

“Agape”

Intention for the Week

Monday, May 3

6:30 AM Cecilia Schartung (dec)

Tuesday, May 4 Confirmation

6:30 PM Confirmation Students

Wednesday, May 5

6:30 AM Carolyn Snyder (dec)

Thursday, May 6

School Mass 9:00 AM

Noon Denny & Thelma Clark

Friday, May 7

Noon Dick & Dorothy Thomas (50th Wed Ann)

Saturday May 8

4:00 PM Bill & Janet Schartung (dec)

Sunday, May 9

7:00 AM Mary Hardesty (dec)

10:00 AM Rose Cecil (dec)

5:30 PM Blessed Mother Parishioners

Liturgical Ministers for May 8,9

Eucharistic Ministers

4 PM Marjorie Early, Sandra Henry, Liz Francis, Cecelia Hamilton, Joe & Maggie O'Bryan, Jay & Susie Fillman, Marian Bennett

7 AM Bill Bach, Mike Thompson, Sr. Mary Timothy, Carolyn Taylor, Dennis Sandefur, Brenda Hagan

10 AM Becky Hargitt, Pauline Wigginton, Denny Mann, Drew & Jeannette Ward, Bill Hayden, Kim Barnett, Katina Hayden, Chris Ford

5:30 PM Christina Best, Lisa Carmon, Bev Payne, Sam Lilly, Pat Hale, Susan Hale

Readers

4 PM Bonnie Snyder

7 AM Joy Bach

10 AM Ann Blandford

5:30 PM Jack Hamilton

Servers

4 PM Collin Higgins
Brendan Higgins

7 AM Will Sandefur, Kaylin Hagan

10 AM Allie Ford, Stephen Hyland

5:30 PM CJ Glaser, Caleb Buckman

Families to Take Up Gifts

4 PM Joe Higdon

7 AM Diddy Hagman

10 AM Marty Cravens

5:30 PM John Judd

Childrens Liturgy

Preschool Michelle Sandefur, Molly Aud (Asst)

K-3rd Grade Jennifer Hayden, Kaley Robertson (Asst)

Vocation Cross Family

Marty Cravens, Carroll Dant, Ernie Davis

Hillcrest: Diane Fulkerson, Carol Goedde

Ministers of Hospitality for May

4 Ken Terry, Tyler Wells, Gerald Coomes, Jack Hamilton

7 Clarence Elder, Randy Lee, Angie Lee, PJ Ebelhar

10 John Bell Sr., John Bell Jr., Jerry Goetz, Jerry Millay

5:30 Kenny, Aaron, Caleb, Logan Buckman

“Love One Another”

Where are deacons found in Scripture?

First, it may be helpful to define what a deacon is. Scott Hahn's *Catholic Bible Dictionary* defines a deacon as:

"An ordained assistant to priests responsible for such ministerial duties as preaching, baptizing, witnessing marriages, distributing Communion, and presiding at funerals (but not saying the funeral Mass). In the modern Church there are two forms of the diaconate: the permanent diaconate (including single and married men) and the transitional diaconate (for those who will eventually be ordained as priests)."

Sometimes, finding these offices in Scripture can be a little tricky. It's not because the offices didn't exist, it's because, in the apostolic age, the terms used to describe the different positions of leadership in the Church were rather fluid. For example, Paul occasionally describes his work by using the Greek word for "deacon" (*diakonos*, cf. 2 Cor 3:6; Eph 3:7), even though he held the much higher office of "apostle." Peter described himself as a "fellow elder," (1 Pet. 5:1) even though he, being an apostle, also had a much higher office. However, in Scripture we definitely see persons fulfilling the functions that we would today consider to be those of a deacon, and by the second century, there is much more agreement on the terms used to describe the three offices.

Traditionally, Acts 6:1-6 is considered to be the point in Scripture where the establishment of the office of deacon is described. It reads as follows:

"Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them."

We see from this that the first task of the deacon was to serve the poor. They had other functions too, such as assisting the bishops (cf. Phil 1:1), preaching (cf. Acts 7:2-53), and administering baptism (cf. Acts 8:38). Paul has high standards for anyone who desires to serve in such a position (cf. 1 Tim 3:8-10).

Peace of Christ to you,
 Nicholas Hardesty, Director of Religious Education
 nicholashardesty@gmail.com

"Shampoo"

While shopping in a food store, two nuns happened to pass the beer cooler, "Wouldn't a nice cool beer taste wonderful on a hot summer evening?" The second nun answered "Indeed it would Sister, but I wouldn't feel comfortable buying beer, I think it would cause a scene at the check-out." "I can handle that with out a problem" the other replied as she picked up a six-pack, and headed to the check out. The cashier had a surprised look on his face when they arrived with a six pack of beer. "Don't worry sir we use beer for washing our hair" she said, "A shampoo of sorts, if you will." Without blinking an eye the cashier reached under the counter, pulled out a package of pretzel sticks and placed them in the bag with the beer,. He then looked them straight in the eye, smiled and said, "The curlers are on the house!"

Bar-B-Que Festival

May 8th

Same location as last year Corner of Frederica and Main. **WORKERS NEEDED.**

Special Times:

- 10:00 AM Selling Sandwiches
- 1:00 PM Selling Burgoo by the cup and Packaging meat
- 4:00 PM Sales — Meat by the pound Burgoo by the gallon

Contact: Bob Newman 926-6875
 Jan Storm 993-4455

Life Line Screening

Could you be at risk of vascular disease? On Monday, May 10, Life Line Screening will be at Blessed Mother Church in our Hall to offer screening test. There will be 4 life saving tests offered and the cost is reduced to less than \$50 each, (\$129 for all 4) . Please call 1-800-679-5609 regarding questions and appointment time.

Blood Drive

Blessed Mother Social Justice Committee will sponsor a Blood Drive Monday, May 17th, 2010 from 1:00PM to 7:00 PM. It will be located in the parish hall. A T-shirt and cholesterol test will be given to a participants.

From Death to New Life 

The family of Lauren Girten would like to thank everyone for being so kind and thoughtful and wanted you to know how much your thoughtfulness meant.

Young Disciples (Grades 7-12)

Coming Soon...

Sunday, May 2nd~ SENIOR DINNER!! Right after mass. High school seniors and families welcome. Please RSVP to Christina ASAP! The rest of the Youth Group will be serving!

Sunday, May 9th~ MOTHER'S DAY!! No Youth Group!! Spend Some Time With Mom!!

Questions, concerns, comments:
come by, call, or e-mail me @: Christina
Best: bmcyouth@bellsouth.net or 683-8444 Ext. 28

Cooking Teams up to bat: THANK YOU!!

Sunday, May 2nd~ Bill & Joy Bach;
Laurie Elliot; Eva Birkhead
Ben & Karen Miller;
Laura Mattingly, Phyllis Bastin

Sunday, May 9th~ Mother's Day-No Youth Group...

Confirmation

Tuesday May 4, 2010 at 6:30 pm Blessed Mother Parish will celebrate Confirmation. Reception following in the Parish Hall.

Forming Good Stewards

Fifth Sunday of Easter

"I give you a new commandment: love one another.

As I have loved you, so you should also love one another." John 13:31-35

Jesus reminds us of the command God gave to the Israelites through Moses to *Love your neighbor as yourself.* (Leviticus 19:18 / Luke 10:27). Next, Jesus tells us to *Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you.* (Matthew 5:43, Luke 6:27). Psychologists only recently discovered that we must love ourselves in order to be able to love others. That is how God created us. Sadly, many of us do not love ourselves enough to feel that we can be loved by others, or by God. And there is a risk that the only one that we love will be ourselves. Jesus takes love to a whole new dimension. *Love one another as I have loved you - unconditionally; without a precondition of recognition; without expectation of being loved in return.* God made us stewards of His love - for ourselves and for others. Are we ready to give an account of our stewardship - to answer the question, "What have you done with My love?"

"

Sunday Collections

Actual	Budget	MTD	YTD
\$18,361	\$21,058	\$20,798	\$22,489

1st Friday Brunch

1st Friday Brunch May 7th after noon mass, please bring a dish.

Calling All High School Seniors!!

We will be having a nice dinner to celebrate you and your accomplishment on Sunday, May 2nd at 6:30 in the Parish Hall! Families are welcome to attend with you. Please RSVP with if you will be attending, and how many will be joining you to Christina Best, as soon as possible!

**Remember in prayer those
sick in our community:**

Frances Ballard, Herman Barr, Joey Barr, Harry Baumgarten, Helen Bellwood, Eva Birkhead, Liz, Logan Brown, Tony Brown, Frances Carrico, Maria Castlen, JB Cecil, Joe Cecil, Vincent Cecil, Joyce, Paul, Paul Jr., Christian, Ann Clark, Clifton Clark, George Clark, James Clark, Alice Cole, Jake Conder, Amy Cox, Hettie Crask, Ben Crump, Leoma Daly, Philip Demarest, Evelyn Denton, Sheila Duncan, Emma Dunbar, John Duncan, Kinsey Dunn, Angela Farmer, Wanda Fellow, Maria Finley, Matt Gabis, Rita Gabis, Lucille Goetz, Brenda Goodman, Luke Gray, Josh Griffith, Janice Goins, Donna Hamilton, Mary Hardesty, Jr. Harpe, Ann Havener, Lucy Harpe, Martha Hayden, Martha Faye Hayden, Madalyn Marie Hayden, Janet Haynes, Hayden Head, Mike Head, Beverly Heppler., Mary Elizabeth Hill, Thelma Hinton, Mildred Howard, Margaret Isbell, Mary Ava Jackson, Betty Jo Johnson, Gertrude Jones, Jo Ann Kauffeld, Joann Knott, Debbie Koenig, Connie Krusick, Bob Lawrence, Travis Martin, Helen Matheny, Margaret Mattingly, Mildred McCarthy, Margie Meredith, Mary L. Millay, Virginia Millay, Mary Miller, Conner Mills, Dena Montgomery, Mary Morton, Alma Mullican, Carter Wayne Murphy, Nancy Murphy, Cindi Neuner, Lee Newton, Ruth Bittel-Nunez, Shirley Olliver, Joann Ogle, Ethan Payne, Helen Payne, Jerry Payne, Lura Payne, Mary Payne, Carolyn Pierce, Brenda Pitt, Lawrence Quinn, Paul Raley, Geraldine Ralph, Otto Reisz, Vincent Reynolds, Paul Robertson, Darla Robinson, Beck Roby, Larry Roby, Dorothy Schell, Jessica Seymour, Herman, Mary Simmons, Becky Smith, Elizabeth Sosh, Rose Stepp, Susan Stersman, Onora Stone, Melissa Sullivan, Teresa Taucher, Larry Taylor, Mary Hilary Taylor, Joyce Thomas, Angela, Leo Thompson, Betty Thompson, Charles Thompson, Martha Tower, Anita Travis, Tammy Tucker, Glynda Turner, David Vasterling, Dianne Walsh, Kenny Ward, Scott Ward, Teresa Ward, Katherine Whittinghill, Jack Wilson, Joe Wink, Bea Wooldridge, Bill, Flora Yancy, Randy Zaremba

**Please Pray for Our Troops Serving in War.
Keep them safe, O Lord, and bring them home soon.**

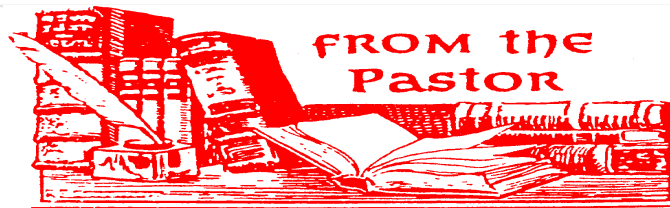
Iraq: SGT Jeremi Bosley, National Guards
Brandon Mattingly, US Army, Baghdad
Spec. Daniel Nugent, Iraq
Sgt. David Farley, US Army
Ryan Hofmann, Iraq (grandson of Al & Joan Hofmann)
SPC Jesse Finley, Iraq (grandson of Doris Haragan)

Afghanistan

Jeremy Ballard (grandson of Frances Ballard)
1st Lt William Cory Newton (grandson of Dorothy Schell)

Other

AIC Austin Eckstein, USAF, grandson Henrietta May
CSSR Justin Mills, Japan, grandson of Dessie Clark
SN Jason Bishop, US Navy, son of Linda & Dan Pearl



I hope you had a good week. Happy Easter season to you. We will be rejoicing for several weeks up to Pentecost on May 23. Today is the Fifth Sunday of Easter. We find ourselves still in the Gospel of John and back at the Last Supper. And Jesus tells us to love one another. Guess which word for love He uses. Agape – to lay down one's life for one's friends. Let us work toward a more perfect love for our neighbors.

We pray for our second graders today as they make their First Communion this afternoon at 2pm. May the Bread of Life always be a source of nourishment for them.

We welcome Bishop Medley who visits us Tuesday for Confirmation. Congratulations to our students receiving the final sacrament of initiation. Mass will be at 6:30pm.

CONGRATULATIONS to Reverend Mister Matthew Hardesty who grew up at Blessed Mother parish.. He is the son of Perry and Jan Hardesty. Matthew was ordained a deacon this past Saturday the 24th of April. He will be serving in the Archdiocese of Louisville. God willing in one year he will be ordained to the Priesthood. Matt is the twin brother to our DRE Nick.

Thanks to Phyllis Bastin and everyone who helped with the brunch – and all the people who prepared food – there was a lot, thanks. Welcome to our new families.

On Saturday the 8th of May we will have our May crowning ceremony at the 4pm Mass. Catherine Roberts has graciously consented to do the crowning.

We pray for all the workers gearing up for the Barbecue Festival on Mother's Day weekend.

Power Week is just around the corner – June 21st to 25th. Girls slots are almost full so we will start a waiting list and boys are a little over half so there is still plenty of room yet for guys. That too won't take long to fill up so don't wait.

Jan Storm's farewell reception will be on May 23rd after the 10:00am Mass. All are invited to attend.

First Communion

Sunday May 2, 2010 at 2:00 pm Blessed Mother Parish will celebrate First Communion Reception following in the Parish Hall.

Daily Bible Reading 683-8524

Calendar for the Week	
Rosary is prayed Mon.—Thurs, 4 PM	
Mon.	Mass 6:30 AM Bible Study 10AM Bunko, 1 PM Choristers Practice, 4:30 PM Cherubs Practice, 5:15 PM Confirmation Practice 6:30PM
Tues.	Mass 6:30 PM Confirmation Bible Study 7:00PM
Wed.	Mass at 6:30 AM
Thurs.	School Mass 9:00 AM Mass 12:00 Noon
Fri.	Eucharistic Adoration Mass 12:00 Noon
Sat.	Confessions, 12:30 –2:00 PM Mass 4 PM
Sun.	6th Sunday of Easter Mothers Day Mass at 7, 10 AM, 5:30 PM Religious Ed Classes 11 AM NO Youth Group, 6:30-8 PM AA Meeting, 7:30pm, school cafeteria

Readings

May 2 through May 9, 2010

- Sun: Acts 14:21-27 Ps 145:8-13 Rv 21:1-5a Jn 13:31-33a,34-35
- Mon: 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-5 Jn 14:6-14
- Tue: Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-13b,21 Jn 14:27-31a
- Wed: Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-5 Jn 15:1-8
- Thur: Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-3,10 Jn 15:9-11
- Fri: Acts 15:22-31 Ps 57:8-10,12 Jn 15:12-17
- Sat: Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1b-2,3,5 Jn 15:18-21
- Sun: Acts 15:1-2,22-29 Ps 67:2-3,5-6,8 Rv 21:10-14,22-23 Jn 14:23-29

Visit Our Web Site www.blessedmotherchurch.com

Safe Environment

Copies of the Diocese of Owensboro's policy dealing with sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable person is available in the Parish Office and on the Diocesan web site (www.Owensborodio.org) The Bishop and Diocesan Review Board want to help anyone who has been abused in the past or is currently suffering from abuse. You may phone the Pastoral Center, 683 -1545, to report an allegation of abuse. **If you need to attend a Safe Environment Workshop, contact Jan at the Parish Office. You may now take the training online at www.shieldthevulnerable.org Background checks must also be done before you are eligible to work with the youth of our parish.**

TV Mass

Mass will now air on Channel 72 at 10:30 am. If you have Time Warner's digital cable the Mass can also be seen at 11am on Channel 311. It also broadcasts from News 25 (cable chaneel11) at 6am. All those with satellite can get the Mass on local Channel 25 at 6am. **Donations may be made to Gideon Productions., 515 East 22nd St. Owensboro, Ky. 42303**

Catholic Schools News

OCS Pre-Registration: Space still available, financial assistance available, anyone needing information may call the Central Office at 686-8896.

Hospice in need of Volunteers

For information call 926-7565

Marian Observance

Carmel Home

May 7, 2010

7:00 PM

Speaker: Deacon Bob Imel
"Virgin Mary, Mother of all Priest"

Parish Council Members

Charlie Castlen	683-3426
Charlotte Cecil	683-0499
Tim Goetz	684-8275
David Graham	683-4665
Troy Haleman	691-0633
David Jarboe	683-5108
Rick Moman	683-6555
Darryl Murphy	683-8437
Phil Riney	926-8945
Darlene Kazlauskas	684-3891
Tony Powers	926-1803
Nancy Byrum	729-4362

Setting the Record Straight: Did the Pope Himself Put Children in Harm's Way?

by Nicholas Hardesty, Director of Religious Education

Introduction

In March of this year, the *New York Times* made two accusations against the pope in hopes of proving that he was directly responsible for the sexual abuse of children. There has been a lot of talk about these cases, and it can be very difficult to make sense of it all. My purpose here is **not** to excuse the abuse of children, or to give everyone involved a pass. Some people *most certainly* mishandled this crisis. I wish to show that the pope is not one of them.

Joseph Ratzinger in Munich

Before Joseph Ratzinger became Pope Benedict XVI, he was the Archbishop of Munich and Freising, in Germany, from 1977 to 1982. In 1980, a priest ("Fr. H.") from the Diocese of Essen was sent to a facility in Munich to receive counseling. The media claims that Ratzinger knew Fr. H. was a pedophile but allowed him to continue in ministry with children. But, when one examines the details, I think a different story emerges.

For one, there is no evidence Ratzinger was aware that the priest was an accused *pedophile*. Ratzinger was evidently informed only that the priest had been guilty of "sexual improprieties." Secondly, even if Ratzinger did in fact know the nature of Fr. H's sins, all Ratzinger did was allow Fr. H. to stay in a rectory while he received therapy.

During Ratzinger's tenure as archbishop, Fr. H. was in the pastoral care of the Vicar General at the time, Fr. Gerhard Gruber. It was **Fr. Gruber** who made the decision, without consulting his bishop, to return Fr. H. to pastoral ministry. It is true that Ratzinger's office received a copy of a memo from Fr. Gruber announcing Fr. H's return to full duties, but Ratzinger evidently never saw the memo.

Of course, some people find it hard to believe that Ratzinger had no knowledge of Fr. H's reassignment. But, I think that once one considers Ratzinger's leadership style and the nature of his archdiocese, then it becomes easier to see how he may have indeed never saw the memo.

For one, the Archdiocese of Munich and Freising is a sprawling jurisdiction, one of the **largest in the world** in terms of budget, personnel, and physical plant. It encompasses almost 800 parishes, divided into 40 deaneries. As such, Ratzinger could not really afford to be a micro-manager. Instead, he had to delegate. He gave a person a job and expected him to do it. It was Fr. Gruber's responsibility to make the personnel decisions, and unfortunately, he made the wrong decisions. Fr. Gruber has already admitted that and has given his sincerest apologies.

Secondly, according to one official, about 1,000 memos are written every year with an official copy to the archbishop. Fr. Lorenz Wolf, the Judicial Vicar at the Munich Archdiocese, said that it was a "routine" memo and was "unlikely to have landed on the archbishop's desk." I think that, with an important decision like this, you don't just shoot out a memo; you have a face-to-face meeting with the bishop. But, that's the fault **of Fr. Gruber**, for not taking the matter more seriously. You may object to Ratzinger's leadership style and say that a bishop should not put so much trust in the people who work for him, but to say that our pope is lenient with sexual abusers or that he knowingly placed children in harm's way is simply not true.

The Wisconsin Scandal

The particulars involved with this case can get confusing, and I don't have room here to lay out the entire timeline of events. For anyone who is interested, search online for the following articles by Jimmy Akin: "Cardinal Ratzinger an Evil Monster?", "Evil Monster Update: The Inside Story", and "Why Is the Press Hyperventilating about This?" What I want to do here is address the media's specific points of concern.

Maureen Dowd, in an Op-Ed for the *New York Times*, wrote: "Ratzinger ... ignored repeated warnings and looked away in the case of the Rev. Lawrence C. Murphy, a Wisconsin priest who molested as many as 200 deaf boys." Yet again I think that, when one examines the details, a different story emerges.

For one, there's no evidence that Ratzinger had any personal involvement with this case. The only reason *his office* (the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, or "CDF") was even involved was because Fr. Murphy's crimes included an abuse of the sacrament of Confession. Ratzinger did not personally take responsibility for cases of sexual abuse by priests until Pope John II gave him and his office that responsibility in 2001. Fr. Murphy's case was filed before that time, in which case it was the responsibility of Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, the Secretary of the CDF, and his assistants. All of the communication from the CDF regarding the Murphy case comes from Bertone.

Secondly, if anyone "ignored repeated warnings," it was Fr. Murphy's Archbishop, Rembert Weakland, not Ratzinger. For some reason, no one in the media (from what I can tell) has pointed out the fact that Weakland knew about the accusations against Fr. Murphy for 20 years before he finally reported anything to the CDF. Once Ratzinger's office was involved, a case finally proceeded against Murphy.

Really, I don't see how Dowd can say that Ratzinger (or anyone at the CDF) "ignored repeated warnings." Perhaps she's referring to the fact that, when Weakland finally contacted the CDF for guidance on how to proceed, he didn't receive a response until 8 months later. At first this seems like a long time. But, according to Fr. Thomas Brundage, the Judicial Vicar who presided over the case in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, "cases could languish for years" in the Roman Rota, the body that was responsible for hearing cases of sexual abuse of minors before that competency was shifted to the CDF. In comparison, 8 months seems rather expeditious, and it certainly doesn't amount to "ignoring" the case.

Perhaps Dowd is referring to the fact that Bertone suggested, in a meeting with the Wisconsin bishops involved in the Murphy case, that other disciplinary measures be used instead of proceeding with a canonical trial. Andrew Sullivan and other commentators assert that this amounts to the Vatican sticking up for a pedophile priest. There are two problems with this interpretation.

For one, Sullivan and the rest were utilizing computer translations of the text (originally written in Italian), which led them to make faulty conclusions about the meeting. The poorly translated portions give the impression that the Vatican was trying to avoid putting Fr. Murphy on trial so that the media wouldn't find out. But, that is not the case. What Bertone refers to is the need to prove that the crime had been committed "in the strict sense" (not proving it "in strict secrecy") and that this will be difficult without "aggravating matters" (not "increasing the scandal"). His point was simply that it must be shown that Fr. Murphy *clearly* broke canon law. This he thinks will be difficult, considering that 1.) there was very little documentation from back in the '70's, when Fr. Murphy's crimes were first reported, and 2.) he thinks the deaf people involved may have difficulty furnishing proof and testimonies "without aggravating matters." It is unclear what he meant by that. Perhaps he doesn't want to open old wounds, or he is acknowledging that, for both the hearing and the deaf, our memories aren't always very reliable concerning events of long ago. At any rate, Bertone is pessimistic about the success of a trial based on these difficulties, which I think is perfectly understandable.

Secondly, just because Bertone suggested other disciplinary measures, that does not mean that he forbid it to go to trial, or that he was giving Fr. Murphy full reign to abuse children. He gave the bishops permission to proceed with a trial, if they so desired. Plus, if a priest is removed from pastoral ministry, that is enough to protect our children. It's not necessary for every guilty priest to be laicized. The burning issue for people concerned about children should not be "How quickly was he laicized?" but "How quickly was he removed from pastoral ministry?" When charges were made against Murphy in '74, the Milwaukee Archdiocese removed him from the school for the deaf and he was given no further pastoral assignment. He was never granted a pastoral assignment by the diocese of Superior, in which he was living, but he occasionally said Mass at parishes and was used in some capacity at retreats for deaf people, due to his ability to communicate in sign language. There were no further allegations of sexual abuse against him since '74. However, when Bertone found out that Murphy was allowed *any possible contact at all* with children, however brief, he ordered that this be stopped immediately.

Thus, it is simply unfair to accuse the Vatican of acting improperly regarding Fr. Murphy. Sure, many people dropped the ball throughout the duration of *both* cases, but to place the blame at the feet of the pope is simply unfounded and overreaching.