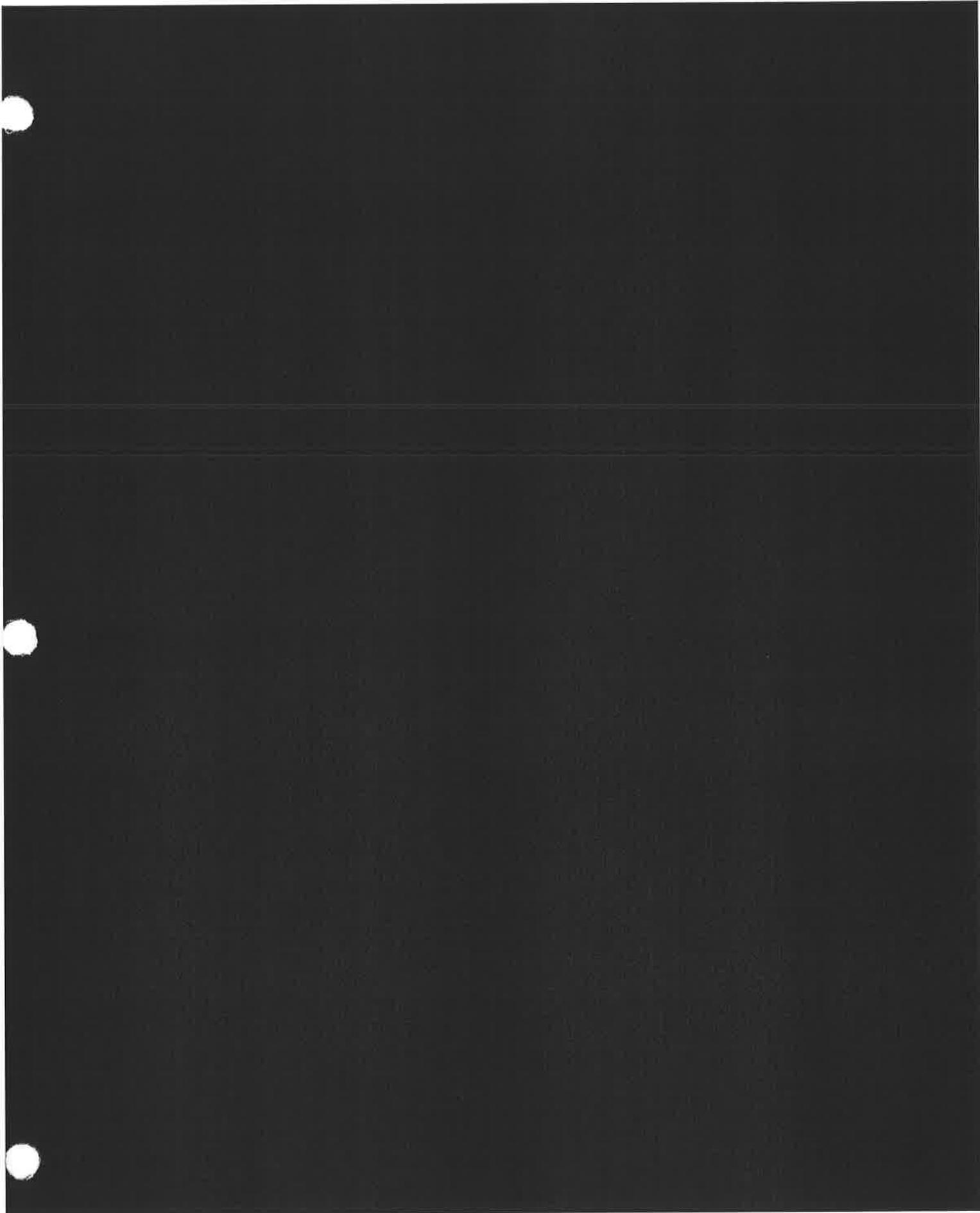


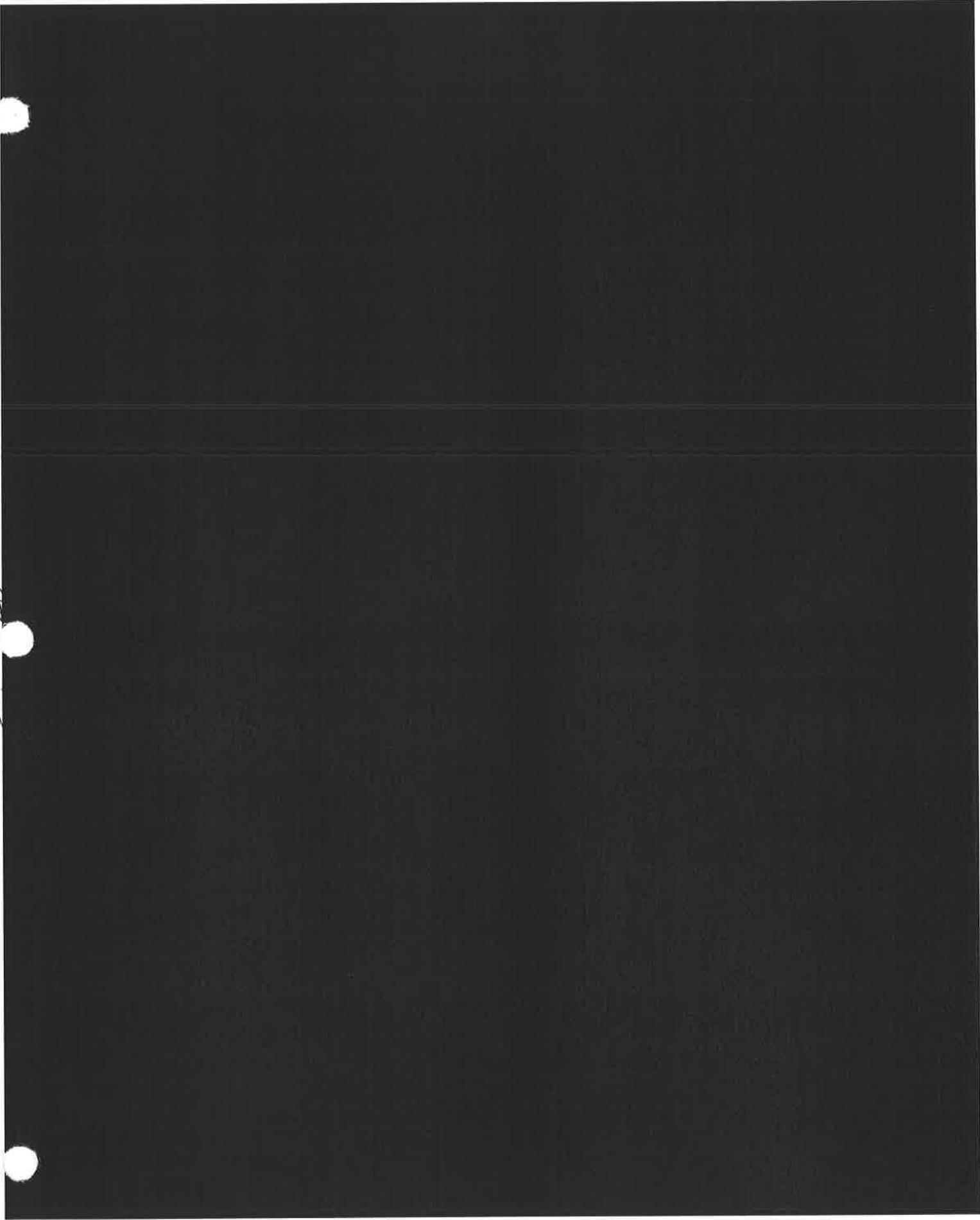


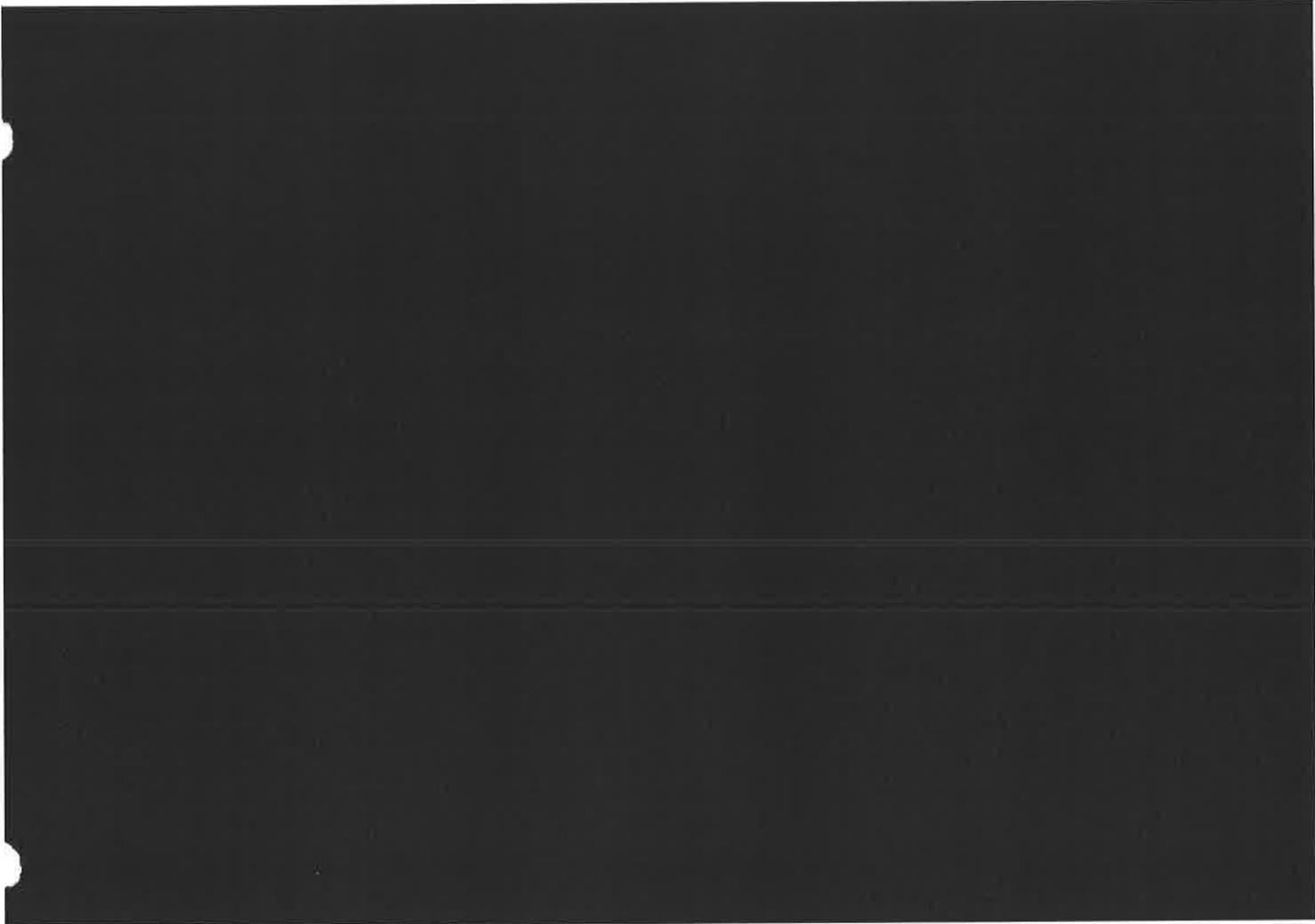












1960s



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
TWIN CITIES

Program in Human Sexuality  
Department of Family Practice  
and Community Health  
Medical School  
Research East Building  
2630 University Avenue S.E.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414  
(612) 627-4360

May 10, 1990

Father Kevin M. McDonough  
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
226 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55102

RE: Father Brennan Maiers; OSB

Dear Father McDonough:

I have completed my evaluation of Father Brennan Maiers. There is no reason to doubt that Father Maiers had an isolated experience with a young parishoner twenty years ago. There is no evidence of any psychosexual conflict and Father Maiers is not in danger to anyone in his pastoral role, as far as I can determine.

He has gone through extensive counseling in the past with Dr. Rosner over this issue and questions regarding his sexuality have been resolved. There is no question that Father Maiers is a sincere, committed individual and priest. He is not in need of any psychotherapy due to any psychosexual conflict or disorder.

As you might know, Father Maiers came to me initially seeking assistance in dealing with the recent accusations of sexual misconduct that occurred twenty years ago. Father Maiers was deeply concerned about trying to be helpful to this young man in any way that he could. He was very willing to undergo counseling to guide him in this process. We were prepared to work with the abbot at St. John's who was working with this young man and his counselor. It was hoped that we might be able to resolve this young man's current difficulties through a counseling process.

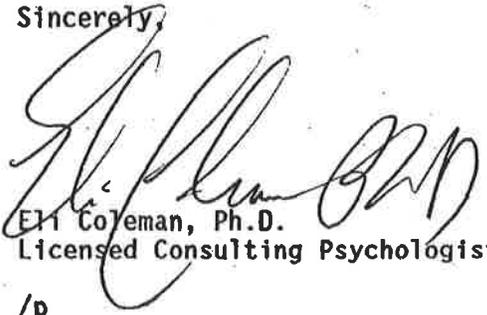
As you know, this has now become a legal matter and has precluded an opportunity for Father Maiers to follow this approach. Now, he is in a position of having to defend himself.

Currently, Father Maiers is handling the situation fairly well. His only need for counseling at this point is some adjustment counseling for the trauma of these allegations and the lawsuit which threatened his entire career, ministry and self-respect. It is my feeling that he is handling the situation very well and should be given all the support that the Archdiocese and abbot can give him. I think it would be unfortunate to remove him from his current position.

May 10, 1990  
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Eli Coleman, Ph.D.  
Licensed Consulting Psychologist

/p

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS**

=====

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop John R. Roach  
Bishop Robert Carlson  
Father Michael O'Connell

**DATE:** May 23, 1990

**FROM:** Father Kevin M. McDonough

**RE:** FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

I am enclosing a copy of the evaluation done on Father Brennan Maiers, OSB, by Dr. Eli Coleman from the University of Minnesota. As you can see, Coleman gives Maiers an unconditionally clean bill of health. It is worth noting that he says in part: "It is my feeling that he is handling the situation very well and should be given all the support that the Archdiocese and Abbot can give him. I think it would be unfortunate to remove him from his current position."

This is Dr. Coleman's opinion from a therapeutic point of view. Obviously, there are other points of view which must be taken into consideration. There are two particular items which deserve some reflection.

We ought to ask whether we judge Father Brennan competent to carry out the ministry of the parish. The latest flurry of complaints about the handling of school matters brings that question to the fore. It should be noted, however, that the administration of that school has been a problem area for several years. It is clear that Brennan and staff are trying now to bring it fully under control. Whether they are doing so in the proper manner is another question, but it is hard to imagine that that would ever be an easy process.

The other question has to do with the threat of publicity around the lawsuit. I will be in touch with personnel at St. John's to evaluate the progress of the lawsuit against Brennan. We have said in the past that we thought that it was unlikely that the people of St. Bernard would be very tolerant if Brennan would be in place when public knowledge of the lawsuit leaked. We ought to take a good look at the likelihood that the lawsuit will become public, and once again, ask ourselves whether he is in a position to weather that storm or not.

Bishop Carlson has recently pointed out that the May to July period is the normal period for personnel changes. If we find ourselves leaning heavily toward a decision to transfer him, then we probably ought to speak to the Abbot about that in the next three to five weeks.

ARCH-021059

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

---

MEMO TO: Archbishop John R. Roach  
Bishop Robert Carlson  
Father Michael O'Connell

DATE: May 23, 1990

FROM: Father Kevin M. McDonough

RE: FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

I am enclosing a copy of the evaluation done on Father Brennan Maiers, OSB, by Dr. Eli Coleman from the University of Minnesota. As you can see, Coleman gives Maiers an unconditionally clean bill of health. It is worth noting that he says in part: "It is my feeling that he is handling the situation very well and should be given all the support that the Archdiocese and Abbot can give him. I think it would be unfortunate to remove him from his current position."

This is Dr. Coleman's opinion from a therapeutic point of view. Obviously, there are other points of view which must be taken into consideration. There are two particular items which deserve some reflection.

We ought to ask whether we judge Father Brennan competent to carry out the ministry of the parish. The latest flurry of complaints about the handling of school matters brings that question to the fore. It should be noted, however, that the administration of that school has been a problem area for several years. It is clear that Brennan and staff are trying now to bring it fully under control. Whether they are doing so in the proper manner is another question, but it is hard to imagine that that would ever be an easy process.

The other question has to do with the threat of publicity around the lawsuit. I will be in touch with personnel at St. John's to evaluate the progress of the lawsuit against Brennan. We have said in the past that we thought that it was unlikely that the people of St. Bernard would be very tolerant if Brennan would be in place when public knowledge of the lawsuit leaked. We ought to take a good look at the likelihood that the lawsuit will become public, and once again, ask ourselves whether he is in a position to weather that storm or not.

Bishop Carlson has recently pointed out that the May to July period is the normal period for personnel changes. If we find ourselves leaning heavily toward a decision to transfer him, then we probably ought to speak to the Abbot about that in the next three to five weeks.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

---

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop John R. Roach  
Bishop Robert Carlson  
Father Michael O'Connell

**DATE:** May 23, 1990

**FROM:** Father Kevin M. McDonough

**RE:** FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

I am enclosing a copy of the evaluation done on Father Brennan Maiers, OSB, by Dr. Eli Coleman from the University of Minnesota. As you can see, Coleman gives Maiers an unconditionally clean bill of health. It is worth noting that he says in part: "It is my feeling that he is handling the situation very well and should be given all the support that the Archdiocese and Abbot can give him. I think it would be unfortunate to remove him from his current position."

This is Dr. Coleman's opinion from a therapeutic point of view. Obviously, there are other points of view which must be taken into consideration. There are two particular items which deserve some reflection.

We ought to ask whether we judge Father Brennan competent to carry out the ministry of the parish. The latest flurry of complaints about the handling of school matters brings that question to the fore. It should be noted, however, that the administration of that school has been a problem area for several years. It is clear that Brennan and staff are trying now to bring it fully under control. Whether they are doing so in the proper manner is another question, but it is hard to imagine that that would ever be an easy process.

The other question has to do with the threat of publicity around the lawsuit. I will be in touch with personnel at St. John's to evaluate the progress of the lawsuit against Brennan. We have said in the past that we thought that it was unlikely that the people of St. Bernard would be very tolerant if Brennan would be in place when public knowledge of the lawsuit leaked. We ought to take a good look at the likelihood that the lawsuit will become public, and once again, ask ourselves whether he is in a position to weather that storm or not.

Bishop Carlson has recently pointed out that the May to July period is the normal period for personnel changes. If we find ourselves leaning heavily toward a decision to transfer him, then we probably ought to speak to the Abbot about that in the next three to five weeks.

---

cancel  
report

May 30, 1990

MEMO TO: Father Kevin McDonough

FROM: Archbishop Roach

After reading ~~the report from~~ the University of Minnesota on Brennan Maiers, I really think that we have a justice question here.

I think he ought to be told that he is in the clear and that we support him strongly.

I don't think that we have enough reason to transfer him out of St. Bernard's. The problems in the school, I think, are not particularly of his making, and I think what we might very well want to do is just give him all the support we possibly can. I would suggest that this be brought up at a Council meeting.

cc- Bishop Carlson  
Fr. O'Connell

May 30, 1990

MEMO TO: Father Kevin McDonough

FROM: Archbishop Roach

After reading the report from the University of Minnesota on Brennan Maiers, I really think that we have a justice question here.

I think he ought to be told that he is in the clear and that we support him strongly.

I don't think that we have enough reason to transfer him out of St. Bernard's. The problems in the school, I think, are not particularly of his making, and I think what we might very well want to do is just give him all the support we possibly can. I would suggest that this be brought up at a Council meeting.

cc- Bishop Carlson  
Fr. O'Connell

488-6733

May 30, 1990

MEMO TO: Father Kevin McDonough

FROM: Archbishop Roach

After reading the report from the University of Minnesota on Brennan Maers, I really think that we have a justice question here.

I think he ought to be told that he is in the clear and that we support him strongly.

I don't think that we have enough reason to transfer him out of St. Bernard's. The problems in the school, I think, are not particularly of his making, and I think what we might very well want to do is just give him all the support we possibly can. I would suggest that this be brought up at a Council meeting.

cc- Bishop Carlson  
Fr. O'Connell



- I called him on 5/30 and told him about Abp's perspective.
- I called Abbot Jerome on 5/31 and told him the same as well.

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

---

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop John R. Roach

**DATE:** June 5, 1990

**FROM:** Father Kevin M. McDonough

**RE:** FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

Archbishop, I received your memo of May 30, 1990. I agree with your assessment.

Because I was to leave town within a couple of days, I took the liberty of contacting both Father Brennan and Abbot Jerome. I told them that this was the way our thinking was leaning. I told them that there would be some further discussion in the time ahead.

If there is further follow up that we need to do, I would be happy to pick it up again on my return.

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

---

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop John R. Roach

**DATE:** June 5, 1990

**FROM:** Father Kevin M. McDonough

**RE:** FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

Archbishop, I received your memo of May 30, 1990. I agree with your assessment.

Because I was to leave town within a couple of days, I took the liberty of contacting both Father Brennan and Abbot Jerome. I told them that this was the way our thinking was leaning. I told them that there would be some further discussion in the time ahead.

If there is further follow up that we need to do, I would be happy to pick it up again on my return.

June 11, 1990

Reverend Brennan Maiers, OSB  
Church of St. Bernard  
197 W. Geranium Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55117

Dear Father Maiers,

This is to confirm the discussion that you and I had on June 10, 1990.

1. You have agreed to enter into binding arbitration with the teachers who have filed for arbitration. You will be prepared to enter into that arbitration just as quickly as the Office of Due Process is able to arrange for arbitrators.
2. You informed me that you felt that you absolutely had to terminate the employment of John O'Neill, who has been serving as Principal and Mr. Hanson, who has been serving as Dean of Students. I told you that I was in no position to tell you that you could not terminate them, but urged you to try to negotiate with Mr. O'Neill, in particular, and to seek his resignation, rather than having to terminate him. You agreed to do that. In the case of Mr. Hanson, I urged you to check the files to be sure that there is sufficient evidence of his having been counseled and warned. If that evidence is lacking, I indicated to you that I saw no way that you were going to be able to win either a civil suit, or get an affirmative judgement in binding arbitration. You indicated to me that you felt that there was more than sufficient evidence to get an affirmative judgement in the case of Mr. O'Neill. I then informed you that even if you have enough evidence, the time question may be such that an arbitrator would bind you to another year of contract.
3. On the larger question of the parent groups and your own Board of Education, you agreed that you would work immediately to put into place a Board of Education to replace the current Board, and that

Page 2  
Brennan Maiers

that Board of Education would have a clear definition of responsibility. I agreed with you that it is unthinkable to separate the high school of St. Bernard's from the parish. That is an unreasonable expectation on the part of some of the parents.

I also indicated to you that I felt that you ought to devote whatever energy you possibly can to informing 20 leaders in the parish of all of the circumstances surrounding this whole issue, so that they can become spokespersons for your point of view. As it is, it is clear that, at least among the people who represent the SOS parents group, you are standing alone.

I also urged you to take a careful look as to whether or not you are really, in fact, being well served by Mr. Albert and Mr. Martin. I made no judgement about that, but indicated that you ought to look at that question closely.

I hope that this letter is an accurate reflection of our discussion.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John R. Roach, D.D.  
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

cc: Bishop Carlson  
Fr. O'Connell  
Frank Wray  
Joan Bernet  
Pattee Kilday

June 11, 1990

Reverend Brennan Maiers, OSB  
Church of St. Bernard  
197 W. Geranium Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55117

Dear Father Maiers,

This is to confirm the discussion that you and I had on June 10, 1990.

1. You have agreed to enter into binding arbitration with the teachers who have filed for arbitration. You will be prepared to enter into that arbitration just as quickly as the Office of Due Process is able to arrange for arbitrators.
2. You informed me that you felt that you absolutely had to terminate the employment of John O'Neill, who has been serving as Principal and Mr. Hanson, who has been serving as Dean of Students. I told you that I was in no position to tell you that you could not terminate them, but urged you to try to negotiate with Mr. O'Neill, in particular, and to seek his resignation, rather than having to terminate him. You agreed to do that. In the case of Mr. Hanson, I urged you to check the files to be sure that there is sufficient evidence of his having been counseled and warned. If that evidence is lacking, I indicated to you that I saw no way that you were going to be able to win either a civil suit, or get an affirmative judgement in binding arbitration. You indicated to me that you felt that there was more than sufficient evidence to get an affirmative judgement in the case of Mr. O'Neill. I then informed you that even if you have enough evidence, the time question may be such that an arbitrator would bind you to another year of contract.
3. On the larger question of the parent groups and your own Board of Education, you agreed that you would work immediately to put into place a Board of Education to replace the current Board, and that

Page 2  
Brennan Maiers

that Board of Education would have a clear definition of responsibility. I agreed with you that it is unthinkable to separate the high school of St. Bernard's from the parish. That is an unreasonable expectation on the part of some of the parents.

I also indicated to you that I felt that you ought to devote whatever energy you possibly can to informing 20 leaders in the parish of all of the circumstances surrounding this whole issue, so that they can become spokespersons for your point of view. As it is, it is clear that, at least among the people who represent the SOS parents group, you are standing alone.

I also urged you to take a careful look as to whether or not you are really, in fact, being well served by Mr. Albert and Mr. Martin. I made no judgement about that, but indicated that you ought to look at that question closely.

I hope that this letter is an accurate reflection of our discussion.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John R. Roach, D.D.  
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

cc: Bishop Carlson  
Fr. O'Connell  
Frank Wray  
Joan Bernet  
Pattee Kilday

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL  
MEMO

MEMO TO: Archbishop Roach  
DATE: July 3, 1990  
FROM: Fr. Michael J. O'Connell

Archbishop,

I received a confidential report from Andy Eisenzimmer regarding a conversation he had with attorney, Ted Collins. Mr. Collins indicated that one of his partners has some kind of contact with a "S.O.S. member" from St. Bernard's Parish. The SOS person indicated to Mr. Collin's partner that they knew, generally speaking, that there has been an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor brought against Fr. Brennan Maiers. This, of course, can be enormously damaging to Fr. Brennan as well as to the whole issue at St. Bernard's Parish.

I know that Fr. McDonough is going to be in touch with Fr. Maiers as soon as possible on this.

cc: Bishop Carlson  
Bishop Charron  
Fr. Kevin McDonough

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS**

---

**MEMO TO:** Archbishop John R. Roach  
Father Michael O'Connell

**DATE:** July 5, 1990

**FROM:** Father Kevin M. McDonough

**RE:** FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

After speaking with Father O'Connell on July 3, I called Father Brennan Maiers. I simply informed him of the information that Father O'Connell had received from Andy Eisenzimmer concerning the possibility that the SOS group may have some awareness of allegations of misconduct in Father Brennan's past. I asked him to think for a couple of days about how much heat he might be willing to tolerate.

I also spoke with Father Daniel Ward at St. John's. He told me that the Abbot is concerned because of the possible presence of SOS protestors at the Abbey this coming weekend. Apparently, the Abbot and his council are going to do some reconsideration of Father Brennan's position at St. Bernard's. I told Father Ward about the further information we have and he promised to pass that on to the Abbot.

I will be meeting with Father Brennan early this morning, July 5. My purpose in that meeting is not to reach a decision about his continuation, but simply to make sure that he is holding things together and will not act rashly.

ARCH-021018

Father's file, pla

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

MEMO TO: Archbishop John R. Roach  
Father Michael O'Connell

DATE: July 5, 1990

FROM: Father Kevin M. McDonough

RE: FATHER BRENNAN MAIERS, OSB

After speaking with Father O'Connell on July 3, I called Father Brennan Maiers. I simply informed him of the information that Father O'Connell had received from Andy Eisenzimmer concerning the possibility that the SOS group may have some awareness of allegations of misconduct in Father Brennan's past. I asked him to think for a couple of days about how much heat he might be willing to tolerate.

I also spoke with Father Daniel Ward at St. John's. He told me that the Abbot is concerned because of the possible presence of SOS protestors at the Abbey this coming weekend. Apparently, the Abbot and his council are going to do some reconsideration of Father Brennan's position at St. Bernard's. I told Father Ward about the further information we have and he promised to pass that on to the Abbot.

I will be meeting with Father Brennan early this morning, July 5. My purpose in that meeting is not to reach a decision about his continuation, but simply to make sure that he is holding things together and will not act rashly.

*From - file, please*

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS



MEMO TO: Archbishop John R. Roach  
Father Michael O'Connell

DATE: July 5, 1990

FROM: Father Kevin M. McDonough

RE: FATHER BRENNAN MATERS, OSB

After speaking with Father O'Connell on July 3, I called Father Brennan Maters. I simply informed him of the information that Father O'Connell had received from Andy Eisenzimmer concerning the possibility that the SOS group may have some awareness of allegations of misconduct in Father Brennan's past. I asked him to think for a couple of days about how much heat he might be willing to tolerate.

I also spoke with Father Daniel Ward at St. John's. He told me that the Abbot is concerned because of the possible presence of SOS protestors at the Abbey this coming weekend. Apparently, the Abbot and his council are going to do some reconsideration of Father Brennan's position at St. Bernard's. I told Father Ward about the further information we have and he promised to pass that on to the Abbot.

I will be meeting with Father Brennan early this morning, July 5. My purpose in that meeting is not to reach a decision about his continuation, but simply to make sure that he is holding things together and will not act rashly.

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue

*Office of the Archbishop*

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-2197

October 4, 1990

The Reverend Brennan Maiers, O.S.B.  
Church of St. Bernard  
197 West Geranium Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55117

Dear Father Brennan:

I have been informed that you are no longer in this  
Archdiocese.

Your service here has been a blessing for the people  
you have served. I am sure that they deeply appreciate  
your pastoral care and concern for them.

Please accept my own thanks for all the good work you  
have done here. You have served this local church well,  
and I express my sincerest appreciation to you for  
that work.

I pray God will bless you richly in the future.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John R. Roach, D.D.  
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-2197

*Office of the Archbishop*

October 4, 1990

The Reverend Brennan Maiers, O.S.B.  
Church of St. Bernard  
197 West Geranium Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55117

Dear Father Brennan:

I have been informed that you are no longer in this Archdiocese.

Your service here has been a blessing for the people you have served. I am sure that they deeply appreciate your pastoral care and concern for them.

Please accept my own thanks for all the good work you have done here. You have served this local church well, and I express my sincerest appreciation to you for that work.

I pray God will bless you richly in the future.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John R. Roach, D.D.  
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

124  
80+00  
Abbi

**ACTIVITY TRACKING SHEET**

*Rev. Brennan Mciers*

Situation name (person(s), group, institution): *St. John's Abbey, St. Cloud diocese*

Location:

Date received: *3/25/92*

Current ministerial status: ~~was~~ *jurisdiction of MBBG*

Address, phone (confidential yes no):

Archdiocesan response team (coordinator listed first):

Legal representation

Archdiocese:

Other party:

Others, representing:

Other key resource persons:

Designated spokesperson(s):

Brief biographical data (age, education, work history)

*Worked here as pastor of St. Bernard, St. Paul from 1983-90*

*No indication of any abuse-type situation while here.*

*July, 90*

Brief situation description:

*Allegations date from late 1965-early 1966 while associated pastor at St. Joseph Church, St. Joseph.*

*See attached*

Communication plan formulated, key elements are:

*F. McD, JG worked with St. Bernard's to prepare statement that could be used at the parish lawsuit hearing.*

Statement or comments made to news media (date, by whom, attach copy):

Internal communications -- appropriate notification given to:

     RECEPTIONISTS           CHANCERY STAFF           FULL STAFF

-over-

**Notification of pertinent people/constituents**

- MEETING WITH PARISH LEADERS
- MEETING WITH WHOLE PARISH
- LETTER TO PARISHIONERS
- LETTER TO PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL
- OTHER:

**UPDATES**

<u>Action taken</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Next anticipated action</u>
---------------------	-------------	--------------------------------

MESSAGE

FOR Fr Mc D / By Carlson  
DATE 3-25 TIME 8 50

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

Fr Surmain  
488-0075

Telephoned _____	Please Call _____
Called to See You _____	Will Call Again _____
Returned Your Call _____	Rush _____

MESSAGE  
ASAP

SIGNED C

To Kevin  
Date 3/25 Time 10:50

**WHILE YOU WERE OUT**

M Fr. Dan Ward  
of \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone 612 - 363 - 2438  
Area Code Number Extension

TELEPHONED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PLEASE CALL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CALLED TO SEE YOU	<input type="checkbox"/>	WILL CALL AGAIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
WANTS TO SEE YOU	<input type="checkbox"/>	URGENT	<input type="checkbox"/>
RETURNED YOUR CALL		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Message \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Operator Janilyn







TRANSMISSION REPORT

\*\*\*\*\*

CHARLES, ST PAUL

DATE 25 15 26

DATE	START TIME	REPLY TERMINAL IDENTIFICATION	MODE	TIME	PERIOD	TOTAL PAGES	DEL CODE
25	15:26	6122235483	G351	02:17	04	24	1706



# Telefacsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

To: Kevin M<sup>2</sup> Donagh  
Company/Department: Chancery - Archdiocese  
Fax Number: 612-290-1829

From: Department of Government X  
Department of Sociology & Social Work \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Accounting \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Management \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Economics \_\_\_\_\_  
Personal \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

Sent By: Tom Ward

Date: 3/25/92

Message: Kevin - Could you call Bernice  
so he can pick up a copy of this  
thanks Jan

Number of Pages 1

If There Is An Error In Receipt Please Call (612) 363-2731

Fax: (612) 363-3296 (Located in Engel Hall)  
St. John's University  
Collegeville, MN 56321

STATEMENT (LETTER ?) OF FR. GERMAINE LOEBER, OSB, TO SAINT  
BERNARD PARISH MEMBERS

During this past week a lawsuit was filed against St. John's Abbey and the St. Cloud Diocese. That suit claims that, over 25 years ago, Father Brennan Maiers, OSB, abused a young man in a parish near Saint Cloud.

Although Father Brennan was our pastor here at Saint Bernard from 1983 until 1990, our parish and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis are not involved in any way in the suit.

I understand that the Abbey first learned about this complaint shortly before Father Brennan left Saint Bernard's. There had never been any similar complaint about him, before or since. Both Abbot Jerome and Archbishop Roach believe that Father Brennan never abused young people in our parish. As you know, he ~~resigned from~~ <sup>left</sup> Saint Bernard's in the summer of 1990. Several factors prompted his decision to do so. One of them was that he did not want news of this allegation against him to further divide our parish. Because of his respect for you and the <sup>wellbeing</sup> ~~health~~ of Saint Bernard's, he believed it best that he leave at that time.

I want to appeal to all of you for two things. First, I ask for prayers for all of those involved in this situation; for the young man and his family, for Father Brennan, for the Abbey and the <sup>Saint Cloud area</sup> parish.

Second, I invite you to a deeper unity at Saint Bernard's. ~~It~~

~~has been suggested that this very old lawsuit was filed on~~ <sup>an Appeals Court</sup>  
~~Tuesday immediately after the attorney involved had lost a big~~  
~~decision in a case involving~~  
~~case against the Catholic Church the day before. It could appear~~

~~to be a way to use people's pain in order to cover up that other~~  
~~significant loss.~~ I do not know if that is true, but it would be  
~~a real loss~~ <sup>unfair</sup> for <sup>of a parish</sup> ~~us~~ if this bad news from the past damaged the  
good things happening here today. Please support one another in  
moving ahead.

Many people are wondering why this very  
old lawsuit is being <sup>brought up</sup> ~~filed~~ now. ~~Is it~~  
because the attorney who filed the suit  
had just lost a very significant Appeals  
Court decision involving the Catholic Church  
the day before? Is this a way to use  
people's pain to distract attention from his  
~~major financial failures~~  
defeat in the court ~~and the loss of~~  
~~financial loss~~ ~~the court's refusal to~~ <sup>loss of a</sup> financial loss?

STATEMENT (LETTER ?) OF FR. GERMAIN LOEBER, OSB,  
TO SAINT BERNARD PARISH MEMBERS

During this past week a lawsuit was filed against St. John's Abbey and the St. Cloud Diocese. That suit claims that, over 25 years ago, Father Brennan Maiers, OSB, abused a young man in a parish near Saint Cloud. Although Father Brennan was our pastor here at Saint Bernard from 1983 until 1990, our parish and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis are not involved in any way in the suit.

I understand that the Abbey first learned about this complaint shortly before Father Brennan left Saint Bernard's. There had never been any similar complaint about him, before or since. Both Abbot Jerome and Archbishop Roach believe that Father Brennan never abused young people in our parish. As you know, he left Saint Bernard's in the summer of 1990. Several factors prompted his decision to do so. One of them was that he did not want news of this allegation against him to further divide our parish. Because of his respect for you and the wellbeing of Saint Bernard's, he believed it best that he leave at that time.

I want to appeal to all of you for two things. First, I ask for prayers for all of those involved in this situation; for the young man and his family, for Father Brennan, for the Abbey and the Saint Cloud area parish.

Second, I invite you to a deeper unity at Saint Bernard's. Many people are wondering why this very old lawsuit is being brought up now. Is it because the attorney who filed the suit had just lost a very significant Appeals Court decision involving the Catholic Church the day before? Is this a way to use people's pain to distract attention from his defeat in the court and financial loss? I do not know if that is true, but it would be unfair for our parish if this bad news from the past damaged the good things happening here today. Please support one another in moving ahead.

STATEMENT (LETTER ?) OF FR. GERMAIN LOEBER, OSB,  
TO SAINT BERNARD PARISH MEMBERS

During this past week a lawsuit was filed against St. John's Abbey and the St. Cloud Diocese. That suit claims that, over 25 years ago, Father Brennan Maiers, OSB, abused a young man in a parish near Saint Cloud. Although Father Brennan was our pastor here at Saint Bernard from 1983 until 1990, our parish and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis are not involved in any way in the suit.

I understand that the Abbey first learned about this complaint shortly before Father Brennan left Saint Bernard's. There had never been any similar complaint about him, before or since. Both Abbot Jerome and Archbishop Roach believe that Father Brennan never abused young people in our parish. As you know, he left Saint Bernard's in the summer of 1990. Several factors prompted his decision to do so. One of them was that he did not want news of this allegation against him to further divide our parish. Because of his respect for you and the wellbeing of Saint Bernard's, he believed it best that he leave at that time.

I want to appeal to all of you for two things. First, I ask for prayers for all of those involved in this situation; for the young man and his family, for Father Brennan, for the Abbey and the Saint Cloud area parish.

Second, I invite you to a deeper unity at Saint Bernard's. Many people are wondering why this very old lawsuit is being brought up now. Is it because the attorney who filed the suit had just lost a very significant Appeals Court decision involving the Catholic Church the day before? Is this a way to use people's pain to distract attention from his defeat in the court and financial loss? I do not know if that is true, but it would be unfair for our parish if this bad news from the past damaged the good things happening here today. Please support one another in moving ahead.

STATEMENT (LETTER ?) OF FR. GERMAINE LOEBER, OSB, TO SAINT  
BERNARD PARISH MEMBERS

During this past week a lawsuit was filed against St. John's Abbey and the St. Cloud Diocese. That suit claims that, over 25 years ago, Father Brennan Maiers, OSB, abused a young man in Saint Joseph, Minnesota. Although Father Brennan was our pastor here at Saint Bernard from 1983 until 1990, our parish and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis are not involved in any way in the suit.

I understand that the Abbey first learned about this complaint shortly before Father Brennan left Saint Bernard's. There had never been any similar complaint about him, before or since. Both Abbot Jerome and Archbishop Roach believe that Father Brennan never abused young people in our parish. As you know, he resigned from Saint Bernard's in the summer of 1990. Several factors prompted his decision to do so. One of them was that he did not want news of this allegation against him to further divide our parish. Because of his respect for you and the health of Saint Bernard's, he believed it best that he leave at that time.

I want to appeal to all of you for two things. First, I ask for prayers for all of those involved in this situation; for the young man and his family, for Father Brennan, for the Abbey and the parish at Saint Joseph.

Second, I invite you to a deeper unity at Saint Bernard's. It has been suggested that this very old lawsuit was filed on Tuesday immediately after the attorney involved had lost a big case against the Catholic Church the day before. It could appear to be a way to use people's pain in order to cover up that other significant loss. I do not know if that is true, but it would be a real loss for us if this bad news from the past damaged the good things happening here today. Please support one another in moving ahead.

STATEMENT TO BE READ AT ALL THE MASSES AT ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH  
ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, MARCH 28 AND 29

During this past week a lawsuit was publicly filed against Saint John's Abbey and the St. Cloud Diocese. In August, 1989 a former parishioner of St. Joseph's Parish made a complaint to St. John's Abbey that, as a youth, he was sexually abused by Father Brennan Maiers in 1966. The Abbey and the Diocese had no previous knowledge of any such complaint involving Father Brennan who was associate pastor here at St. Joseph's Parish from 1965 to 1968.

Following the Abbey's policy in these matters, the person was provided with pastoral care in addition to professional counseling at the abbey's expense. Father Brennan received psychological evaluation and assessment; presently he is taking a Clinical Pastoral Education Program at Saint Mary's Hospital in Duluth.

The Abbey and Diocese wish the parishioners of St. Joseph's to know that the Church regrets the pain experienced by the former parishioner and others, and now the pain and questioning being experienced here in the St. Joseph community. The pain is more acute at the present moment because of the pending investigation involving Matt Feeney.

In an effort to deal with the situation within our parish, there will be a meeting for those interested this Tuesday evening, March 31st, at 7:00 p.m. in the school dining room. Abbot Jerome Theisen of St. John's Abbey and Father Daniel Taufen of the Diocese of St. Cloud, will be present to answer questions, respond to concerns, and to pray with the parish for all those involved in this matter.

The Abbey and the Diocese wish all to know that the Church is deeply concerned when sexual abuse has occurred. Both want people to know that the representatives of the Church are open and available to persons who have experienced sexual abuse within the Church.

Please support one another and pray for God's blessings and peace.

3/25/92  
DJW

STATEMENT TO BE READ AT ALL THE MASSES AT ST. BONIFACE PARISH,  
COLD SPRING, MINNESOTA ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, MARCH 28 & 29

During this past week a lawsuit was publicly filed against Saint John's Abbey, the St. Cloud Diocese and Father Brennan Maiers who had been pastor here at St. Boniface from 1976 to 1983. In August, 1989 a former parishioner of St. Joseph's Parish, St. Joseph, Minnesota made a complaint to St. John's Abbey that, as a youth, he had been sexually abused by Father Brennan in 1966. The Abbey and the Diocese had no previous knowledge of any such complaint involving Father Brennan who was associate pastor at St. Joseph's Parish from 1965 to 1968. There had never been a complaint about him, before or since.

Following the Abbey's policy in these matters, the person was provided with pastoral care in addition to professional counseling at the Abbey's expense. Father Brennan received psychological evaluation and assessment; presently he is taking a Clinical Pastoral Education Program at Saint Mary's Hospital in Duluth.

The Abbey and the Diocese wish the parishioners of St. Boniface Parish to know that the Church regrets the pain experienced by the young man and others, and now the pain and questioning being experienced here in the Cold Spring community. The Abbey and the Diocese want everyone to know that the Church is deeply concerned when sexual abuse has occurred. Both want people to know that the representatives of the Church are open and available to persons who have experienced sexual abuse within the Church.

I ask for prayers for all of those involved in this situation: for the young man and his family, for Father Brennan, for the people of St. Joseph and the entire Diocese, and for the Abbey. I particularly ask you to support and pray for one another. May God's healing love come upon us.

3/26/92  
DJW

Saint John's Abbey  
statement concerning the complaint against  
Father Brennan Maiers

In August 1989 a former parishioner of Saint Joseph Parish, Saint Joseph, Minnesota, made a complaint to the abbey that, as a youth, he was sexually abused by Father Brennan Maiers in 1966. The Abbey had no previous knowledge of any such complaint involving Father Maiers. Father Maiers, a member of Saint John's Abbey, was associate pastor of Saint Joseph Parish from 1965 to 1967. Following abbey policy in these matters, the person was provided pastoral care in addition to professional counseling at the abbey's expense. Father Brennan received psychological evaluation and assessment; presently he is taking a Clinical Pastoral Education Program at Saint Mary's Hospital in Duluth.

The abbey regrets the pain experienced by the former parishioner and others. It is committed to achieving a just resolution of the matter.

Dated: 25 March 1992

Saint John's Abbey  
statement concerning the complaint against  
Father Brennan Maiers

In August 1989 a former parishioner of Saint Joseph Parish, Saint Joseph, Minnesota, made a complaint to the abbey that, as a youth, he was sexually abused by Father Brennan Maiers in 1966. The Abbey had no previous knowledge of any such complaint involving Father Maiers. Father Maiers, a member of Saint John's Abbey, was associate pastor of Saint Joseph Parish from 1965 to 1967. Following abbey policy in these matters, the person was provided pastoral care in addition to professional counseling at the abbey's expense. Father Brennan received psychological evaluation and assessment; presently he is taking a Clinical Pastoral Education Program at Saint Mary's Hospital in Duluth.

The abbey regrets the pain experienced by the former parishioner and others. It is committed to achieving a just resolution of the matter.

Dated: 25 March 1992

# Telefacsimile Transmission Cover Sheet

To: Fr. Kevin McDonagh  
Company/Department: Archdiocese of St Paul/Mpls  
Fax Number: 290-1629

From: Department of Government X  
Department of Sociology & Social Work \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Accounting \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Management \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Economics \_\_\_\_\_  
Personal \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

Sent By: Dan Ward

Date: 3/26/92

Message:

Number of Pages 2

If There Is An Error In Receipt Please Call (612) 363-2731

Fax: (612) 363-3298 (Located in Engel Hall)  
St. John's University  
Collegeville, MN 56321

# Sex abuse case names diocese, abbey, monk

by S.N. Bauer  
Visitor editor

**ST. CLOUD** — The St. Cloud Diocese is one of three defendants named in a lawsuit stemming from allegations of sexual abuse by a Benedictine priest.

A civil complaint filed in Stearns County District Court alleges that Father Brennan Maiers, a monk of St. John's Abbey, sexually abused a 10-year-old boy from late 1965 to early 1966 while he was associate pastor of St. Joseph Church, St. Joseph. The plaintiff, now in his 30s, was an altar boy and a student at the parochial school at the time.

According to the complaint, the alleged abuse occurred in the sacristy, the rectory and "at other locations on and about the premises of St. Joseph Parish while defendant Father Brennan Maiers was engaged in church business."

In addition to Father Maiers, the diocese and abbey are named as defendants because, according to the complaint, the priest was under their "direct supervision, employ and control." St. Joseph Parish is a parish of the diocese, but has been operated by Benedictines since it was founded in 1856.

According to Jeff Anderson, attorney for the plaintiff, criminal charges have not been filed against Father Maiers because the accusation was not made until 1989, more than 22 years after the alleged abuse occurred and therefore beyond the statute of limitations.

According to the complaint, the plaintiff suffered psychological distress but "did not know or have reason to know that his injuries were caused by the sexual abuse until approximately February, 1989."

Anderson said the plaintiff first went to the abbot of St. John's to report the incidents but was not satisfied with how it was handled so decided to pursue a lawsuit.

Abbot Jerome Theisen OSB confirmed that the young man did meet with him, but added, "I don't know his reasons for going elsewhere."

Abbot Theisen said he was aware that there might be a lawsuit, but had not heard that it had been filed this week until the *Visitor* called him for a response.

Father Maiers, he said, is currently taking Clinical Pastoral Education classes at St. Mary's Medical Center, Duluth.

The suit asks for damages "in excess of \$50,000," but no amount is specified.

Last August a similar suit was filed against the abbey and one of its priests. In that case Father Dunstan Moore was accused of sexually abusing two former students of St. John's Preparatory School.

This also marks the second recent case of allegations against someone who had ministered at St. Joseph Parish. A criminal complaint was filed in January against former St. Joseph youth minister Matthew Feeney. In that case, the alleged abuse took place at a camp in Aitkin County, which is not affiliated with the diocese or any institution within the diocese.

Anderson, a St. Paul attorney who has a national reputation for dealing with cases of clerical abuse, said he has handled more than 80 such cases against priests since 1986 and about another 30 against clergy of other denominations.

The St. Cloud Diocese issued a sexual misconduct policy last September. St. John's Abbey and University and the College of St. Benedict have similar policies.

In November, the diocese initiated an advocacy program for victims of sexual abuse. Four specially-trained advocates are available to respond to complaints of sexual abuse perpetrated by employees of the diocese.

## Lawsuit accuses former pastor of abusing altar boy

A former pastor of St. Bernard's Church in St. Paul has been accused of sexually abusing an altar boy at St. Joseph's Church in St. Joseph, Minn., in 1966.

A suit, filed Tuesday in Stearns County District Court in St. Cloud, alleges that the Rev. Brennan Maiers used his position to lure the then-9-year-old boy into a harmful sexual relationship when Maiers served at the church.

The suit identifies the former altar boy only as John A. Doe.

It says that because of psychological stress caused by the sexual abuse, it wasn't until 1989 that the alleged victim became aware of what Maiers did to him as a child. Named as defendants in the suit which says church officials knew or should have known of Maiers' conduct, are Maiers, the Order of St. Benedict at St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minn., and the Diocese of St. Cloud.

The abbey said in a prepared statement that officials of the order learned of the allegations only when the plaintiff contacted them in 1989. The abbey provided counsel and care for both the plaintiff and Maiers, the statement said.

Maiers left St. Bernard's in July, 1990. He is currently taking a clinical pastoral education program at St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth, the abbey said in its statement.

The suit seeks damages in excess of \$50,000.

3/26/92

# Sex abuse case names diocese, abbey, monk

by S.N. Bauer  
Visitor editor

**ST. CLOUD** — The St. Cloud Diocese is one of three defendants named in a lawsuit stemming from allegations of sexual abuse by a Benedictine priest.

A civil complaint filed in Stearns County District Court alleges that Father Brennan Maiers, a monk of St. John's Abbey, sexually abused a 10-year-old boy from late 1965 to early 1966 while he was associate pastor of St. Joseph Church, St. Joseph. The plaintiff, now in his 30s, was an altar boy and a student at the parochial school at the time.

According to the complaint, the alleged abuse occurred in the sacristy, the rectory and "at other locations on and about the premises of St. Joseph Parish while defendant Father Brennan Maiers was engaged in church business."

In addition to Father Maiers, the diocese and abbey are named as defendants because, according to the complaint, the priest was under their "direct supervision, employ and control." St. Joseph Parish is a parish of the diocese, but has been operated by Benedictines since it was founded in 1856.

According to Jeff Anderson, attorney for the plaintiff, criminal charges have not been filed against Father Maiers because the accusation was not made until 1989, more than 22 years after the alleged abuse occurred and therefore beyond the statute of limitations.

According to the complaint, the plaintiff suffered psychological distress but "did not know or have reason to know that his injuries were caused by the sexual abuse until approximately February, 1989."

Anderson said the plaintiff first went to the abbot of St. John's to report the incidents but was not satisfied with how it was handled so decided to pursue a lawsuit.

Abbot Jerome Theisen OSB confirmed that the young man did meet with him, but added, "I don't know his reasons for going elsewhere."

Abbot Theisen said he was aware that there might be a lawsuit, but had not heard that it had been filed this week until the *Visitor* called him for a response.

Father Maiers, he said, is currently taking Clinical Pastoral Education classes at St. Mary's Medical Center, Duluth.

The suit asks for damages "in excess of \$50,000," but no amount is specified.

Last August a similar suit was filed against the abbey and one of its priests. In that case Father Dunstan Moore was accused of sexually abusing two former students of St. John's Preparatory School.

This also marks the second recent case of allegations against someone who had ministered at St. Joseph Parish. A criminal complaint was filed in January against former St. Joseph youth minister Matthew Feeney. In that case, the alleged abuse took place at a camp in Aitkin County, which is not affiliated with the diocese or any institution within the diocese.

Anderson, a St. Paul attorney who has a national reputation for dealing with cases of clerical abuse, said he has handled more than 80 such cases against priests since 1986 and about another 30 against clergy of other denominations.

The St. Cloud Diocese issued a sexual misconduct policy last September. St. John's Abbey and University and the College of St. Benedict have similar policies.

In November, the diocese initiated an advocacy program for victims of sexual abuse. Four specially-trained advocates are available to respond to complaints of sexual abuse perpetrated by employees of the diocese.

Brennan Maiers  
file, please

## Lawsuit accuses former pastor of abusing altar boy

A former pastor of St. Bernard's Church in St. Paul has been accused of sexually abusing an altar boy at St. Joseph's Church in St. Joseph, Minn., in 1966.

A suit, filed Tuesday in Stearns County District Court in St. Cloud, alleges that the Rev. Brennan Maiers used his position to lure the then-9-year-old boy into a harmful sexual relationship when Maiers served at the church.

The suit identifies the former altar boy only as John A. Doe.

It says that because of psychological stress caused by the sexual abuse, it wasn't until 1989 that the alleged victim became aware of what Maiers did to him as a child. Named as defendants in the suit which says church officials knew or should have known of Maiers' conduct, are Maiers, the Order of St. Benedict at St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minn., and the Diocese of St. Cloud.

The abbey said in a prepared statement that officials of the order learned of the allegations only when the plaintiff contacted them in 1989. The abbey provided counsel and care for both the plaintiff and Maiers, the statement said.

Maiers left St. Bernard's in July, 1990. He is currently taking a clinical pastoral education program at St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth, the abbey said in its statement.

The suit seeks damages in excess of \$50,000.



MATERS, FR. BRENNAN, OSB

OX A 2 1



**FATHER time; Catholic liturgical pioneer has lifetime of stories to tell The Rev. Godfrey Diekmann, 88, taught for 62 years at St. John's University, where he has been a monk for 70 years. On Thursday, he is being honored as an important force in the changing church and a teacher of inestimable talent.(NEWS)**

StarTribune

Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)  
March 8, 1997 | Zavoral, Nolan

My name is Peter, and I am the Rev. Godfrey Diekmann's guardian angel. He believes in me, has even called on me to flag down the pope.

Last June, this was. We were visiting the Vatican with a few relatives, when the pope appeared at some distance. It looked as if we were going to miss him, but no, I whisked over and drew the pope's eye. Or maybe His Holiness saw Godfrey brandishing a brightly colored cane to attract him.

Whatever, the pope maneuvered toward Godfrey, and said, 'You are the Benedictine priest,' having recognized Godfrey from a previous meeting. Godfrey - an 88-year-old monk at St. John's Abbey - vowed to donate the cane to the abbey archives, with a sign: "Father Godfrey waved this as Pope John Paul II, and he came running."

"It's a lie," Diekmann said, "but only a half-lie."

Godfrey and I began our association in the 1930s, three decades before he helped to change the face and focus of Catholicism at Vatican II. He was studying in Germany and decided to go skating on a lake in his cassock. Godfrey never does anything very slowly - walk, talk, eat - and sped into an open patch of water.

The weight of his wet cassock could have pulled him under, but it didn't. By the time he managed to pull himself out of the water, he realized his life had been saved by . . . me. He named me Peter, after his favorite saint.

"I don't know what he looks like, but he doesn't look like anyone or anything," Diekmann said of me. "He's a spirit, after all. But he's real to me. I wouldn't have named him otherwise."

Diekmann is a restless spirit himself, a patient and principled doer. Let me tell you more about him.

A man of the world

Diekmann witnessed the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I have a dream" speech, marched in Selma, Ala., and hobnobbed with pacifist Dorothy Day. He speaks German fluently, and Italian nearly so, and is conversive in several other languages.

Abroad in the world, Diekmann has studied and taught, accepted tributes and tribulations with equanimity. For example, he was banned from the summer teaching faculty at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., because he espoused offering the mass in a language familiar to followers. Years later, he accepted an honorary degree from the school.

In 1932, studying in Europe, Diekmann attended an opera that he would never forget. He went to hear "Die Meistersinger, von Nurenberg," and had a box seat all by himself.

Said Diekmann: "The usher came over and said, 'See that man there? That's Hitler.'

"He was sitting in a box seat 10 yards away. I had a better seat than he did. I recognized Hitler immediately, of course.

"I've often wondered - really, I haven't, but I tell myself I have - [if] my trigger finger should have itched if I had known then what I know now. . . ."

Patristics, anyone?

Diekmann, the sixth of eight children, born and reared near Collegeville, is a recognized expert in patristics - the theological study of the thought and culture of the apostolic fathers of the church. For 62 years, until he retired in 1995, Diekmann taught the subject at St. John's.

A student jingled a Sanctus bell or rang a cowbell to start and end the class. The 1 1/2 hours in between were magic. Students and guardian angels were spellbound, as Diekmann, with his rapid-fire delivery, reached back to the first and second centuries to breathe life into Tertullian and Ignatius of Antioch.

"It was like you were listening to them - like you were listening to Paul writing his letter to the Ephesians," said Tom Hokr, a financial planner from Brooklyn Park who took Diekmann's class 27 years ago. "That class was like a walk in the park, every time you walked in - an absolute delight."

Diekmann parlayed history and histrionics.

"He was so excited by patristics that he would write on the blackboard but never look to see what he was writing but would keep facing us and talking," said the Rev. Brennan Maiers, a former student who joined the monastery.

Diekmann smiled at the memory. "They called me 'Mile-a-Minute Godfrey,'" he said. "I needed the bell because I got into such a fury and excitement when I was talking to classes."

#### Burning enthusiasm

Diekmann's enthusiasm for patristics and its relevance still burns. His voice rising and crackling, his hands fluttering and looping like butterflies, until they slap a table for emphasis, he begins:

"In my last 15 years of teaching, I limited myself to the first three centuries, and the purpose was to make people realize we are not something that happened with Christ. We are the sons and daughters who share the light of Christ.

"We share the light of God. This is the message of Christianity. On the face of it, it's ridiculous. I mean, God is infinite. How can anybody share that nature? And yet, there is this constant, constant emphasis that God became human, that we become divine."

Diekmann harkened to the Eastern church and its message.

"Before the break with the East, we [the Western church] included all the great things the East aspired to, that was central to their lives," he said. "But then we more or less neglected such things as the emphasis on the Holy Spirit and emphasis on the resurrection.

"We are saved by the resurrection. We are resurrection people. It wasn't until Vatican II that we got back to the resurrection, or body of Christ. It was most important - it was the meaning of Christianity - and we almost lost that."

#### Background helpful

For Vatican II, Diekmann served as a consultant to the Commission on the Liturgy. As one of the periti, or experts, chosen to advise the bishops attending the historic gathering, Diekmann offered his theological views on a range of issues, including Mary's role in the church.

He was perfectly positioned for the ascendance. He had risen to prominence at St. John's Abbey, whose brilliant theologian, the Rev. Virgil Michel (1890-1938), was his mentor and founded the American liturgical movement. After Michel died, Diekmann took over editorship of the bimonthly magazine *Oratio Fratres*, now *Worship*, which provided a forum for liturgical renewal.

Slowly, passionately, Diekmann and the others shaped reforms that were passed by Vatican II and made Catholicism more accessible - the altar was turned to face the faithful, and the mass could be offered in English. The priorities of the Eastern church - spirit and resurrection through the body of Christ - coursed through the changes.

"I gave an interview once, in which I said there was nothing like the council in 1,000 years. I was wrong," Diekmann said. "There was nothing like it in 2,000 years. It was a miracle."

#### Key figure

Diekmann was central to the process, in the estimation of Rev. Martin Marty, a theologian and church historian and a longtime friend and admirer of Diekmann's.

"He's very Catholic," Marty said. "He was always working under the assumption that you had to meet people at the ancient depths of thought to be faithful to who we are."

For that reason, Marty said, "I have never felt more Lutheran than with Diekmann."

Diekmann continues to ruminate upon the history and future of Catholicism. He finds hope where others lament that Pope John Paul, with his opposition to married and female clergy, is sabotaging the intentions of Vatican II.

"`Sabotaging' is too strong a word," Diekmann said. "I think what we are suffering from now is a collective stomachache. We swallowed too much."

"Vatican II by far was the most radical document, most productive document, the most changing document in the whole history of the church, and we weren't ready for it. It takes time."

Personally, Diekmann expresses his love of the religious life and of St. John's Abbey, although he says the abbey should not have allowed anyone as young as he - 18 in 1926 - to take the vows. "What does a kid of 18 know? I was happy it happened, but I was too young to realize what I was doing."

Before he was ordained, Diekmann questioned his calling. "I thought it was more than I could handle. I went on a retreat outside Rome, and I went to confession, and the retreat master, who knew about me, said I should go ahead with the ordination, that he would take responsibility.

"He had no business doing that, but I'm glad he did."

#### Living by a schedule

Diekmann turns in by 8 p.m. and, because he can't sleep, arises at 4 a.m. and prays. He watches his diet, still trying to lose the beer-and-black-bread weight he gained decades ago in Germany.

He takes an hour nap each afternoon, but otherwise he barely betrays his age. Even at 88, clattering around the St. John's monastery with his walker in front, he is as swift as forgiveness and as slippery as sin.

Diekmann enjoys his association with other monks, many of whom are his former students. One noon in the monastic dining room, he selects a small wedge of quiche, a spoonful of corn and a glass of water, and sits down at long wooden table with his confreres.

"Ah, two great monks and wonderful people," Diekmann said, nodding toward Alberic Culhane and Brennan Maiers.

"We are, but you'd say that whoever you were sitting with," Maiers said, laughing.

#### Bogged down

Heart failures, prostrate scares, falls on the ice, car accidents - Diekmann has kept his guardian angel busy over the last dozen years.

He has given up hunting mushrooms, more because "I can't take my walker into the woods," than because he twice was poisoned by bad batches. Just as well. He'll never forget the time he stole into the woods around Collegeville and fell into a bog.

"I was picking watercress and began to sink in my hip boots," he said. "Perhaps there was quicksand underneath, who knows?"

"I tried to pull my boots out, but couldn't. Pretty soon, the water was over my hips, so I yelled for help. Luckily, Brother Alfred heard me and came running, but he saw he couldn't do anything, so he ran to the garage, and they came with a hoist and a truck to pull me out.

"The whole thing lasted 25 minutes, and it struck me afterward that for the whole 25 minutes, I didn't have a single pious thought. Here I'd been a monk for 65 years, and I didn't think of death or make an act of contrition.

"I just thought, 'How the hell will I get out of here?'"

Seems as though I am always saving Godfrey from one drowning accident or another. As his guardian angel, I have a lot of pressure on me. Thirty days from his 89th birthday, Godfrey holds a valued place among friends and admirers, who don't want to give him up.

Consider what Marty said of him:

"Paul Tillich wrote an essay on nature and sacrament, in which he argued that conniving people have a lip line that's grim. But there are other kinds of people - and this is an archaic word - whose visage portrays a kind of sanctity. Visible saints, if you will.

"Diekmann, I think, is one of those. There's something about him. He can be serious, dry you up and make you think hard.

"And through it all, it's like you're being visited by a spirit we call holy."

1/3 The Rev. Godfrey Diekmann

- What: Speech at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minn., to honor the Rev. Godfrey Diekmann, by his friend Jaroslav Pelikan, a history and religion professor at Yale University.

- When: 8 p.m. Thursday, preceded by a 5 p.m. public mass and an invitation-only dinner.

- Where: Abbey Church at St. John's.

- Subject: Pelikan, president of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and an internationally known author, scholar and theologian, will discuss patristic studies - Diekmann's area of expertise involving the Apostolic Fathers of the church.

- Tickets: free

COPYRIGHT 2009 Star Tribune Co. This material is published under license from the publisher through the Gale Group, Farmington Hills, Michigan. All inquiries regarding rights or concerns about this content should be directed to Customer Service. For permission to reuse this article, contact Copyright Clearance Center.

HighBeam Research is operated by Cengage Learning. © Copyright 2013. All rights reserved.

[www.highbeam.com](http://www.highbeam.com)



## **Lawsuit widens claims of abuse; St. John's Abbey and two of its priests are the targets of the suit by two former prep school students.(NEWS)**

**StarTribune**

Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)

June 7, 2002 | McEnroe, Paul; Louwagie, Pam

Byline: Paul McEnroe; Pam Louwagie; Staff Writers

St. Cloud, Minn. -- Declaring themselves victims of sexual abuse and claiming that St. John's Abbey has covered up such abuse for decades, two former prep school students on Thursday sued the abbey and two priests already living under restrictions because of sexual misconduct.

In addition to the two priests named as defendants in the lawsuit - the Rev. Dunstan Moore and the Rev. Allen Tarlton - eight other abbey clergy members accused of abuse were listed in the suit in an attempt to show that the abbey engaged in a 40-year conspiracy of secrecy. Attorney Jeff Anderson also accused the abbey of creating what he called a "public relations sham" organization to address abuse by clergy members.

Standing on the steps of the Stearns County Courthouse on Thursday morning with one of the former students were supporters who said they, too, had been abused by abbey priests. They all demanded that the abbey fully disclose abuse cases that they say were kept from law-enforcement officials and the public.

After the abbey was served with the suit, Anderson held a news conference and called the abbey's order "a clerical culture of secrecy, sin and shame and protection of felonious conduct."

Bill Quenroe of Minneapolis is one of the two plaintiffs who sued the priests and the abbey Thursday.

While attending St. John's prep school in the early 1980s, Quenroe said, he was abused by Moorse. "You could call it abuse or you could call it rape. I was victimized," Quenroe said.

"When I needed some love and attention, I got the wrong kind," he said. He said he's speaking out in an attempt to make sure sexual abuse isn't suffered by another student at the hands of a priest. "If standing on the courthouse steps means I can save one kid, then it's worth it," he said.

The Rev. William Skudlarek, abbey spokesman, said Thursday that the abbey takes the allegations seriously and will do its best to respond to any people who say they were abused.

The abbey has said 13 monks are living under restrictions. Skudlarek said Thursday that abbey officials have put another monk under "quasi-restrictions" while they investigate recent allegations against him.

#### The allegations

Anderson has sued the abbey at least a dozen times since 1991 over alleged sexual abuse by priests and monks. Most of the suits have been settled.

The suit filed Thursday alleges that Tarlton and Moorse were allowed to continue teaching despite concerns that clergy officials had about their sexual behavior.

Tarlton was allowed to teach at the prep school after he was treated for sexuality problems at a licensed psychiatric facility in Maryland in 1982, the suit says. Three years later, he allegedly abused one of the suit's plaintiffs, who isn't identified in the suit.

The same plaintiff says he was sexually abused by Moorse in 1985. Documents from the abbey's files, which are cited in the suit, show that a year earlier clergy officials questioned whether Moorse should be removed from the prep school because of his sexual behavior toward students.

In 1987, Abbot Jerome Theisen wrote in Moorse's file that he wanted Moorse to teach at Benilde-St. Margaret's school in St. Louis Park despite having serious reservations about the priest's problems. "I know it is a risk," Theisen wrote.

The unnamed plaintiff, referred to as John Doe 43, alleges that Tarlton and Moorse threatened him and warned him not to tell anyone.

Anderson said because the abbey engaged in a coverup and because the unidentified victim had been threatened to keep quiet, he believes the statute of limitations should be waived.

In addition to Moorse and Tarlton, the suit accuses the abbey of engaging in a pattern of concealment and outlines alleged abuse by eight other priests dating to the early 1960s. The abbey has confirmed that all eight are living under restrictions.

The suit lays out these allegations against those priests, who aren't defendants in the suit:

- The Rev. Brennan Maiers, ordained in 1963, who is accused of abusing a boy in 1966.
- The Rev. John Eidenschink, who is accused of leading a boy to his bedroom and fondling him during weekly counseling meetings in the early 1960s. After the first incident, the boy went to the seminary rector and described how Eidenschink asked him to take off his clothes and then fondled him. The rector became angry and told the boy to leave his office. Eidenschink was named abbot of St. John's in 1971 and served until 1979.
- The Rev. Cosmos Dahlheimer, who received shock treatments for psychological problems in the early 1960s. From 1970 to 1978, he allegedly abused four boys at parishes in St. Cloud and St. Paul. The suit alleges that the abbey didn't tell Dahlheimer of some of the allegations when it learned about them in 1987. He hasn't admitted to any abuse.
- The Rev. Francis Hoefgen, who was allowed to continue serving as an associate pastor at a church in Cold Spring, Minn., in the mid-1980s even after reportedly admitting he abused a boy twice.
- The Rev. Thomas Gillespie, who is accused of abusing a boy on St. John's property in 1977 and 1978.
- Brother John Kelly, who is accused of continuing to abuse a boy for more than two years after the boy had reported him to a school chaplain.
- The Rev. Finian McDonald, who the suit claims abused a college student at least three times in 1975.
- The Rev. Richard Eckroth, who is accused of abusing two boys at a cabin in northern Minnesota and at a church rectory in St. Cloud in the early 1970s. Eckroth allegedly

threatened one boy into secrecy by telling him "words to the effect of 'Don't tell. If you do, you'll be dead.' "

Eckroth hasn't admitted to any abuse, abbey officials have said.

Stearns County sheriff's officials named Eckroth last month as a suspect in the 1974 stabbing deaths of Susanne and Mary Reker, two sisters from St. Cloud whose bodies were found in a remote quarry in Stearns County.

### Concerns about ISTI

The suit claims the abbey failed to properly use an organization it created to address clergy abuse in various religions.

The Interfaith Sexual Trauma Institute (ISTI), which comprises religious leaders, sexual offenders and victims, was created in 1993 following initial allegations of sexual abuse by members of the abbey. At the time, more than 20 experts from across the country were invited by Abbot Timothy Kelly to discuss what steps had to be taken.

The consultants recommended that specific policies and procedures be developed to prevent further abuses. The board met twice a year in sessions closed to the news media. It is now being folded into the university's theology school, officials said.

At least one former ISTI board member questions its effectiveness.

A.W. Richard Sipe, who left the board after serving a two-year stint as chairman, said in an interview that ISTI was created with good intentions, but he believes many of its board members never learned the extent of St. John's problems.

Sipe said he tried to address St. John's abuse problems in an executive meeting in 1995, but was "roundly excoriated" by Abbot Kelly. He said he tried to bring up another abuse allegation in private and Kelly dismissed it, too.

Kelly couldn't be reached to comment. He now serves as president of the American-Cassinese Congregation, a confederation of 21 autonomous Benedictine monasteries in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

But board member Mark Laaser, of Chanhassen, said he and two other board members once questioned abbey officials and attorneys about their release of information to the board and he felt comfortable with their response.

"My interpretation was they were always very clear with us about what had been happening," Laaser said.

#### Show of support

Patrick Marker, who settled an abuse suit against Moorse nearly 10 years ago, was one of several former victims who stood on courthouse steps Thursday to offer support.

"I want to uncover everything so we can rebury it appropriately," he said in an interview Wednesday. He said he no longer sees himself as a victim, however: "I'm a survivor and an activist now."

- Paul McEnroe is at [pmcenroe@startribune.com](mailto:pmcenroe@startribune.com).

- Pam Louwagie is at [plouwagie@startribune.com](mailto:plouwagie@startribune.com).

COPYRIGHT 2009 Star Tribune Co. This material is published under license from the publisher through the Gale Group, Farmington Hills, Michigan. All inquiries regarding rights or concerns about this content should be directed to Customer Service. For permission to reuse this article, contact Copyright Clearance Center.

HighBeam Research is operated by Cengage Learning. © Copyright 2013. All rights reserved.

[www.highbeam.com](http://www.highbeam.com)



## BEHIND THE PINE CURTAIN; 11 monks on restriction; 2 on leave of absence.(NEWS)

**StarTribune**

Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)  
September 29, 2002

Under St. John's policy, monks on restriction are to have no pastoral or teaching duties or unsupervised social contact with young people. They are not allowed to work in the prep school or university, use most campus facilities, or serve in parishes. They may not travel without permission. Some have been allowed limited travel.

Currently, 11 monks are on restriction because of credible evidence of sexual misconduct. Two others Brother John Kelly and Brother Isaac Connolly would be on restriction had they not taken leaves of absence. A handful of monks are on restriction because of abuse not involving another person, a spokesman said. The abbey would not identify them.

The Rev. John Eidenschink

Brother Andre Bennett

The Rev. Brennan Maiers

The Rev. Richard Eckroth

The Rev. Cosmas Dahlheimer

Brother John Kelly: on leave

The Rev. Allen Tarlton

The Rev. Francis Hoefgen

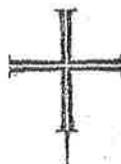
The Rev. Dunstan Moorse

The Rev. Finian McDonald

COPYRIGHT 2009 Star Tribune Co. This material is published under license from the publisher through the Gale Group, Farmington Hills, Michigan. All inquiries regarding rights or concerns about this content should be directed to Customer Service. For permission to reuse this article, contact Copyright Clearance Center.

HighBeam Research is operated by Cengage Learning. © Copyright 2013. All rights reserved.

[www.highbeam.com](http://www.highbeam.com)



SAINT JOHN'S  
ABBNEY

April 15, 2011

**To the Saint John's community**

Some of you may have been affected by sexual abuse or may know of others who have been. I am posting this open letter to you because I wish to publicly acknowledge that the following monks have had credible allegations of sexual abuse, exploitation, or misconduct brought against them while they were working in one of the apostolates of Saint John's Abbey, or before they were a member of the abbey. I release these names due to recent settlements with eleven (11) courageous survivors.

*Brother Andre Bennett  
Brother Isaac Connolly  
Father Richard Eckroth  
Father Thomas Gillespie  
Brother John Kelly  
Father Brennan Maiers  
Father Dunstan Moorse  
Father Francisco Schulte  
Father Bruce Wollmering*

*Father Michael Bik  
Father Cosmas Dahlheimer  
Abbot John Eidenschink  
Father Fran Hoefgen  
Brother Steven Lilly  
Father Finian McDonald  
Brother Jim Phillips  
Father Allen Tarlton  
Father James Kelly*

Four of these men are deceased, three are no longer at Saint John's, and the others live with the constraints of a safety plan and supervision.

Perhaps you have been directly victimized or possibly know a classmate, friend or family member who has suffered in this way through abuse by one of these individuals, or another person affiliated with Saint John's. I know personally that each person is ready to deal with the pain and heal in their own time. I also have learned that knowing that others have been victimized by someone galvanizes individuals to come forward. Saint John's wants to provide help to respond to this horrible abuse of trust that occurred.

To be of assistance to victims we have contracted with the Walk-In Counseling Service in Minneapolis. This resource is free of charge, accessible by phone 24 hours a day, confidential, and independent of Saint John's. The Walk-In Counseling Service Center (WICC) ([www.walkin.org](http://www.walkin.org)) can be accessed by contacting WICC at 1-612-870-0565 or 24-hour voicemail 1-612-573-5026 and stating your connection to Saint John's. Please ask for Mr. Gary Schoener for assistance. This service can make all the difference for those who wish to reach out for help. A person does not have to feel alone; help is available. If you would like to speak to someone about these issues, please contact the WICC for assistance.

Office of the Abbot

Box 2015 • Collegeville MN 56321-2015 • 320-363-2546 • [www.saintjohnsabbey.org](http://www.saintjohnsabbey.org)

ARCH-020963

Young people are safest when abuse is reported to civil authorities. That only happens, however, when people like you step forward. It may be hard for you to even consider calling the police about a teacher or cleric you once loved or trusted. But we firmly believe that it is your duty to do this, so that the cycle of abuse can be broken. In addition, going to law enforcement is also important so that there is a public record of what has occurred.

Sincerely,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

Survivor Representatives in Resolution Process

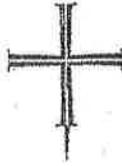
*Abbot John Klassen, OSB*

Jerry McCarthy

*Jerry McCarthy*

Tom Z

*Tom Z*



## SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

April 15, 2011

### **To the Saint John's community**

Some of you may have been affected by sexual abuse or may know of others who have been. I am posting this open letter to you because I wish to publicly acknowledge that the following monks have had credible allegations of sexual abuse, exploitation, or misconduct brought against them while they were working in one of the apostolates of Saint John's Abbey, or before they were a member of the abbey. I release these names due to recent settlements with eleven (11) courageous survivors.

*Brother Andre Bennett  
Brother Isaac Connolly  
Father Richard Eckroth  
Father Thomas Gillespie  
Brother John Kelly  
Father Brennan Maiers  
Father Dunstan Moorse  
Father Francisco Schulte  
Father Bruce Wollmering*

*Father Michael Bik  
Father Cosmas Dahlheimer  
Abbot John Eidenschink  
Father Fran Hoefgen  
Brother Steven Lilly  
Father Finian McDonald  
Brother Jim Phillips  
Father Allen Tarlton  
Father James Kelly*

Four of these men are deceased, three are no longer at Saint John's, and the others live with the constraints of a safety plan and supervision.

Perhaps you have been directly victimized or possibly know a classmate, friend or family member who has suffered in this way through abuse by one of these individuals, or another person affiliated with Saint John's. I know personally that each person is ready to deal with the pain and heal in their own time. I also have learned that knowing that others have been victimized by someone galvanizes individuals to come forward. Saint John's wants to provide help to respond to this horrible abuse of trust that occurred.

To be of assistance to victims we have contracted with the Walk-In Counseling Service in Minneapolis. This resource is free of charge, accessible by phone 24 hours a day, confidential, and independent of Saint John's. The Walk-In Counseling Service Center (WICC) ([www.walkin.org](http://www.walkin.org)) can be accessed by contacting WICC at 1-612-870-0565 or 24-hour voicemail 1-612-573-5026 and stating your connection to Saint John's. Please ask for Mr. Gary Schoener for assistance. This service can make all the difference for those who wish to reach out for help. A person does not have to feel alone; help is available. If you would like to speak to someone about these issues, please contact the WICC for assistance.

File: Brennan Meyers

**Haselberger, Jennifer**

---

**From:** Ryan, Kelly [KRyan@CSBSJU.EDU]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Haselberger, Jennifer  
**Subject:** RE: follow-up Fr. Laird

Hello, Jennifer,

Upon further exploration, the abbot discovered that this event did not happen in the Archdiocese and he has taken appropriate action.

If Fr. Laird still needs a letter to that effect, please let me know. I'm sure the abbot will be happy to provide one.

Peace,

Kelly

Br. Kelly Ryan, OSB  
Secretary, Office of the Abbot  
Saint John's Abbey  
Collegeville MN 56321-2015  
320 363-2546

**New! Give Us This Day** - Daily Prayer for Today's Catholic: <http://www.giveusthisday.org/>  
Abbey Home Page: <http://www.saintjohnsabbey.org/>  
(201108)

---

**From:** Haselberger, Jennifer [mailto:haselbergerj@archspm.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2011 10:26 AM  
**To:** Ryan, Kelly  
**Subject:** follow-up

Hello Brother Ryan,

Father Peter Laird asked me to contact you regarding follow-up on a matter that he discussed last month with the Abbot.

Apparently, Father Brennan Meyers has celebrated a private Mass with his family in the Archdiocese. Father Laird was expecting a follow-up letter regarding this, and the provisions that have been put in place regarding Father Meyers.

Could you please confirm that such a letter will be coming?

Thank you,

Jennifer Haselberger, JCL, PhD  
Chancellor for Canonical Affairs  
Director of the Office of Conciliation  
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

## Haselberger, Jennifer

---

**From:** Haselberger, Jennifer  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 16, 2011 10:26 AM  
**To:** 'kryan@csbsju.edu'  
**Subject:** follow-up

Hello Brother Ryan,

Father Peter Laird asked me to contact you regarding follow-up on a matter that he discussed last month with the Abbot.

Apparently, Father Brennan Meyers has celebrated a private Mass with his family in the Archdiocese. Father Laird was expecting a follow-up letter regarding this, and the provisions that have been put in place regarding Father Meyers.

Could you please confirm that such a letter will be coming?

Thank you,

Jennifer Haselberger, JCL, PhD  
Chancellor for Canonical Affairs  
Director of the Office of Conciliation  
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis  
226 Summit Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55102  
(651) 291- 4437  
(651) 290- 1629

### PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION

The information contained in this electronic communication and any document attached hereto or transmitted herewith is confidential and intended for the exclusive use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any examination, use, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication or any part thereof is strictly prohibited and may be subject to penalties under the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2510-2521 and other applicable laws. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone or reply e-mail and destroy this communication. Thank you.



Enrollment - end of August  
filling a position  
3-4 weeks

→ U of MN, St. Kate's  
St. Thomas  
needs archives

1) 3-ring binder  
new bulletin

schools - January  
1, 2010

2) priests book  
memo - censor  
excellent  
word

UNIVERSITY of ST. THOMAS

Alumni Association

Minneapolis  
216 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55105-1087 U.S.A.



\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*3-DIGIT 551

Rev. Peter A. Laird  
Archdiocese St. Paul/Mpls.  
226 Summit Ave  
Saint Paul MN 55102-2121

emphasize  
collaboration, stand and  
Group (15-9)  
Bishop Piché

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
TWIN CITIES MN  
PERMIT NO. 1538

FAX to:

① Daniel Ward: ✓ 1-363-3298

② Andy Eisenzimmer ✓

③ Abp Roach ✓  
John Conn  
202-541-<sup>4500</sup>  
3339

Hard believe to John. ✓



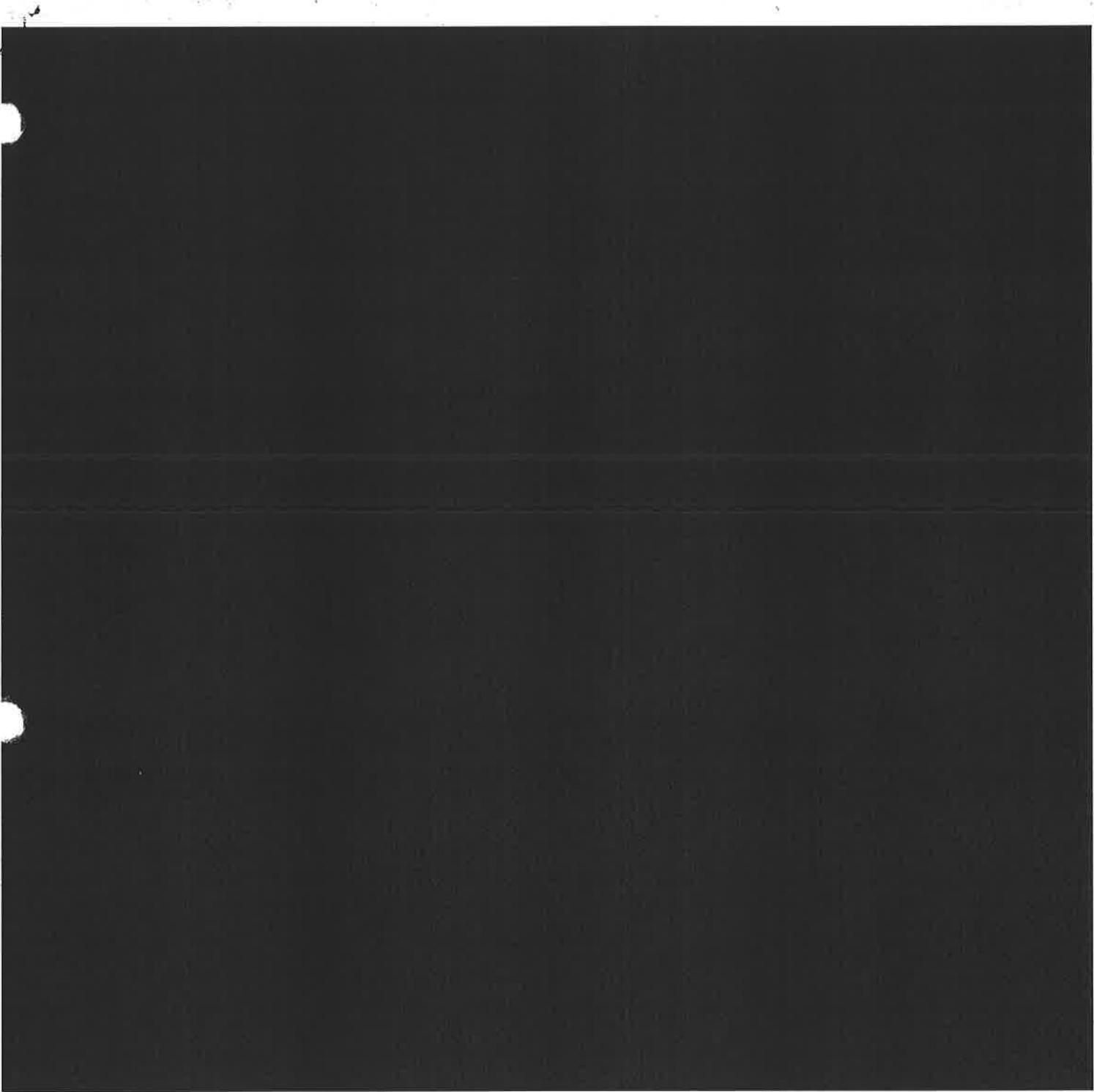
**Stacey Kaufhold**

---

**From:** Victoria Rafel  
**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2013 2:09 PM  
**To:** Stacey Kaufhold  
**Subject:** FW: Brennan Maiers  
**Attachments:** 020929 Star Tribune.pdf; 970308 Star Tribune.pdf; 020607 Star Tribune.pdf; DOC.PDF; Brennan Maiers Priest File - UNREDACTED AND NOT BATES STAMPED (produced in 76C as Bates BM 1-8).pdf; Brennan Maiers Priest File - UNREDACTED AND NOT BATES STAMPED (produced in 76C as Bates CONFIDENTIAL BM 1-14).pdf; Summons and Complaint - February 1990, Diocese of St. Cloud.pdf

Please print for TBW ASAP. Thank you.



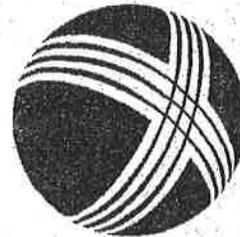


[REDACTED]

Brennan Maiers Priest File - UNREDACTED  
11/25/13 03:26 PM

† Not Bates Stamped  
(produced in T6C  
as Bates BMI-8)

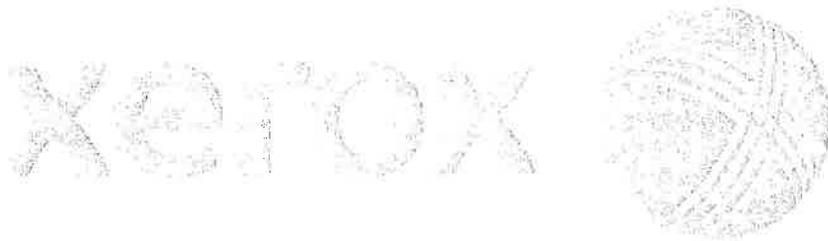
**xerox**



Premann Napiers



Brennan Maiers Priest File - UNREDACTED  
11/25/13 03:27 PM



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Summons and Complaint - February 1990 Di  
11/25/13 03:29 PM



## Abbey Now Admits to 23 Monk Perpetrators

Posted on November 8, 2012

Topics: [Agustin Cerezo](#), [Allen Tarlton](#), [Andre Bennett](#), [Bede Parry](#), [Brennan Maiers](#), [Bruce Wollmering](#), [BS](#), [Dan Ward](#), [Dominic Keller](#), [Dunstan Moorse](#), [Finlan McDonald](#), [Fran Hoefgen](#), [Francisco Schulte](#), [Howard Oake](#), [Isaac Connolly](#), [James Kelly](#), [Jerome Tupa](#), [Jim Phillips](#), [John Kelly](#), [John Klassen](#), [Jonathan L'ecart](#), [Mathias Faus](#), [Mel Taylor](#), [Michael Bik](#), [Othmar Hohmann](#), [Paschal Brisson](#), [Pasquon Beres](#), [Robert Blumeyer](#), [Robert Burke](#), [Stephen Lilly](#), [Steve Lilly](#), [Thomas Gillespie](#), [Tim Backous](#), [Timothy Kelly](#), [Tom Andert](#), [Zachaus Zuehlke](#)

Saint John's Abbey has quietly admitted, via a revamped web site, that at least 23 members of its community have been credibly accused of sexual abuse or misconduct.

According to the abbey's web site [ [Click Here](#), then select "John Jay Report"]:

*"rigorous investigations deemed that allegations of sexual abuse or misconduct\* against 23 members of the Abbey were credible."*

Interestingly, on the web page (formerly entitled "transparency.html") the abbey fails to provide the names of the 23 monk offenders.

The abbey web site no longer provides a copy of the letter that it claims was sent to Saint John's alum in April of 2011. As part of the April, 2011 settlement, that letter was to be posted on the abbey's website [ [View](#) ].

That April, 2011 letter from Abbot John Klassen [ [View](#) ] provided the names of eighteen credibly accused monk offenders:

Brother Andre Bennett  
Brother Isaac Connolly  
Father Richard Eckroth  
Father Thomas Gillespie  
Brother John Kelly  
Father Brennan Maiers  
Father Dunstan Moorse  
Father Francisco Schulte  
Father Bruce Wollmering  
Father Michael Bik  
Father Cosmas Dahlheimer  
Abbot John Eidenschink  
Father Fran Hoefgen  
Brother Steven Lilly  
Father Finian McDonald  
Brother Jim Phillips  
Father Allen Tarlton  
Father James Kelly

Which of the following credibly accused monks [ [View](#) ] make up the other five on the abbey's new list of twenty-three?

Father Tom Andert  
 Father Daniel Ward  
 Father Mel Taylor  
 Brother Robert Burke  
 Father Howard Oak Mossier  
 Father Agustine Cerezo Murillo  
 Father Peregrin Berres  
 Father Robert Blumeyer  
 Father Mathias Faue  
 Father Othmar Hohmann  
 Abbot Timothy Kelly  
 Brother Paschal Brisson  
 Father Dominic Keller  
 Father Timothy Backous  
 Father Jonathan Licari

#### Related Posts:

1. [The List](#) Since 1940, at least 50 members of the Saint John's community have been accused of sexual abuse or misconduct. An equal or greater number of men participated in the coverup of misconduct. The issues and...
2. [Klassen/Abbey Continue to Deceive](#) In 2006, the student newspaper at St. John's featured an article [ [View](#) ] about sexual abuse by the monks at St. John's Abbey. The article referenced research showing that "more monks will be named and...
3. [Abbey Letter Lists Eighteen Offending Monks](#) I am posting this open letter to you because I wish to publicly acknowledge that the following monks have had credible allegations of sexual abuse, exploitation, or misconduct brought against them while they were working...
4. [Alleged Sexual Abuse Victim Sues St. John's Abbey \(w/ Video\)](#) (Fox 9) ST. PAUL, Minn. – A man who says he was sexually abused by an instructor at St. John's Preparatory School in Collegeville is filing a Ramsey County lawsuit against the school, the religious...
5. [Seven Years... Time To Start Asking Questions](#) Today (November 10, 2009) marks the seven year anniversary of Joshua Guimond's disappearance from the St. John's University campus in Collegeville, Minnesota. There are still more questions than answers. In the absence of answers, even...

Topics: [Agustin Cerezo](#), [Allen Tarlton](#), [Andre Bennett](#), [Bede Pary](#), [Brennan Maters](#), [Bruce Wollmering](#), [BS](#), [Dan Ward](#), [Dominic Keller](#), [Dunstan Moorsa](#), [Finlan McDonald](#), [Fran Hoefoen](#), [Francisco Schulte](#), [Howard Oaks](#), [Isaac Connolly](#), [James Kelly](#), [Jerome Tupa](#), [Jim Phillis](#), [John Kelly](#), [John Klassen](#), [Jonathan Licari](#), [Mathias Faue](#), [Mel Taylor](#), [Michael Bik](#), [Othmar Hohmann](#), [Paschal Brisson](#), [Peregrin Berres](#), [Robert Blumeyer](#), [Robert Burke](#), [Stephen Lilly](#), [Steve Lilly](#), [Thomas Gillespie](#), [Tim Backous](#), [Timothy Kelly](#), [Tom Andert](#), [Zacheus Zuehlke](#)

---

**BehindThePineCurtain.com: Abuse, Secrecy and Deception at St. John's**

Copyright 2012, Circle Path Media, LLC

## Abbey Now Admits to 23 Monk Perpetrators

Posted on November 8, 2012

Topics: [Agustin Cerezo](#), [Allen Tarlton](#), [Andre Bennett](#), [Bede Pany](#), [Brennan Maiers](#), [Bruce Wollmering](#), [BS](#), [Dan Ward](#), [Dominic Keller](#), [Dunstan Moore](#), [Finian McDonald](#), [Fran Hoefgen](#), [Francisco Schulte](#), [Howard Oaks](#), [Isaac Connolly](#), [James Kelly](#), [Jerome Tupa](#), [Jim Phillips](#), [John Kelly](#), [John Klassen](#), [Jonathan Licari](#), [Mathias Faue](#), [Mel Taylor](#), [Michael Bik](#), [Othmar Hohmann](#), [Paschal Briseon](#), [Peregrin Berres](#), [Robert Blumeyer](#), [Robert Burke](#), [Stephen Lilly](#), [Steve Lilly](#), [Thomas Gillespie](#), [Tim Backous](#), [Timothy Kelly](#), [Tom Andert](#), [Zacheus Zuehlke](#)

Saint John's Abbey has quietly admitted, via a revamped web site, that at least 23 members of its community have been credibly accused of sexual abuse or misconduct.

According to the abbey's web site [ [Click Here](#), then select "John Jay Report"]:

*"rigorous investigations deemed that allegations of sexual abuse or misconduct\* against 23 members of the Abbey were credible."*

Interestingly, on the web page (formerly entitled "transparency.html") the abbey fails to provide the names of the 23 monk offenders.

The abbey web site no longer provides a copy of the letter that it claims was sent to Saint John's alum in April of 2011. As part of the April, 2011 settlement, that letter was to be posted on the abbey's website [ [View](#) ].

That April, 2011 letter from Abbot John Klassen [ [View](#) ] provided the names of eighteen credibly accused monk offenders:

- Brother Andre Bennett
- Brother Isaac Connolly
- Father Richard Eckroth
- Father Thomas Gillespie
- Brother John Kelly
- Father Brennan Maiers
- Father Dunstan Moore
- Father Francisco Schulte
- Father Bruce Wollmering
- Father Michael Bik
- Father Cosmas Dahlheimer
- Abbot John Eidenschink
- Father Fran Hoefgen
- Brother Steven Lilly
- Father Finian McDonald
- Brother Jim Phillips
- Father Allen Tarlton
- Father James Kelly

Which of the following credibly accused monks [ [View](#) ] make up the other five on the abbey's new list of twenty-three?

Father Tom Andert  
 Father Daniel Ward  
 Father Mel Taylor  
 Brother Robert Burke  
 Father Howard Oak Mossier  
 Father Agustine Cerezo Murillo  
 Father Peregrin Berres  
 Father Robert Blumeyer  
 Father Mathias Faue  
 Father Othmar Hohmann  
 Abbot Timothy Kelly  
 Brother Paschal Brisson  
 Father Dominic Keller  
 Father Timothy Backous  
 Father Jonathan Licari

#### Related Posts:

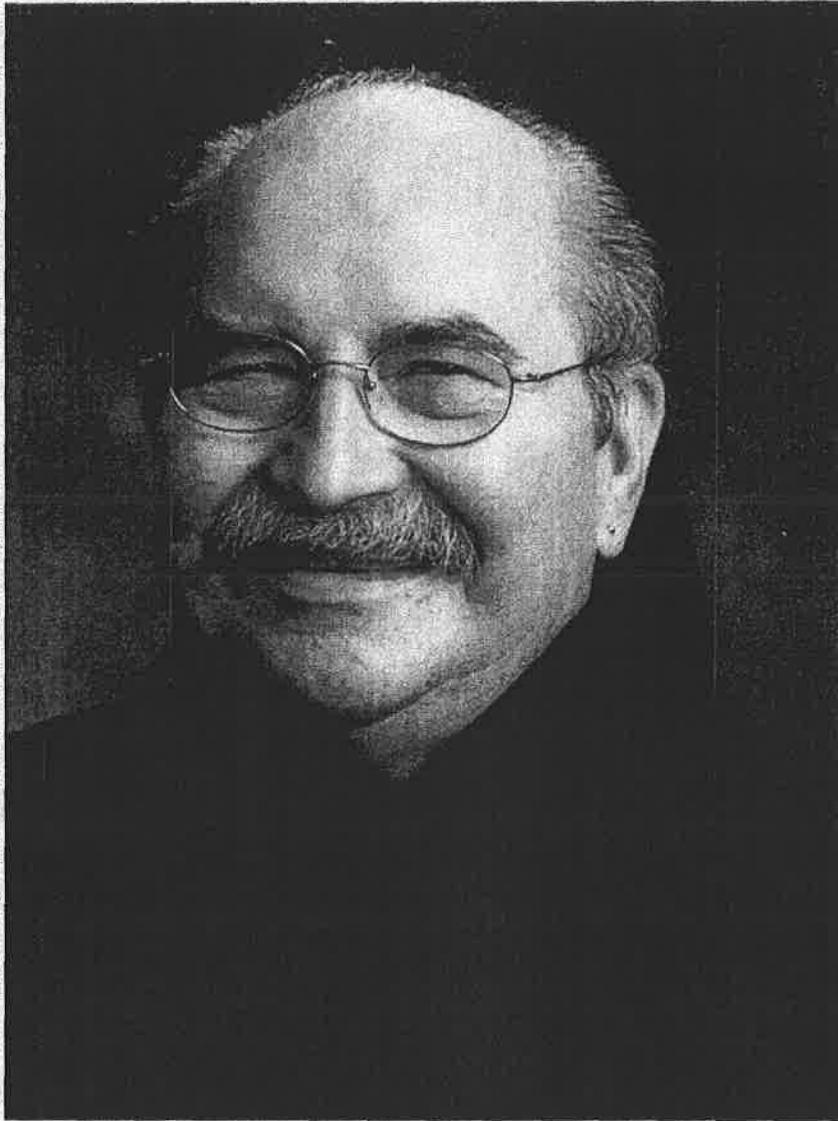
1. [The List](#) Since 1940, at least 50 members of the Saint John's community have been accused of sexual abuse or misconduct. An equal or greater number of men participated in the coverup of misconduct. The issues and...
2. [Klassen/Abbey Continue to Deceive](#) In 2006, the student newspaper at St. John's featured an article [ [View](#) ] about sexual abuse by the monks at St. John's Abbey. The article referenced research showing that "more monks will be named and..."
3. [Abbey Letter Lists Eighteen Offending Monks](#) I am posting this open letter to you because I wish to publicly acknowledge that the following monks have had credible allegations of sexual abuse, exploitation, or misconduct brought against them while they were working...
4. [Alleged Sexual Abuse Victim Sues St. John's Abbey \(w/ Video\)](#) (Fox 9) ST. PAUL, Minn. – A man who says he was sexually abused by an instructor at St. John's Preparatory School in Collegeville is filing a Ramsey County lawsuit against the school, the religious...
5. [Seven Years... Time To Start Asking Questions](#) Today (November 10, 2009) marks the seven year anniversary of Joshua Guimond's disappearance from the St. John's University campus in Collegeville, Minnesota. There are still more questions than answers. In the absence of answers, even...

Topics: [Agustin Cerezo](#), [Allen Tarlton](#), [Andre Bennett](#), [Bede Parry](#), [Brennan Malers](#), [Bruce Wollmering](#), [BS](#), [Dan Ward](#), [Dominic Keller](#), [Dunstan Moore](#), [Finian McDonald](#), [Fran Hoefgen](#), [Francisco Schulte](#), [Howard Oaks](#), [Isaac Connolly](#), [James Kelly](#), [Jerome Tupa](#), [Jim Phillips](#), [John Kelly](#), [John Klassen](#), [Jonathan Licari](#), [Mathias Faue](#), [Mel Taylor](#), [Michael Blk](#), [Othmar Hohmann](#), [Paschal Brisson](#), [Peregrin Berres](#), [Robert Blumeyer](#), [Robert Burke](#), [Stephen Lilly](#), [Steve Lilly](#), [Thomas Gillepie](#), [Tim Backous](#), [Timothy Kelly](#), [Tom Andert](#), [Zacheus Zuehlke](#)

---

**BehindThePineCurtain.com: Abuse, Secrecy and Deception at St. John's**

Copyright 2012, Circle Path Media, LLC



⊗ from story  
in [www.twincities.com](http://www.twincities.com)  
on 12/10/13

Brennan Maiers (courtesy photo)