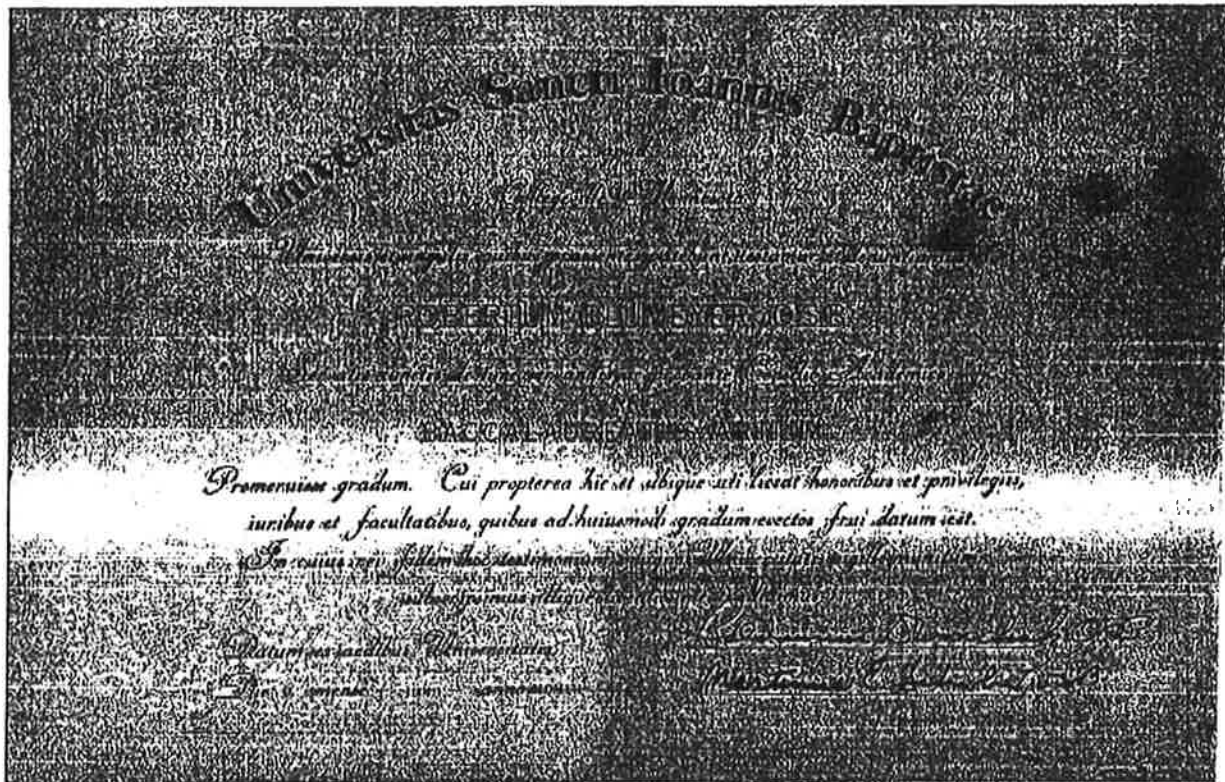


CONFIRMATION CARD

Confirmation Name *Benedict*
Given Name *Ronald Blumeyer*
Born: Day ~~August~~ Month *August* Year *1922*
Father's Name.....
Mother's Maiden Name.....
Sponsor.....
Baptized (where?) *St. John's Abbey, Colleyville*
Confirmed *Aug 25, 1947* (over)



Questionnaire for Candidates for the Novitiate

- Date March 26, 1949 1949
1. Full Name Blumeyer Donald Forrest
Family Name First Name Middle Name
 2. Full Address Boyden, Iowa (R.F.D. # 1)
Postoffice and State
Street or Rural Route
 3. Name of Father..... Living or dead? living
 4. Name of Mother..... Living or dead? living
 5. Is your father a Catholic? no Is your mother a Catholic? Presbyterian
 6. Date of birth June 11, 1922 Place of birth Geddes, South Dakota
 7. Where was your father's domicile or quasi-domicile? Boyden, Iowa
 8. Baptism— a) Time: July 11, 1946 b) Parish: St. John the Baptist
c) City: Collegeville, d) State: Minnesota e) Diocese: St. Cloud
(If the place was a mission at the time of your baptism, state from where it was then attended)
 9. Confirmation— a) Time: May 25, 1947 b) Parish: St. Mary's Cathedral
c) City: St. Cloud d) State: Minnesota e) Minister: Bishop Busch
 10. Student at St. John's: From summer of 1946 to January 1948; returned Nov. 1948 to present
 11. Give the name of the colleges and seminaries in which you pursued your studies and the date of your sojourn at each
Boyden High School (public) graduated from it in 1940; worked at Luverne, Minnesota from 1940 to 1946
 12. Mention the dioceses in which you have spent more than six months (one year) after the completion of your fourteenth year; give for each the name of the city, state, parish, and date of sojourn: born at Geddes, S. D.; but spent whole life at Boyden, Iowa, except for six year (1940-1946) at Luverne. Began instructions there from Father Philip E. Matthews, pastor at Luverne; now at St. John the Baptist in Menkato.
Note: If you have been at more places than three, for which space is provided here, please give the information on the back of this.
 13. If you have been a postulant, novice, or professed religious elsewhere, state where, in what capacity, and how long: no
 14. Have you the required age for the novitiate (16 years completed)? yes
 15. Is this choice of religious state your free and deliberate act? yes
 16. Did you ever fall away from the Church and join some sect? no If so,
a) What sect? b) Date of Apostasy
c) Time of membership in sect: d) Date of Conversion
 17. Were you ever married? no Is wife still living?
 18. Did you ever commit a grievous crime which is or may be laid to your charge? no
 19. Have you a debt which you can not pay? no
 20. Have you any accountability or business entanglements that may cause annoyances? no
 21. Are your parents or grandparents in need of your support? no; has two brothers and sister
 22. Were you ever epileptic? no Insane? no
 23. Are any members of your family afflicted with epilepsy or insanity? no

OSB BLUMEYER_00003

PERSONAL

Full Name: Robert Blumeyer B 1922 P 1950 Ord 1956

Social Security No. Birthplace: Boysen, Iowa

Hospital Insurance: none Nameday Date: _____

Nearest Relative for emergency (address, phone): _____

Present parental home address: Father deceased

College Degrees (with name of school): B.A. (St. J.) Major: _____

Graduate Degrees (with name of school): Div. of St. J. Major: Music

Special skills, arts, crafts, athletics: organ, piano - studied music all his life

Experience: Administrative Business Chaplaincy Farming Industry Library
 Educational Mechanics Missionary Pastoral Teaching Counseling Social

Other: _____

Languages: Spanish Italian German French Russian Polish Other: _____

Hobbies, Sports, Recreation: _____

Number of brothers: 2 sisters: 1 Your rank among them: 1st

Full Name: Fr Robert Blumeyer

Code: G Y R P

Visits: ① 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ✓

Health Record in general (past and present): *Good health - no major problems -*

Your preferences for future work: *Would like to be a pastor - would like very much to be in an Indian mission - any Indian mission - Would also be good as pastor in Hastings & it is just certain that Terence would willing to be assistant. Fr Robert is an older man (born in 1922) & has had some experience with the public*

Work you would like excluded: *would not want to teach - but only want to be pastoral activities -*

Other comments or suggestions:

Places you worked since your Profession:	Type of work:	From:	Dates To:
1. <i>Fergus & Oak</i>	<i>St Anthony's - Summer</i>		
2. <i>Hastings Inn</i>	<i>under Fr Robert Washwell</i>	<i>1956</i>	<i>1965</i>
3. <i>St Cloud St Aug</i>	<i>under Fr Peter St Hilaire</i>	<i>1965</i>	<i>1968</i>
4. <i>St Benedict's</i>	<i>under Fr John Kotler</i>	<i>1968</i>	<i>1969</i>
5. <i>Weymouth St Paul's</i>	<i>under Fr PRickett</i>	<i>1969</i>	
6. <i>" "</i>	<i>Pastor</i>		
7. <i>Hastings</i>	<i>Pastor</i>	<i>1972</i>	
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
Comments:			

Full Name: *Fr Robert Blumeyer*

Code: G Y R P

Visits: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ✓

Family Name Blumeyer

Baptismal Name Donald Forrest

Entered as Postulant _____

Entered the Novitiate July 10, 1949

Name in Religion Fr Robert

Date of Departure _____

Reason for Departure _____

MY LIFE

Frater Novice Robert Blumeyer O.S.B.

My mother married quite young and against her mothers wishes. The marriage, as is often the case with this type, was unhappy and short lived. Her husband was a frenchman and, I suspect A Catholic. This created religious difficulties and perhaps Mother married for money since he was wealthy. At any rate the tension mounted until scarcely a year after the marriage Mother left him and obtained a divorce. I am the son of this marriage.

Mother lived with her sister untill I was born and until I was old enough that she might leave me with my grandmother. Grandma, who lives at Erie Penna., is a dear, pious old soul who, as soon as she was able to make me understand, began telling me of God and His ways. Since I lived with Granma for five years I began yo acquire a deep recverence for God and the Bible. At the age of six I accompanied Mother to Iowa where she married her present husband whom she met in Erie. I was homesick, left my grandmother to accompany a woman I scarcely knew, and came to live with a total stranger whom I must call "Father". I was an unhappy little boy for quite some time but I remembered the almighty God of whom Grandma taught.

Mother has always been an ambitious and talented woman and I am sure that more than once she regreted choosing this life. She married a fine man, however and the loved one another and he was very patient untill his city wife learned the ways of successful farm living. This she did with swiftness and soon had a deep appreciation of the beautiful, wholesome, rural life. Mother learned, I didnt. While „I sinserely enjoyed the life, I never learned to farm and my foster father became impatient on many an occasion.

At the age of ten I learned with a cruel jolt from a school pal that this man was not my father. I was stunned, and immediately began to develop an inferiority complex, a part of which remains with me still. This put an end to any cooperation that I attempted. I was no longer satisfied there thinking that I must indeed be a burden on my foster father. Mother saw this discrepancy and directed my attention to music which I showed some aptitude for. This also had its evil effects since most of my time was taken by music I did none of the things that every boy should do. I didn't learn to play ball, never had companions, just didn't learn to live. Today I find this background a very great hindrance.

My parents were ardent Presbyterians and I attended Sunday and summer Bible school religiously. This coupled with the fact that I had an extremely pious teacher in the eighth grade who talked much of God and his will made in me a sincere desire to serve God- thinking to become a missionary. This remained in my heart even though at various times in my life I crammed it to the very bottom with evil words and deeds. In high school a questionable change in attitude came over me. Church became dry and barren and nothing the minister said or did soared boredom or triteness. It never seemed to touch God or His truths. I found God in our lonely and beautiful pastures or in the vast productive fields that Dad lashed into a living. Mother noticed this change of mental condition and worried. She punished me on several occasions for inattentiveness at services or for the curt impatient way with which I spoke of our pastor, whom I now remember as a very saintly but mistaken man. Then an important thing happened; Pious

the XI died. I was terrifically impressed by the beauty and pious solemnity with which he was laid to rest and with the color accompanying the reelection from the illustrious college of Cardinals. I began to wonder about this man. Who was he that so held the largest religious group in the world? Then too the superintendent in high school took two weeks of his world history class to give us Catholic background for this momentous event. The town rose in wrath against this man and expelled him who was not Catholic but merely doing his job well. It gave me a start and I took up where he left off and began reading all I could get my hands on about the church; its authenticity and origin, both pro and con. I soon began to discover the meaning and power of the church and the beauty of its externals well nigh overwhelmed me.

My health was in a run down condition after graduation and I was sent to Penna with Grandma for a rest. Here I did pretty much of nothing. I did attend the conservatory of music and studied piano under a friend of mothers who taught there. Later I began to act as shipping clerk in a wholesale house there but I never took much of an interest but the help was scarce and I kept my job. Here I achieved more distastes for Protestantism because Grandma forced me to associate with the son of a baptist friend of hers who entertained hopes of becoming a minister, and later became one. We had no common interests and Oh those revival meetings! Through the conservatory I came in contact with the Bishop of Erie's nephew. We

fostered a sincere friendship and from him I received spiritual help. My attendance to Protestant services dwindled to a stop but I still held a fear of the mass and still had never attended one. In my mind remained seethed those horrible and ridiculous fables to which every protestant is subjected. I was too busy gathering facts about the church and didn't take time to crowd these out.

Now the scare of war! So many of my ideas changed in this period; I decided to spend the last days in Iowa with my parents. So resigning my job and saying goodbye to all my friend I left only to discover in Iowa that ^{they} the could not use me. Thinking to work during the Christmas holidays and return to Erie the beginning of the year, I took a job in a chain grocery. It was my surprise and everyone's that I was apt at this work and the district supervisor induced me to stay with colorful promises. I was offered a store to manage in May the next spring and I managed it in Luverne for a year. In Luverne I couldn't force myself to ~~return~~ to Presbyterianism but I again longed to go church. I still thought of the Catholic church but hadn't received the grace to actually become a member. By this time the liturgy began to mean something to me and the liturgical one I could attend was the Missouri Synod Lutheran. It was a treat for me, I at last found God presented in intelligent manner through a church that appealed to the intellect rather than pure emotion. I discovered that attending church was an extremely palatable thing, not something to

be done out of pure duty. I also discovered that the minister sins of sex and the like rather than talk constantly of the evils of cards, liquor, and dancing. I soon began instruction and six months later I received confirmation. These were full days for me; I began teaching Sunday School and playing the organ for church services. It showed me how to live a normal healthy life and I began to outgrow my inferiority complex. One might think that I was not sincere in becoming a Lutheran since four years previous I had looked into the Catholic faith but I followed my conscience carefully which kept me from the church until the spring of 1946. I had somewhat neglected thought on the church because I had somewhat overcome my anxieties. I joyfully anticipated entering the seminary at Springfield Ill. Illness prevented me from going, that fall and that winter, with the help of a teacher, a graduate of St. John's, I prepared myself to make the final and gigantic step; that into the Catholic faith. I spent a difficult three months fighting doubt and public opinion. When I had actually made the step it had an effect on the business where I worked. I had to leave but the situation was alleviated by my acceptance into St. John's in preparation for Benedictine life. I am certain that I can never in this mortal life be as happy again as I was that summer of 1946 when I received my instructions and baptism. What a fortunate convert I was to be given the chance to live here both during instruction and immediately after. I was given a chance to see Catholic life at its purest and was able to partake of it. Now I had everything; the infallible Church, the beautiful liturgy, and now I was under the supreme pontiff who so impressed me back in 1939. I found that all was not going to be too easy. My parents were

very hostile, I had many financial difficulties, and my grades were not good. God has granted that I persevere, however, and has given the chance I have longed for- to be a Benedictine. May He grant that I show myself worthy of all the graces that He has given me and also the marvelous opportunities given me by the monks of St. John's.

Frater Robert Blumeyer O.S.B.

Countless times I have been asked "what made you become a Catholic"? It is next to impossible to put into words a purely spiritual experience. I could answer to this inquiry "the grace of God!" But every Catholic knows this and every Protestant disagrees. And my novitiate experience is almost a parallel, it has been a spiritual "metamorphosis" and difficult indeed to put into a language.

I have detected a negative and positive approach to the novitiate. The negative forbids certain things, words, and habits and the other exhorts. The negative is for the natural man and it was a difficult at times to conform to all the aspects. I found it difficult to fall into the physical routine of the monastery, the rising at 4:23, kneeling in choir, the hot habit and hundreds of little things that come and go with community life. My senses were dictating and they were accustomed to being obeyed. My individualism put up many a rebellion to the completely community way of doing things in the novitiate. Then my many attachments caused my heart to ache many times. My greatest attachment was, and is, to people—my friends. This was a constant source of distraction at prayer and the liturgical functions. I don't wish to say that I have overcome them, I am aware that this will not be accomplished for years. Then a certain physical decorum expected—a certain silent, collected attitude that becomes visible. It was easy to say, with pride, that Benedictines stress the outward appearance. I remembered what a monastery is—a Christian model to the community and, in a collective sense, the world. It occurred to me how close by a monk is watched and how easily he can cause scandal. It doesn't follow that one year rectified my secular ^{habits}, but I have the norm before me at all times and with it the desire to achieve the criterion.

Only in the positive angle can one truly discover the "why" of the novitiate. In this phase I learned that the novitiate was a beautiful, contemplative school for sanctity. In the novitiate we were given every opportunity to become contemplative for we had many instruments at hand. Our Master is a magnificent example of monastic sincerity and with his kind and gentle exhortations I found myself eased over the rougher spots of the novitiate. He indeed is one to whom we can look with no worry of ever being misled, He introduced us to the Holy Rule to which we will presently bind ourselves with the final step of vows. I found this document to be complete in its analysis of sanctity and only by a sincere and total observance can one obtain that sanctity. I discovered too, that all will not be easy to observe and I will fall often enough and did in the novitiate but this will not discourage, or should not. It must induce me to persevere and with that I may not be overcome. The Rule impressed me. But one point stands more clearly in my mind, this is its attitude on obedience. With my Protestant background of individualism it wasn't easy to grasp in its full meaning but as the months passed it found a way into my heart. It is completely opposed to pride, man's arch-enemy, and binds one to virtue. Only by unconditionally observing obedience can I become a successful monk. By successful I mean holy. But the essence of the rule, the novitiate, monastic life entirely and man's sole purpose in the world is contained in one statement. Go seek God To draw close to Him. As a Protestant I mistook and academic knowledge of God as love for Him. When I became a Catholic I learned the difference and now in the cloister I intend to put my whole self to seeking Him. Have I drawn

closer? I suppose that by really leaving the world one has only one place to go and that is to draw close to Him. I feel that I have acquired a few detachments. I haven't had any visions, elevations or extacies and most probably I never shall. But I have in my heart a place for God. I thrill when thinking of Him and from this association, even with the rebuffs I give Him and as distracted as I do become at times, springs, in a small degree, the beautiful two loves. Love of God and love of neighbor. And from these spring humility and charity. I have, as it were, only a taste of association with my creator but it has a tantalizing flavor and indeed worthy of pursuit; And herein lies true happiness, the association with the Perfect Beauty, my God. So come lonely hours, tasks that irk me, people whose personalities clash with mine., come evil thoughts, come temptations. I have the weapon that can crush thee.

And now I come to vows; the step ~~that~~ binds me to the life. Naturally speaking I am a little afraid for I have always been a man with many instabilities. In previous occasions I merely left my occupation and this became the source of much unhappiness. Here is my chance to rectify unstable nature. I have a goal in mind and the way will be rough. I find study difficult and even unpleasant at times but this is also a new start in life. I am a child in monasticism and so I shall take the steps firmly to complete my life to perfection. My interests, I must mention them here, in the scholastic world run to music. I have had the most training in this line and love it dearly. I enjoyed mathematics very much although I didn't apply myself on the students side.

And my parents! I love them! With their attitude can I make the

sacrifice? A thousand times yes! If they hold their silence for my good, and I am certain they are sincere, then they may be swayed by a realization of my sincerity. Holy Scripture teaches that we must leave family and friends and once grasping the plow a return glance must not be made. I shall pray for my parents.

Health? During the novitiate I have been ill a lot of the time. While it has never been of a serious nature it has caused my deviating from the monastic schedule on occasion. This causes despondency and if I ever came close to leaving it was during these times that I spent away from the group. I feel certain that with care on my part, I will easily be able to take the monastic life. I gained weight during the novitiate and this should continue with a happy and well ordered life.

And so my novitiate draws to a close and I soon take vows. I will do so with great joy and fervor. I pray that I will always be as happy as I have been in the novitiate and that my fervor will increase with the years.

Litterae Testimoniales



Praesentes Inspecturis Salutem in Domino!

Cum ex praemissa diligenti investigatione Nobis constiterit Dilectum Nobis in Christo
Donaldum Forrest Blumeyer, qui per tres annos
in hac Nostra Dioecesi moratus esse noscitur, moribus bonis ingenioque praestanti ornatum, honesta vita ac
fama conditioneque integra commendatum, neque inquisitum aut aliqua censura, irregularitate aliove canonico
impedimento, quod sciamus, irretitum esse, neque opitulandi parentibus necessitudine gravatum existere: Nos
per praesentes litteras indubiam fidem facimus et testamur nihil, quantum cognoscere potuimus, ex hac parte
obstare quominus praefatum D. Donaldum Forrest Blumeyer ut ad
statum religiosum admittatur commendemus.

In quorum fidem has Testimoniales litteras manu Nostra subscriptas sigilloque Nostro et Secretarii Nostri
subscriptione munitas expediri iussimus.

Datum *Sti. Chroaldii*, ex aedibus Nostris Episcopalibus.

Die *13a Maii*, A. D. *1949*

+ Jos. F. Busch

Episcopus.

J. S. Ziolkowski

Secretarius.

LEO
DEI ET APOSTOLICAE SEDIS GRATIA
EPISCOPUS PINARENSIS
COADJUTOR EPISCOPI WINONENSIS

Omnibus quorum interest praesentes litteras inspecturis salutem et benedictionem in Domino.

Facta diligenti inquisitione, ad normam Canonum 544 # 2 et 545 # 4, C.I.C., testamur Donaldum F. Blumeyer nullam, quoad sciamus, irregularitatem contraxisse tempore, quo in dioecesi Nostra commoratus est et nullum obstare impedimentum quominus ad professionem religiosam emittendam admitti possit.

Datum Winonae sub signo sigilloque Nostro et subscriptione Nostri Pro-Cancellarii, die 1a mensis iunii, anno 1949.

+ Leo Binz
Episcopus Pinarensis
Coadjutor Episcopi Winonensis

D. G. Dreking
Pro-Cancellarius

Joseph

Miseratione Divina et Sanctae
Episcopus



Sedis Apostolicae Gratia
Sioupolitanus

LITTERAE TESTIMONIALES.

Per praesentes cunctis fidem facimus atque testamur dilectum
Nobis in Christo.....Donald Forrest Blumeyer.....
4 annos.....Boyden, Iowa.....
qui per.....in.....

Nostrae dioecesis, Nobis noscitur subjectus, pro hoc tempore, suae
probitatis specimen dedisse bonaque fama vita ac moribus praeditum
fuisse, et ex hac Nostra Dioecesi nullo delicto quod infamiam irroget
patrato nullaque ecclesiastica censura aut alio canonico impedi-
mento, quod sciamus innodatum quominus ad Minores et Majores Sacros
Ordines, promoveri possit.

In quorum fidem has litteras testimoniales manu Nostra
subscriptas, Sigilloque Nostro et Cancellarii Nostri subscriptione
munitas expediri jussimus.

Datum Sioupoli, die.....9.....mensis.....Junii.....Anni, 19.49.

.....*M. Kuvell*.....
Episcopus Sioupolitanus.

N.B. The attached letter from Very Rev. G. Cooke, V.F.,
is part of this document.

**Saint Patrick's Rectory
Sheldon, Iowa**

May 31, 1949.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. J. J. Berger,
Sioux City, Iowa.

Dear Msgr:

Boyden is in this territory. Kindly inform the Most Rev. Bishop that there are no Catholics in Boyden save two transients who do not know the Blumeys. No Catholic children attend the Public School there, and I can find no one who knows anything of him. All I could find out of the family is they pass as decent people. If I am informed correctly [redacted] spent most of his time after finishing school in Luvern, Minn. Should I get any further information of him I shall relay it.

Every kind and best wish.

V. Sincerely yours,

George Cooke

+

In nomine gloriosae nostri Jesu Christi. Amen.
Ego, Frater Robertus Arnoldus Blumeyer, ex loco
Geddes Diocesis Siouxormensis, ad honorem Omn-
ipotentis Dei, Beatissimae Virginis Mariae, ac
Beati Patris nostri Benedicti, et omnium Sanc-
torum, tenacae praesentium per vata temporaria,
ad triennium valitum, promitto stabilitatem et
conseruationem normam meam, ac obedientiam
secundum Regulam eiusdem sancti Patris Benedicti, et
statuta nostrae Congregationis coram Deo et sanctis eius,
quorum Reliquiae hic in praesenti ecclesia sunt, simul-
que in praesentia Reuerendissimi in Christo Patris
Alonini, Alonini Alcuini Aleutich, huius monasterii Abbatis,
et coram Reuerendis Patribus et Venerabilibus Patribus hic
Praesentibus: In nomine Patris, et Filii, + et Spiritus
Sancti, Amen

In cuius rei testimonium praesentem sche-
dulam manu propria scripsi in hoc venerabili
loco Abbatiae Sancti Joannis Baptistae, Collegiis
Minnesotae, Anno ab Incarnatione Alonini Mill-
lesimo nonagesimo quinquagesimo, die un-
decimo mensis Julii, in festo Solemnitatis sancti
Patris nostri Benedicti.

+

Fr. Robertus Arnoldus Blumeyer.

In nomine + homini nostri Jesu Christi. Amen.
Ego Frater Robertus Alonardus Blumeyer, Profellus,
diocesis Syonpalitana, ad honorem Omnipotentis Dei,
Beatissimae Virginis Mariae, ac Beati Patris nostri
Benedicti, Omnium Sanctorum, tenore praesentium pro
vota solemniter, promitto stabilitatem et conversationem
monachorum meorum, ac obedientiam secundum Regulam
eiusdem Sancti Patris Benedicti, et Statuta nostrae
Congregationis, Coram Deo et Sanctis eius, quosdam
Religiosos hic in praesenti ecclesiae sunt, simulque
in praesentia Reverendissimi in Christo Patris ac
Homini, Homini Baldovini Dworschak, huius
monasterii Abbatis, et Coram Reverendis
Patribus et Venerabilibus Fratribus hic praesentibus:

In nomine Patris, et Filii, + et Spiritus
Sancti. Amen

In Cupis hic Testimonium praesentium
schidulam manu propria scripti in hoc
Venerabili loco Abbaciae Sancti Joannis
Baptistae, Anno a incarnatione hominis
Millesimo nonagesimo quinquagesimo tertio,
die undecimo mensis Julii, in festo
Solennitatis Sancti Patris nostri Benedicti.

+

Robertus Blumeyer

+ Baldovinus Dworschak. O.S.B.

Petitio Ante Expletum Novitiatum Manu Propria A Novitio Subsignanda et Superiori Porrigenda



Ego infrascriptus novitius Ordinis S. Benedicti, Abbatiae S. Joannis Bapt.,
anno novitiatu mei ad finem vergente, cum matura deliberatione ac sincero animo me esse ad statum
monastico-clericalem vocatum existimem, ad vota religiosa et, tempore suo, ad ordines accedere cupio
atque hisce praesentibus a Revmo Domino, Domino Alcuino Deutsch, Abbate
hodierno praedicti monasterii S. Joannis Bapt., admissionem ad professionem
monasticam et ad militiam clericalem in statu regulari, tempore debito, humillime exopto.

Fateor et declaro, me cuncta, quae ad naturam et obligationes status religioso-sacerdotalis, ac prae-
sertim ad legem caelibatus votis solemnibus ordinibusque sacris adnexam, pertineant, plane perspecta
habere; volo pariter et constituo omnia et singula ejusdem duplicis status onera suscipere eaque etiam
propono ac spondeo, ope divinae gratiae, integre constanterque servare toto tempore vitae meae.

Testificor, me propositum habere ascendendi ad omnes ordines nec vero importunis aliorum precibus,
suasionibus, obtestationibus vel pollicitationibus pressum aut allectum ad vitam religiosam aut sacram
militiam clericalem impelli, sed libera prorsus ac spontanea voluntate, semotis minis, metu, vi vel coac-
tione, nuncupationem votorum et sacram ordinationem expetere.

Quibus precibus ut ii, ad quos id pertinet, benigne annuere velint, reverenti atque obsequenti animo
supplico.

Datum die 30 mensis Aprilis anni 1950.

Robertus Ronaldus Blumeyer
Novitius

Praecedentem petitionem mihi tempore et loco, uti supra, fuisse oblatam testor.

Alcuinus Deutsch OSB.
Abbas Delegatus Abbatis.



Petrus Gulielmus Bartholomae
Miseratione Divina et Sanctae Sedis Gratia
Sancti Clodoaldi Episcopus

Universis et singulis has litteras inspecturis fidem facimus et
testamur Nos die 5a mensis Iunii anni 19 54
in Ecclesia Abbatiali Sti. Ioannis Baptistae, Collegeville
Dilectum Nobis in Christo ROBERTUM DONALDUM BLUMEYER
ex Abbatia Sancti Ioannis Baptistae apud Collegeville, Minn.

ad sacrum Subdiaconatus ordinem
juxta Romani Pontificalis Rubricas et assistente Nobis in hac Sancti
Spiritus gratia promovisse et ordinasse.

In cuius rei fidem has testimoniales litteras sigillo Nostro majori
insignitas confici jussimus.

Apud Sanctum Clodoaldum,

die 5a mensis Iunii anni 19 54

Episcopus
Diocesis Superiorensis
Delegatus Episcopus Sti. Clodoaldi.



Petrus Gulielmus Bartholome
Misericordiae Divinae et Sanctae Sedis Gratia
Sancti Clodoaldi Episcopus

Universis et singulis has litteras inspecturis fidem facimus et
testamur Nos die 4a mensis Iunii anni 1955
in Ecclesia Cathedrali Immaculae Conceptionis apud St. Cloud
Dilectum Nobis in Christo ROBERTUM DONALDUM BLUMEYER
ex Abbatia Sancti Ioannis Baptistae apud Collegeville, Minn.

ad sacrum Diaconatus ordinem
juxta Romani Pontificalis Rubricas et assistente Nobis in hac Sancti
Spiritus gratia promovisse et ordinasse.

In cujus rei fidem has testimoniales litteras sigillo Nostro majori
insignitas confici jussimus.

Apud Sanctum Clodoaldum,
die 4a mensis Iunii anni 1955

Petrus G. Bartholome
Episcopus Sti. Clodoaldi.



Petrus Gulielmus Bartholome
Miseratione Divina et Sanctae Sedis Gratia
Sancti Clodovaldi Episcopus

Universis et singulis has litteras inspecturis fidem facimus et
testamur Nos die 19 mensis maii anni 19 56

in Ecclesia Abbatiali Sancti Joannis Baptistae

Dilectum Nobis in Christo Robertum D. Blumeyer, C.S.B.

ad sacrum Presbyteratus ordinem

juxta Romani Pontificalis Rubricas et assistente Nobis in hac Sancti
Spiritus gratia promovisse et ordinasse.

In cujus rei fidem has testimoniales litteras sigillo Nostro majori
insignitas confici jussimus.

Apud Sanctum Clodoaldum,

die 19 mensis maii anni 19 56.

Petrus G. Bartholome
Episcopus Sti. Clodoaldi.

Diocese of St. Cloud
CHANCERY OFFICE
ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA

CERTIFICATE OF ORDINATION

Date May 19, 1956

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That on May 19, 1956
Rev. Robert Bluemeyer, O.S.B. was ordained to the
priesthood of the Catholic Church, and that he is authorized under the
rules of said Catholic Church to solemnize marriages.


Bishop of St. Cloud

per

Filed for record and recorded

May 21, 1956

Albert W. Schmitt
Clerk of District Court

By Genevieve M. Sand
Deputy

St. Boniface Parish
Hastings, Minnesota
September 7, 1956

Dear Father Abbot,

I am quite well settled here at Hastings though it will be some time before I feel that I am well acquainted here. I am sure that I will like it very much and am very happy. If anyone ever complains about the work at St. Anthony's in Fargo they should have a breaking in here for there weally is much more. The people here are comfortable farming stock, the kind that I am used to and feel that I understand them. The Legion of Mary will cause me some concern for a time but I have their confidence.

Father Abbot, we have several pianos here that I will be able to tune and save the parish quite a lot of money but I have no tools. Can I get some basic equipment out of my salary? Father Lambert said that he would get them but I would then not be able to take them with me in case I ever get a new assignment and I feel that there will be pianos to^{wherever} I may be. I will have the spare moments to do tuning and also feel that it will be quite relaxing for me, I also should keep in practise for one's ear deteriorates if not used.

Hoping that this finds you in the best of health and the richest of God's blessings.

In St. Benedict

no per to get tools. Ack. Sept. 10

Robert O.S.B.

Saint Boniface Church
Hastings, Minnesota
January 11, 1957

Dear Father Abbot,

I sincerely hope that you will have a most happy and successful New Year. We are doing well here in Hastings. Working hard but growing very happy in it. I have recently fallen on the ice while skating and limp slightly but all in all am in good health. Father seems to be well at least his appetite would seem to indicate so. He grows a little more forgetful each day and the responsibility to me grows in proportion but I am very happy and contented here.

My sister married a Hollander who is a Dutch Reformed, with a vengeance. His father has been very caustic in his remarks about me, blaming my mother for a failure in my case. But his daughter married an exchange student who seems to be giving them a great deal of anxiety, they definitely do not understand him. My parents visited me last week and brought the surprising news that he was at Saint John's. They of course were mystified since they had no idea why he would visit there. To the best of their knowledge he was not Catholic. Since their visit I received a letter from Father who brought him to Saint John's. He asked me if I knew anything more of the case and also asked if I had contacted him. Father did not know of my connection with him at the time he visited him. I rather doubt if he himself knew since my choice in life is spoken of in hushed tones in this area of Iowa and in these Calvinistic circles. At any rate, I am wondering if I might not visit Saint John's and become acquainted with him. I am well aware of the difficulty his in laws have caused and feel that he would like to visit with me. I would also welcome the opportunity to have a visit with you on a few little problems involved in the parish work. Nothing at all with any degree of urgency but would like to discuss some of these items with you. I feel that work here would permit a short absence on my part.

Hoping this finds you in the best of health, I remain,

Obediently,

Robert O.S.B.

OSB BLUMEYER_00031



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

February 26, 1957

Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Boniface Church
Hastings, Minnesota

Dear Father Robert,

You will understand the reason for my long delay in replying to your letter of the 11th of January. For I left here on the 10th for the visitation of the missions, and returned only on the 14th of this month. There has been an abundance of work for me since my return, particularly since I was absent two days last week in order to be present for the installation of Bishop Koch of Sioux Falls.

Perhaps you have heard by now that the person mentioned in your letter, left here even before my departure for the missions. He became mentally disturbed while here, and I believe it was his brother who came up to get him; I have heard that he was taken to a mental hospital. It was thought by the priest who brought him that he would like to become a Catholic and that he had to get away for a while at least from the pressures which were being brought to bear upon him by his relatives.

Even though _____ is no longer here, you may come up for a visit, if you can conveniently get away from the parish and it is agreeable to Father _____. I will be in the Cities tomorrow for the consecration of Bishop Hacker, but expect to be here apart from that occasion.

Meanwhile, with greetings also to Father _____ and the prayer that God bless you and your work, I am

Your devoted Abbot,

BD:je

OSB BLUMEYER_00032

Saint Boniface Church

Hastings, Minnesota

August 16, 1957

Dear Father Abbot,

The fall term will be upon us soon and my time will be pretty well taken up, especially this year for the enrollment is heavy and we are crowded. I would like the opportunity to make a short visit with my parents in Iowa if you will grant this. I could leave immediately after my Mass and by having one Mass in the parish the next day I could have two days for the visit. The drive is about 180 miles and I could hardly make this both down and back here again in one day. I have not yet discussed this with Father Pastor but I am sure that he will not object if you will give me your permission. There is really nothing special that I will be going home for save the fact that a few of my relatives from the East coast will be visiting my parents at the time. The summer has been a very hectic one in many ways and I could benefit from the change and relaxation.

My health is better than it has been in years and I am very happy here. Aside from a few difficulties with some of the Sisters teaching here I have had no real trouble and feel that I am getting along in parish life very well.

Hoping this finds you well and happy in God's blessings, I remain,

Obediently in St. Benedict,
F. Robert, O.S.B.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

August 20, 1957

Dear Father Robert,

Just a brief note to grant you permission to visit your parents as requested in your letter of August 16 provided it is agreeable to the pastor. While I readily grant this permission I do not wish this to be taken as a precedent since I cannot grant each of the assistants permission to visit at his home each year.

I am happy to know that your health is good and that you are getting along well in your work.

With all good wishes and the prayer that God bless you and your work, I am

Your devoted Abbot,

Saint Boniface Church

Hastings, Minnesota

March 10, 1958

Dear Father Abbot,

For over a year now the KC group in Hastings has been after me to become a member. I have put them off until now for I have not seen the necessity for joining, however I feel that it might be a good thing. I have been asked a couple of times to talk to them and I must remain outside until the formal meeting has taken place and then be ushered in. They now have decided to install the youth group, Columbian Squires and want me to be the Father Prior. May I have your permission to become a member of the KSs?

Things seem to be going quite well here at Hastings. My health has been very good this year, a cold twice and a slight case of the flu but nothing that prevented me from carrying on my work. Father Lambert has a bad cold now but also is able to carry on in rather good fashion.

Hoping this finds you well, I remain,

Obediently in St. Benedict,

F. Robert, O.S.B.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

March 11, 1958

Dear Father Robert,

I have your letter of yesterday, and herewith give you permission to become a member of the Knights of Columbus, for I am sure that it will be helpful to you in your work. I hope you will do well as the Father Prior of the Columbian Squires!

It is good to know that your health has been better this year, and that the work is progressing well. I hope that Father Lambert will soon be able to shake his cold, for undoubtedly the work will be increasing soon again with Holy Week not too far distant. Here all have been quite well recently and even Fr. Brian seems to have improved a little during the past weeks.

With every good wish especially for the feast of our holy Father, I am

Your devoted Abbot,

ED:je

Saint Boniface Church

Hastings, Minnesota

June 19, 1958

Dear Father Abbot,

I received your thought provoking letter this morning and decided to write immediately even though this is a two wedding Saturday and have not as yet finished my sermon for tomorrow.

I am honored and humbled that you ask my opinion in this decision but I would much rather you would make any choice and place me under obedience. When I was asked to do parish work I was very much disappointed at that time that I was not sent to Mexico, also due to the fact that I had actually never lived a parish life, I had great fears that I would not be able to do the work. But I soon found that the vow of obedience brings with it many of the graces necessary to fulfill the given task. I am still interested in the Mexican foundation but in the two years I have lived in a parish have grown to love it and can truthfully say that I am the happiest I have ever been. But I also feel that my personal feelings in this matter should not enter into the decision and that my Superior knows much better than I where I am most needed. I am certain that I would be very homesick away from Hastings temporarily but I imagine that every assistant who has been at Hastings has felt the same upon leaving.

If you decide that I am to go to Mexico I feel that a transfer of views would follow logically at least this causes me no trouble. Father Odo was in charge of Anselm hall when I studied there and feel that he has done more for me and my vocation than any other man in the community. It would be a joy to serve such a man.

I will accept obediently and gratefully any decision you will see fit to make in this matter.

Obediently yours,

Jr. Robert O.S.B.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY · COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

July 18, 1958

Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Church of St. Boniface
Hastings, Minnesota

Dear Father Robert,

I believe that at one time you were quite interested in our Mexican Foundation and in going there. I wonder whether you still have that interest and whether you would be willing to go to Mexico, possibly to transfer your vows to that community.

Father Odo has written me recently that he feels the community there is almost ready to seek independence, which I have encouraged. Two of the Fathers from here have indicated that they prefer not to transfer their vows, if independence is granted, and that they would prefer to return to this country — these are Fathers Adrian and Barnabas; I believe that all of the others will remain and will transfer their vows.

I have thought of asking you to go down to Mexico this summer yet so that either Father Adrian or Father Barnabas might return before the beginning of the school year in this country and thus be assigned to a parish before the school year begins. I would not be inclined to ask you to do this, unless I felt that you were sympathetic to the idea of transferring your vows to the new community when it becomes independent. I do not ask that you make a definite decision now as to actually transferring your vows; nor would such a decision have to be made at once when the community becomes independent. But I would like to know whether you are willing to go this summer and whether you are sympathetic to the idea of eventually transferring to the Mexican community. Since this will help me in my planning for the coming year, I would appreciate your reaction as soon as convenient.

Meanwhile, with every good wish, and the prayer that God bless you and your work, I am

Your devoted Abbot,

BD:je

P.S. I have not thought of this move because of any dissatisfaction with your work at Hastings; on the contrary, I have received only good reports, and I would not think of a change in Hastings were I not convinced of your interest in our Mexican foundation.

Saint Boniface Church

Hastings, Minnesota

August 23, 1958

Dear Father Abbot,

The Archbishop has honored me by choosing me as ordinary confessor for a group of Felician nuns in South Saint Paul. This came as quite a shock, particularly when I checked the canons regulating this office. Father Lambert told me that I may pre- that the Archbishop has dispensed me from the Canon saying that the confessor must be forty years of age. But the Canon also states that a religious must have the permission of his superior. May I have your permission for this very responsible task?

The Building plans are coming along well. We have the architects drawings and are going over all the small details. We expect work to begin in a matter of a week or so. Father Lambert actually seems to be thriving under the pressure.

Obediently Yours,

F. Robert, O.S.B.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

September 3, 1958

Dear Father Robert,

I am sorry there has been this delay in my replying to your letter of the 23rd, but it arrived while I was in Mexico — I left here on the morning of the 25th, and arrived back on the evening of the 30th. But since then I have been more than crowded with work, since I had to preach at the Centennial at Meire Grove on the 1st, and on the same afternoon attend Father Cornelius' Jubilee Mass at Richmond.

Although the Canons required that an Ordinary Confessor of Sisters be forty years old, many Bishops must by necessity appoint men that are younger. Since I am confident that you will fulfill this office well, I herewith grant you permission to accept the appointment as Ordinary Confessor for the Felician nuns in South Saint Paul.

It is good to know that the building plans are coming along so well and that Father Lambert is actually thriving under the pressure. I hope that this will continue. With greetings also to him, and every good wish, I am

Your devoted Abbot,

ED:je

Saint Boniface Church

Hastings, Minnesota

September 22, 1958

Dear Father Abbot,

It is with great misgivings that I bother you at this time but I have just returned from a visit with our new convent superior and principal of the grade school. I really feel that I must talk over a few things, not so much a criticism of the Pastor but to avoid what seems to me will be a major blow up here. In the past Father has been excessively critical and even brutal to the Sisters. We had an almost complete turnover in teaching sisters this year and I feel that each choice was done with a purpose. Each one seems about as tough and demanding as I have ever seen a Nun be. The superior is the Procurator at the Priory and told me this morning that she was at the end of her rope and felt that soon the Sisters would be withdrawn. I told her to hold off for a little while here until I could talk with Father. Incidentally, the Sisters have many legitimate complaints and I am sincerely worried, this could be a first class scandal since the whole parish is aghast at the manner in which the Pastor handles them. Now my problem is this, Father does not like the idea of my coming to Saint John's, ever. I feel that he doesn't want me to discuss parish affairs with you. This is based on the fact that any other activity that takes me from the parish for the

Saint Boniface Church

Hastings, Minnesota

same amount of time is not criticised. So if you could request that I come for a brief visit he would not object. I leave this to your discretion as to whether you think that I should be worried about this type of thing. I suppose that I could write what I have to say but it would be much better to actually have a discussion with on this and several other matters. May I hear from you on this matter.

Hoping this finds you in excellent health and blessings,

Obediently In Saint Benedict,

Fr. Robert, OSB.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

September 26, 1958

Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Boniface Church
Hastings, Minnesota

Dear Father Robert,

I am sorry there has been this delay in my replying to your letter of the 22nd, which arrived just after I left for a meeting of the religious superiors in Washington. I returned yesterday afternoon, coming up from Minneapolis with the Visitators, who had also been in Washington but who had left there before I did. The Visitation opened officially last evening after Choir and will continue for the next four or five days.

I regret, too, to learn that difficulties have arisen and have become quite serious between the pastor and the Sisters. I hope and pray that nothing will occur that would cause Mother to withdraw the Sisters. If you have an opportunity to speak again with the new superior, please ask her to be patient. You may come up to discuss this matter with me, though I will not be able to make any decision until I have heard both sides of the question. That point, too, should be mentioned to the Sisters, so that they do not become impatient; there are always two sides to a question, and it is only just that both sides be heard before any decision is made. You may come any day next week that is convenient for you, even though the Visitators may still be here the first couple of days of the week, except on Thursday, the 2nd, for on that day Mr. and Mr. will be here for discussions on the Church.

Meanwhile, I hope you will remember the Visitation in your prayers so that many blessings may result through it for the community. With all good wishes, and the prayer that God bless you and your work, I am

Your devoted Abbot,

ED:js

OSB BLUMEYER_00043

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

November 21, 1960

Dear Father Abbot,

I received your letter yesterday and had a visit with Doctor in the afternoon. I find the letter not a little disturbing but I will try to get to the bottom of the matter with justice in mind.

First of all, Father Lambert was under a great deal of pressure from the parish and conditions in the school to get rid of Mr.

I am sure that from your visit with him you can understand his mental and physical limitations. In the old school the problem was one of cleanliness only which the people in the parish were constantly in arms about. But with the new school the high pressure boilers required a man who could obtain a first class operating permit. This Mr would have been able to do, so this seemed a good time for the inevitable. Then too, I had urged Father repeatedly to look into the matter of Mr.

undue familiarity with the girls in the grade school. There was nothing terribly wrong but it looked as though there would be a serious consequence here and the parish has had a scandal of this kind in past .

OSB BLUMEYER_00044

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

The notification of dismissal is a bit mystifying to me. This was given to [redacted] the week that Father left for his annual retreat and caused Father a little hardship since he wanted to give it to him personally and had to wait an hour until he could see him. The letter given to [redacted] was hand written by Father, this I know because Father gave it to me to read before he gave it to him. If it was not signed it was merely because Father forgot to do so. As far as my opinion counts, I feel that the matter of dismissal was done properly, with ample reason and a month in advance.

Now the matter of the money spent. This was a real problem and still is. [redacted] was under a great deal of pressure from people of the parish and parish groups for basic material for healthful cleanliness in the school and Father just would not provide them. I told [redacted] repeatedly never to buy anything and if trouble resulted to refer the person or group to the Pastor or myself. But he always felt it was the best way out and went ahead and bought them anyway. Just one instance - Father scolded him mercilessly and often about the heat in the sacristy. This definitely was a problem but the thermostat was broken, and still is, and there were no turn off valves on the sacristy radiators and to get the church warm at all the sacristy nearly boiled. I told Father several

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

times and so did [redacted] but Father went right on scolding and doing nothing about the raddators until [redacted] finally hired the job done himself. Right now Father keeps all the incense, tapers, charcoal etc. locked up so that frequently we have none for Benediction and seldom is he around to dole them out one piece at a time. Often we have been as much as twenty minutes late getting started by the time we find him and he wends his way casually to the church. The Servers discussed this at home and abroad and finally now the parishoners discreetly supply the Sister with these things that she need not have this trouble. It is embarassing and I try not to notice this. So this was not merely [redacted] problem byt mine, the Sisters, the present janitor and anyone else who has any association with the parish. When I discussed this with [redacted] he said that he knew that [redacted] had this coming and when the matter of dismissal was brought up the trustees told Father they thought that this should be given to the janitor. Father got very angry and told them that the janitor and his mangement was entierly the Pastor's business and was none of theirs. At this point [redacted] nearly walked out but humbly submitted. Father told them that he didn't want the matter ever brought up again so the Doctor said that the trustees dare not do anything about it and will not bring the matter to Father again even though both feel that he has this coming in justice.

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

I would be interested to know who the [redacted] was who brought [redacted] to see you. Was he present for the actual discussion? All these things being bandied about the parish makes the pastor a most unpopular man and Hastings has a flair for circulating these things fast and improving upon them as they go.

Thank you for your letter and confidence, Father Abbot, and I shall do what I can but trustees can do nothing in the matter and I am sure that it would not be well for me to take this to the Pastor.

Obediently Yours,

Fr. Robert O.S.B.



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY - COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

December 22, 1962

Dear Father Robert,

I am writing to you about the following matter because Fr. Lambert might be inclined to ignore it or become very much excited. The former janitor, Mr. [redacted] came to St. John's yesterday with [redacted] and told me that over a period of ten years he as janitor had made many purchases for the parish and paid for these out of his own pocket, and he had the bills to prove that he had made the purchases. He had been told not to charge these items, and at the same time he was expected to keep supplied with what he needed for his work as janitor. He told me the total would be about \$600.00.

When I asked him what happened when he told Fr. Lambert about this, he answered that Fr. Lambert just put the bills aside and did nothing. The trustees refused to do anything about a matter that they felt was Father's business. Please find out if this man in justice can claim the money he asks for of the parish. Tell the trustees that they should interest themselves in this also. If the man is honest and has a just claim no one should deny him the funds he asks for. I don't want to judge before others have been heard. In fact, I would like to let the settlement to you and the trustees rather than be involved. [redacted] also resented the fact that Fr. Lambert did not sign the letter notifying the janitor he was being dismissed.

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

January 17, 1960

Dear Father Abbot,

I am sorry to burden you with this letter since I am well aware of all your other problems but I have reached what I think is a limit of my endurance. Father Lambert is just intolerable and I don't think that I can continue much longer without a breakdown. I have been solidly behind him all the way but since November of this year he has become very suspicious and jealous of me. Nothing I can do or say seems to be the right thing and he now has taken to criticism of me to the members of the parish. All he is succeeding in doing, however, is making everyone sorry for me and my situation.

For three years we have had a Columbian Squire circle in Hastings and he gave his permission for me to be the chaplain. We met in the school until the new house was built and now we have room in the basement and it is much more convenient for us to have these meetings here in the home. Besides it was Father Lambert's idea anyway. Tonight we had a meeting and he kicked the group out and told me he never wanted them to meet here again. He had forgotten all about them and doesn't even seem now to know what they are. But the problem was not the meeting so much but that I had

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

four different people come to see me between six and seven thirty and it was just too much for him to bear. The fact is, he will never answer the door or phone when I am around.

One of the teachers accepted the position here last fall with the understanding that she would teach only until Christmas and by that time Father would have hired another. He had the opportunity but, the day school opened he had not as yet done this and the Sister Principal had a room full of children to contend with.

He got angry at a couple of men who were repairing the art glass windows in church and fired them. They promptly got a lawyer and threatened a law suit against the parish. Father's lawyer told him to back down and the men are again back on the job but the scandal is about the town.

has been advised by one of our parishoners to go to the Archbishop and collect what he has owing.

Father made the announcement to the Christian Mothers that the assistant was too popular in this parish.

Father Abbot, I am not sure how long I can take this and I

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

hope that either Father Lambert or myself can be moved. The trustees come to me with all their problems as well as do the parishoners and it is driving me wild. Right now I am in trouble with the marriage court since I have taken so long on some information and testimony. Father considers this extra curricular activity and is very unhappy with me when I am out on these cases. I just don't seem to know which way to turn.

Obediently,

Fr. Robert, OSB

*Father doesn't permit me to accept
any more intentions for the Parish
any more and has cancelled many
that I had taken for the last 3
months. It seems they are not being
said I do not know what to tell
the people since I do not know what
he has done about them.*



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

January 18, 1961

Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Boniface Church
Hastings, Minnesota

Dear Father Robert,

I have your letter of yesterday and sympathize with you in the difficulties that face you with Father Lambert in his present condition. I know to some extent these difficulties, and I pray that you will continue to be patient and that you will not suffer a break-down.

At the moment I cannot move either Father Lambert or yourself, though I am very definitely trying to work out ways and means of removing Father Lambert. I just do not have anyone extra whom I might send to replace either him or you. But I have thought of one or the other possibility of a change. Before making it, however, I will have to either write a few letters or go to see one or the other of the Fathers who would be involved in such a change, that is, in the removal of Father Lambert. I don't want to make a promise that it would not be possible for me to keep; hence I don't want to set any date as to when I might be able to send someone to succeed him. I do assure you that I am working on the problem, and I ask the help of your prayers that all will work out well.

Meanwhile, be assured also of my appreciation of the patience you have shown in the difficulties and of my prayer that God will continue to bless you and your work. With every good wish,
I am

Your devoted Abbot,

BD:js

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

Jan 19, 1961

Dear Father Abbot,

I received your very comforting letter this morning and your letter plus two or three days of calm reflection on the matter have given me a different outlook. I was quite angry and upset when I wrote my letter and shouldn't have done so in that condition. Father has shown in his attitude since that he has either forgotten about it or is trying to show me that it was a little unreasonable on his part. As for me, there is pride here, I hate to have people feeling sorry for me and this is the situation

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

here. I have attended very few meetings the last year even though I am Chaplain of Daughters of Scapella, K. C. and Columbian square plus director of the confraternity. I will ask the K. C. to put the Columbian square on the dormant list until a change is made - I hate to do this since it is about the only teen age group we have in the parish and the kids are doing a good job.

I love it here and I feel the parish accepts me though I could be doing much more and much better work if the Pastor were in better health. But I will continue to comply to his wishes and show the parish, at least, that

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

*Humility and obedience are of the essence of Religious life.
Perhaps this situation is all for the best and with
prayer and obedience I will serve the Lord well.*

*Thank you for your understanding and your prayer,
Father Abbot, and be sure that you are remembered in
each of my masses.*

Obediently,

Fr. Robert, O.S.B.

Please give names and addresses of your
nearest relatives

Name:

Street:

Town and State:

Name:

Street:

Town and State:

Name:

Street:

Town and State:

PERSONAL ACCOUNT

of

Robert Blumeyer, OSB

for the year

1964 - 65

PERSONAL ACCOUNT

Saint Boniface Church

Hastings, Minnesota

January 17, 1962

Dear Father Abbot,

Enclosed please find my financial statement for the past year. I feel that the expenditures for the past year have been a bit excessive but this is due partly to the fact that I had hospitalization and considerable medication to buy for the late summer months. I'm sure that I will be able to cut expenses considerably this year.

Things are going beautifully here at Hastings. Father Roderic is a most understanding and inspiring man - we work together very well and I am most happy. I look forward to a fine year with him.

Obediently Yours,

Father Robert, O.S.B.

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

6th June 62
\$ 250.00

June 11, 1962

Dear Father Abbot,

I have enclosed a check from the daughter of Isabella which is to be used for the education of a Benedictine vocation. I am their chaplain and as they have asked me to send it to you. Would you have time to make an acknowledgment? Either name on the check or the circle itself would suffice. Hastings isn't big enough to require more address.

I found the retreat inspiring and hoped much

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH
REV. ROBERT D. BLUMEYER, O. S. B.
HASTINGS, MINNESOTA

benefit. I think the retreat master was very good.
Another great joy was the treat of praying in the
new church for the first time. It is magnificent!
With a prayer for your welfare, I remain,

Obediently,

Fr. Robert

PAX!

Diebus 9 et 11 augusti 1962 respective

Ex hac vita decesserunt

PETRUS J. CANDRIAN

Pater R. P. Ignatii, O.S.B.

CHRIS BLUMEYER

Pater R. P. Roberti, O.S.B.

Eorum requies aeterna piis nostris commendatur orationibus
et sacrificiis.

R. I. P.

Ex Abbatia S. Iohannis Baptistae
Collegeville, Minnesota
die 13 augusti 1962

+ BALDUINUS, O.S.B.
ABBAS



LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

IN THE NAME OF GOD. AMEN.

I, Robert Donald Blumeyer,
otherwise known as Robert Blumeyer, being of legal age,
of sound mind and memory, do hereby make, publish, and declare this to be my last will and testament.

FIRST: I give, devise, and bequeath to

the Order of St. Benedict, St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota

all property, real, personal, and mixed, which I now possess or which I may hereafter acquire;

SECOND: I hereby nominate and appoint

Baldwin Dworschak or his successor as Abbot of St. John's Abbey

as the executor of this will, without bond or inventory.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of Jul 1943

(Signature) Rev. Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.

Signed, published, and declared by the above named Robert Donald Blumeyer
otherwise known as Robert Blumeyer, as his
last will and testament, in the presence of us, who in his presence and at his request, and in the
presence of each other, have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses the day and year above written.

(Witnesses) Roderic Albens, O.S.B.

Saint Boniface Church

Hastings, Minnesota

August 2, 1963

Dear Father Abbot,

Last week my brother, who lives in Hastings, told me of his plans to spend some of his vacation taking my Mother to Pennsylvania. She plans on spending the winter there with her Sisters. They would like to have me go with them on this trip and I told them that I would write you and get your impression on this before any definite plans are made on their part. My brother's vacation begins the 19 of August and would like to leave on that day or the day after. This would mean my being away from the Parish here for one Sunday though I don't think that I would be away for two full weeks. This would also mean that I would have to have a replacement for this time since I don't think that Father Roderic would be able to handle it alone even during the week.

May I have your reaction to this soon, Father Abbot, so I can give definite word to my family. I would like to go since all of my Mother's side of the family lives in Erie and I havn't seen them for nearly twenty years. My Aunt lives about three blocks from a Benedictine parish with men from Saint Vincent's. As I have said, I would like to go but will not be terribly disappointed if I can not.

Obediently,

Robert O.S.B.

*Per granted
Aug 5*

*Aug
19-30*

INFORMATION FOR THE ARCHIVES OF SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY, COLLEGEVILLE

St. John's Abbey Archives
Collegeville, Minnesota

NAME: ROBERT DONALD FOREST BLUMEYER
(Religious) (Baptismal) (Family)

BIRTH: Boyden Spencer Co Illinois June 11 1922
(City) (County) (State) (Month) (Day) (Year)

YOUR PATRON SAINT: Robert of Bellarmine NAMEDAY: April 29

TRIENNIAL VOWS: St. John's Abbey July 11, 1950 Abbot Allessandro
(Place) (Date) (Before Whom)

FINAL VOWS/OBLATION: St. John's Abbey July 11, 1953 Abbot Raddemann
(Place) (Date) (Before Whom)

ORDINATION: St. John's Abbey May 19, 1956 B. Rothemann
(Place) (Date) (Bishop)

FATHER'S FULL NAME: _____

FATHER'S BIRTHPLACE: Boyden, Illinois

FATHER'S NATIONAL DESCENT: German

FATHER'S RELIGION: Catholic DATE OF DEATH: Aug. 11, 1962

HIGHEST LEVEL OF FATHER'S EDUCATION: Grade school (8)

FATHER'S OCCUPATION: Accountant Permitter (Retail)
(How) (When You Entered Monastery)

MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: _____

MOTHER'S BIRTHPLACE: Madisonville, Missouri

MOTHER'S NATIONAL DESCENT: German, Dutch

MOTHER'S RELIGION: Catholic DATE OF DEATH: _____

HIGHEST LEVEL OF MOTHER'S EDUCATION: 1st year of college

YOUR CAREER BEFORE ENTERING THE MONASTERY: Automotive work, gas station
Washing (Maid) in Red Bull store for 2 years

EDUCATION	SCHOOL	FROM	TO	MAJOR	DEGREE	DATE
ELEMENTARY:	<u>Boyden Public (Boydenville)</u>	<u>1928</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>1936</u>	
SECONDARY:	<u>Boyden High School</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>1940</u>	
UNDERGRADUATE:	<u>St. John's Union</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>1951</u>	
THEOLOGY:	<u>St. John's Sem.</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>1956</u>	
GRADUATE:	_____					
POST-DOCTORAL:	_____					
OTHER:	_____					

[Over Please]

DATE FILLED OUT: June 24, 1964

Robert M. Blumeier, OSB
(Signature)

LIST CHRONOLOGICALLY ALL THE MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS (lasting six months or more) YOU HAVE RECEIVED SINCE PROFESSION AND ORDINATION. Give (a) the type or nature of the work, e.g., assistant pastor or plumber or math teacher in Prep School, (b) the location, (c) the duration, (d) any special achievements or items of note, e.g., built parish hall in 1948.

*Assistant Pastor, St. Boniface Church, Hastings, Minn.
1956 - present (1964)*

GIVE YOUR PARENT'S PRESENT ADDRESS, IF LIVING.

LIST YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE ORDER OF THEIR BIRTHS. INCLUDE YOURSELF. For those still living give their present address; for those who have died write "deceased." Put an asterisk before those whom you want contacted immediately and directly by the Abbey when you die.

- 1. Robert H. Blumeyer, O.S.B.*

IN THE REMAINING SPACE AND ON AN ADDITIONAL SHEET IF NECESSARY PUT DOWN ANY OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF YOURS THAT YOU THINK SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY RECORDED.

*Convert from Lutheranism
Baptized July 11, 1946 at St. John's Abbey
by Fr. Lancelot.*



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

June 1, 1965

Dear Father Robert,

I was sorry to hear that you were ill, and I hope that by this time you are much improved.

I have decided to give you a new assignment, and I wanted to let you know at this time. I would like to have you go to St. Augustine's parish, St. Cloud, to take Fr. Simon's place, so that I can appoint him chaplain of the Prep School. I felt that it would be important to choose an experienced assistant rather than a newly ordained priest for St. Augustin's because Bishop Bartholome comes there every week, and many from the Abbey stop off there. I am quite sure Fr. Simon would like to see the boys' choir continued also. I am confident you will like Father Peter, as pastor, and that in every other way you will fit into the situation there. This appointment should take place on June 18th. Today I will be writing to Father Roderic to let him know of this move.

Thank you for the good work you have done at St. Boniface parish. I know that the people will regret very much your leaving, but you can tell them that it is to be expected that you serve in a number of parishes before having one of your own.

Devotedly yours,



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

56321

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

May 10, 1969

Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Church of St. Benedict
2969 Otis Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10465

Dear Father Robert,

As you know, the Personnel Committee has been working diligently lately in order to help me in making the necessary changes for the coming year. Although a few questions still remain to be solved, I am happy to know that an appointment to St. Bartholomew's parish in Weyzata will be welcome to you, and to let you know officially that this will be your assignment. Father Philibert is happy to have you come to St. Bartholomew's, and I am sure that you and he will be able to do much good for the parish.

The Committee has suggested that the changes be made effective between the 6th of June and the 16th of August, and I approve of this suggestion, as also of the further suggestion that the actual time of the change be worked out by those concerned. Father Thomas Nolan will replace you at St. Benedict's, and I have just written to him about this appointment, asking him also to work out the most suitable time for the exchange with you and with the two pastors concerned. I asked him then to let me know of the date when the exchange will be made so that I can inform the Bishops concerned and ask them for the faculties. I hope that this way of setting the time for the move will work out satisfactorily. I am also writing to Father Giles today about the change.

With all good wishes, and the prayer that God bless you and your work,
I am

Your devoted Abbot,

ER:je

OSB BLUMEYER 00067



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

56321

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

December 29, 1971

Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Church of St. Bartholomew
636 East Wayzata Boulevard
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391

Dear Father Robert,

I am happy to let you know that Archbishop Byrne has approved your appointment as pastor of St. Bartholomew's, effective on the 5th of January, 1972. Congratulations -- and the assurance of a memento that God bless you and your work in this new assignment.

I was not able to contact the Archbishop yesterday, since he was in St. Louis, but I called him this morning, and he gave his approval to the recommendation I made that you become pastor, and also that Father James become assistant. He did say that he wished to speak with you and that the practice of the Archdiocese is that men are given faculties at the Chancery Office. It would be good if you could arrange to see the Archbishop early next week, before the 5th. I am sure that whatever suggestions he may have will be helpful to you as you take up the pastorate.

I cannot write more now, since we have just come from the Chapter on Benilde - the Chapter voted to have us continue at Benilde for the next three years -- and we have evening prayers in a few minutes before the community gathering begins. But I wanted to send at least this short letter of the good news and with my best wishes not only for the new appointment but also for the New Year. God bless you and your work!

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

OSB BLUMEYER_00068

December 30, 1971

Reverend Robert Blumeyer, OSB
Church of St. Bartholomew
636 E. Wayzata Boulevard
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391

Dear Father Robert,

Archbishop Byrne has received notice of your presentation for appointment as pastor of the Church of St. Bartholomew in Wayzata, and the Archbishop has asked me to commend his approval of your presentation and of your pastor assignment to that parish.

Since you already of the faculties of the Archdiocese we are only enclosing a formula of the Profession of Faith which any priest of the Archdiocese may witness, and when you have completed it would you kindly return it to me at the Chancery.

We are grateful for your work at St. Bartholomew, since your coming in 1969, and we are delighted to have you among our pastors.

With cordial best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Monsignor Terrance W. Bernison
Chancellor

OSB BLUMEYER_00069



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

56321

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

January 3, 1973 p.m.

Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Church of St. Bartholomew
636 Wayzata Boulevard East
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391

Dear Father Robert,

Only this evening have I been able to write to Father James, and I have just completed the letter asking him to leave St. Bartholomew's by the 10th of this month, though I also assured him that, if this were too short a time, I would be willing to extend it somewhat. I had hoped to be able to write before this, but the days have been filled; with quite a few of the Fathers here during the Christmas holidays there have been many interviews.

I thought first of simply sending you a copy of my letter to Father James, but decided against that to save his feelings. In giving my reasons for asking him to leave St. Bartholomew's, I tried to summarize the reasons given by the persons who were here to discuss the matter, without giving any names. However, I assume that he will be able to guess some of the sources of the reasons which I gave. I hope that this will not make life more difficult for you in the next days.

Unfortunately, I do not have any definite assignment to offer to Father James at present, except that there is the possibility that he may be able to work in the music department here. I told him also that I would consider any suggestion that he might wish to make. I suggested also that until some more definite assignment could be made it might be possible for him to leave his piano and other musical instruments at St. Bartholomew's for the time being. I hope that this would be satisfactory to you.

I think this is going to be a shock to Father James, but I am sure that you will do what you can to help him over that. With thanks for the help you have given him over the past thirteen or fourteen months (and before that also), and with all good wishes for this New Year, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

OSB BLUMEYER_00070



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

56321

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

May 16, 1973

Father Robert Blumeyer, O. S. B.
St. Bartholomew's Church
636 East Wayzata Boulevard
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391

Dear Father Robert,

Even though I told you over the telephone a few days ago that I had decided to ask you to accept the appointment to Hastings, I think it best to make this a formal request in writing -- for the sake of the records.

I am happy that you are pleased with the appointment to Hastings and I am also grateful to you for your willingness to accept Father Francis Studer as an assistant so that he will have the opportunity to get pastoral experience. Father Francis should be due in Chicago one of these days and I have sent him a letter to his Chicago address. I presume that I will be hearing from him shortly.

I have not yet worked out the date for the various changes but I hope to do that soon and I hope also to present the various changes to the Bishops involved for their approval.

With all good wishes and a prayer that God bless you and your work, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JE:fp

OSB BLUMEYER_00071

St. Bartholomew's Church

PHONE 473-6601

636 EAST WAYZATA BOULEVARD, WAYZATA, MINNESOTA 55391

May 19, 1973

Dear Father Abbot,

It seems fitting that I write you on the anniversary of my ordination to thank you for the new appointment. The Monday you called I told you that you had made my day - this is an understatement. Actually you have made me the happiest man in the Order. I have always felt very close to Hastings, I grew up there - in the Priesthood. Many of the difficulties in readjusting I won't have, getting acquainted and getting the pulse of the people since I have nine years experience in that parish. It is a great place with deep Christian commitment. I am sure it has changed and I will find some problems I still am very excited about going back.

The joy of receiving your letter was somewhat reduced since someone sent me the last copy of the campus "RECORD". It is a shocking reminder that St John's has changed a great deal too. Gregory managed to quiet me down after some time but I still find it hard to accept!

The parish is having a celebration for me, my anniversary, at the 5:30 liturgy this evening. Everything seems to be going my way. I am still committed to the priesthood, delighted to be a Benedictine and very much indebted to my Abbot for a wonderful assignment. Thank you again.

Obediently,

F. Robert

Father Robert



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

56321

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

June 7, 1973

Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
St. Bartholomew's Church
636 East Wayzata Boulevard
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391

Dear Father Robert:

I was very happy to receive your letter of May 19--the anniversary of your ordination--and I am happier the day was made more joyful in view of the appointment to Hastings. I would have written earlier, but as you know from CONFRERE, I have been in the hospital, returning only yesterday.

Father Harold and Father Julius will be leaving Hastings on June 19 and when I write the Archbishop, I will ask him to make that the effective date for your appointment as pastor at St. Boniface, with Father Francis as associate pastor. He indicated he had had a good visit with you and I am hopeful that you and he will be not only very happy working together, but also very effective. Father Francis has some desire to complete a course for his MA, but I think it much better that he plan to do this possibly in the summer of 1974 rather than now. After you and he are somewhat settled at Hastings, together you can work out a suitable time for a vacation.

Since I am way behind with correspondence and since there are many letters to write concerning the various changes, I would be grateful if you would give my greetings to Father Gregory, and if you would let him know that I will ask the Archbishop to name him as pastor of St. Bartholomew's effective on June 19.

I am happy to know that you are very much dedicated to the priesthood, to your monastic way of life, and to the community. May the Lord continue to bless both you and your work.

With all good wishes,

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JE:fp

OSB BLUMEYER_00073



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA
56321

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

August 17, 1973

Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
St. Boniface Church
520 Ramsey Street
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

Dear Father Robert,

As I believe you know, Father James ~~some time~~ ago requested a dispensation from all of his obligations as a monk and priest. I sent him the necessary instructions, and I have tried to contact him several times since then, but without success. He has not in any way responded to my letters nor done anything further about his petition. I believe that you have also tried to contact him unsuccessfully; I know Father Daniel also has.

I believe that, much as I hate to do so, it will be necessary for me, for the sake of the records, to write a severe letter indicating that if he does not respond, steps will be taken to have him dismissed from the Order. I think this has to be done for the sake of the records and to protect ourselves as a community. I would therefore be grateful if in some way, possibly through his mother, you could find out for me his present address.

Father Conrad's condition remains about the same. He continues cheerful and resigned. Father Arthur suffered a stroke last Sunday and is now in the St. Cloud Hospital. His condition is not improving. I expect to see him this afternoon again. Brother Kevin is recuperating nice from his gallbladder operation, and all others are well.

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JE:fp

OSB BLUMEYER_00074

file Robert Blumeyer

August 20, 1973

Dear Father Robert,

Just a short note to thank you for your letter of August 22 in response to my request for information concerning Father James. I appreciate knowing that his address remains the same, and one of these days I feel I must write him, as I indicated in my previous letter to you. I wish there were some way in which we could help him, but I am at a loss as to how we can do so without his cooperation.

With greetings to Father Francis and every good wish, I am

Devotedly,

JE:fp

Abbot

St. Boniface Church
Winnetka, Minnesota

August 22, 1973

Dear Father Abbot, I am sorry to have delayed so long in answering your letter of last Saturday but this has been a very busy week, two funerals, two weddings plus the fact that school begins tomorrow.

I drove into Minneapolis yesterday to have a short visit with Father James mother. She received me rather well though she was quite reticent. I approached the subject of James with great care since I didn't want to disturb her and merely asked how Father is doing and if he is still living at the same address. She doesn't know a great deal about him, I discovered but assures me that he has not moved. So the address is

I am happy to assist in any way I can in this sad and difficult situation.

Obediently,

Robert O.S.B.

OSB BLUMEYER_00076

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH 520 RAMSEY HASTINGS MINN 55033

February 27, 1974

Dear Father Abbot, I have enclosed my financial statement for the year and as usual I have to apologise for being late but the first day of Lent gives me added resolve and energy to get these necessary problems out of the way. Some of the expenses are high and I intend to cut down on some of the unnecessary spending.

Things continue to go very well here and we are faced with a problem that I haven't had much experience in - investing surplus parish income. With the probable loss of the tax credit to schools I imagine that could be wiped out rather soon. But the parish seems genuinely happy with the two men you have sent to Saint Boniface and the men are happy to be here.

Obediently,

Fr. Robert

OSB BLUMEYER_00077

March 2, 1974

Dear Father Robert,

Thank you for your letter of the 27th, for your personal statement for the past year, and for the check of \$1000 which you enclosed as surplus income for the support of the community. In the name of all I am grateful for the work that you are doing, and I am happy to know that both you and Father Francis happy in your work at St. Boniface, and that the people also are pleased. Not one word of criticism has come from anyone in Hastings; a welcome relief from the past couple of years. It is also good to know that there is a surplus income in the parish. Hopefully the tax credit will be continued.

I note also, as you did, that some of the expenses are high, e.g., for vacation. But I am grateful for the resolve to cut down on "some of the unnecessary spending."

Fr. Conrad continues to be very weak, but somehow manages to hold on, and to be cheerful and resigned. A few cases of flu in the house, but none serious. With all good wishes, and with greetings also to Fr. Francis,

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

Robert Blumeyer

1973 -

Mass Stipends to Abbey \$ _____

Mass Stipends to Others _____

Total \$ _____

Mass Intentions on Hand _____

Dollar value of Stipends on Hand \$ _____

To those residing outside the Monastery, to avoid any difficulty at time of transfer or death:

Please list items of value which are in your possession and belong to the Monastery, such as cameras, tape recorders, radios, stereos, television sets, chairs, and valuable objects of Art. (Do not list things which belong to the rectory or parish.)

PLEASE GIVE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF YOUR NEAREST RELATIVES.

(Even if you filled this out last year, this might require updating.)

NAME:

STREET:

CITY AND STATE:

NAME

STREET:

CITY AND STATE:

NAME

STREET:

CITY AND STATE:

2/27/

PERSONAL ACCOUNT

Hope to see you soon. I am going to be visiting the Abbot.
Fr. R.



4/21/75

SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY • COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ABBOT

March 17, 1975

Dear Father Robert,

We are trying to get an up-to-date list of the close relatives of all our monks-- including the young, hale and hearty ones. According to our records the last time you gave us your list was in 1973.

Are these right?

O.K.

If these are right; will you please just OK this note and return it to me as soon as possible. If you happen to have phone numbers, it would be fine if you would jot them down, but it is not absolutely necessary.

I think of you often and how fine you were on the piano (both inside and out). I hope all goes well with you. Thanks heaps for your cooperation -- and best wishes.

Cordially,

Frances Ford

Secretary to Father Abbot John, OSB

Blumeyer

December 10, 1975

Dear Father Robert:

I presume you have heard that Father Simon spent about three weeks in the hospital recently, suffering mainly from nervous tensions and continued back trouble. The doctor has strongly advised that he be relieved of his appointment as pastor at St. Boniface Church in Cold Spring.

I am writing Father Peter today to ask him to accept the appointment as Administrator at Cold Spring, effective on January 5. I have asked him to discuss the matter with you.

I regret that I do not have anyone to send as a replacement for Father Peter but I hope you and Father Cloud will be able to fill the needs of St. Boniface in Hastings. If you should find that weekend help would be necessary, I would hope that Father Prior would be able to send someone.

I have spoken to the Archbishop about withdrawing Father Peter and this is agreeable to him. I am leaving tomorrow for Lansing for the installation of Bishop Povish and expect to be back Friday afternoon. I have asked Father Peter to let me know his reaction either Friday afternoon or Saturday morning.

With all good wishes and the prayer that God bless you, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JE:fp

Father Robert Blumeyer, OSB
St. Boniface Church
520 Ramsay Street
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

OSB BLUMEYER_00082

April 28, 1976

Dear Father Robert,

I am writing today about the appointments for the coming year. I think we were able finally to finish most of them at the meeting of the Personnel Staff this morning.

I understand that Father Prior and Father Daniel have been in contact with you about your associate pastors for the coming year. However, I want to write you formally, asking whether the appointment of Father Blane Wasnie and Father Stephen Beauclair as your associates is acceptable to you. I personally believe you will make a fine team and that St. Boniface will continue to be one of our outstanding parishes. I would appreciate your letting me know very soon if the appointment of these two men is agreeable.

I am writing to Father Cloud, informing him that, while he should stay at St. Boniface until Father Stephen is able to leave New York, he should thereafter plan to come to the Abbey to await a suitable appointment. I am not sure when Father Stephen will be able to come, but I hope it will be by mid-July at the latest.

With all good wishes, and the prayer that God bless you, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
St. Boniface Church
520 Ramsey Street
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

Saint Boniface Church

502 Ramsey Street

Haakings, Minnesota, 55033

May 18, 1976

Dear Father Abbot,

I would first like to ask you not to consider the long delay in answering your letter as any lack of interest - anything but. I am most excited and overjoyed. I had a rather bad cold for a couple of weeks then the stomach flu. I then insisted that Cloud take a vacation since he found the winter and Lent difficult. The week he was gone I had three funerals and a wedding. Last week end was also our parish election Sunday which took a lot of my time.

I am most happy to accept them and am most grateful to you for this kind consideration you have given me and Saint Boniface Parish. This is the first time we have had a priest here under fifty years of age for too long a time. The three of us spent three days together working out job descriptions, policies and priorities and I am most excited with next years prospects. I also feel our three personalities and temperaments compliment one another very well. Their concept of a pastoral, and and the one I have are

TEAM

Saint Boniface Church

502 Ramsey Street

Hastings, Minnesota, 55035

are almost identical. I have asked the parish council to assist us on needs of the parish and priorities and while I have not yet received any, they are happy to assist. They have also asked me to thank you for your consideration given to us.

I was a little concerned about Father Cloud and the way he might react. I had a long talk with him thanking him for his work and what he brought to our parish. I feel that he is taking it well and seems genuinely relieved.

Tomorrow is my anniversary of ordination and one of the priests in the area is taking me to the opera tomorrow night. I shall remember you very specially at my Mass tomorrow and thank God for the many blessings that have come to me through the Church and the Benedictines,

Obediently,

Fr. Robert OB

May 19, 1976

Dear Father Robert,

Just a brief note to thank you for your letter of yesterday and to say that I understand your reason for not replying sooner.

One of the staff members had told me that you were pleased with the two associate pastors that I have appointed to Hastings, and therefore I went ahead with asking approval of the Archbishop. This approval came yesterday and both appointments are effective on the first of June. As is usual in the Archdiocese, the Chancery requested that the two new men come to the chancery for the profession of faith and to receive the Pagella of faculties. If possible, I am sure Fathers Blane and Stephen would be grateful if you would introduce them at the chancery.

I, too, have been concerned about Father Cloud but I am happy to note from your letter that he is taking it well and seems genuinely relieved.

Congratulations on your ordination anniversary today, and assurance of a special remembrance in our afternoon Mass today.

With every good wish and the prayer that God bless you,
I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

Father Robert Blumeyer, OSB
Saint Boniface Church
502 Ramsey Street
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

OSB BLUMEYER_00086

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Office of the Archbishop

June 30, 1976

Filed: Robert Blumeyer

The Right Reverend John Eldenschink, O.S.B.
Abbot
St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Dear Father Abbot,

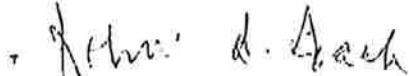
Father Robert Blumeyer visited me on June 30. He insists upon his innocence and, of course, has a perfect right to do that. He told me that he had reviewed the case thoroughly with you, had done a battery of tests with Dr. John Regan, and feels absolutely confident, not only of his innocence, but his ability to ride out whatever problems might be occasioned in the parish.

I told him that I am prepared to accept whatever recommendation that you make. If you feel that Father Robert is correct in his assessment of what happened, and that he ought to remain at Hastings, I would approve that with no hesitation.

I think it is important that he understand the problem if these people should go public. He says he does understand that and has weighed that fact. He is satisfied that they will not go public, but is prepared to have them do so and feels that his own reputation will be sufficient to handle the problem.

The only other thing that I indicated to him was that if this should become public, and if there appears to be some scandal, I would feel that we would have to review the issue at that time.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



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

OSB BLUMEYER_00087

8 July 1976

Dear Father Robert:

I am sending you herewith a copy of my letter today to Archbishop Roach. I hope you will find it fully satisfactory since you indicated over the phone yesterday you would welcome a sabbatical and the other suggestions that I made.

I have not yet had time to check further into various possibilities where you might take the sabbatical but I hope to be able to do that next week. Since the courses would not begin until September, I believe we have time yet, though I realize that it is necessary to apply soon. I will be in touch as soon as I have further information.

With every good wish and with greetings to Fathers Elane and Stephen for the Feast of Saint Benedict, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JE/ev
Enclosure

Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Boniface Church
520 Ramsey Street
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

8 July 1976

Filed : Robert Blumeyer

The Most Reverend John R. Roach, D.D.
Archbishop of Saint Paul - Minneapolis
226 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Dear Archbishop Roach:

I regret the delay in replying to your kind letter of the 30th of June in reference to Father Robert Blumeyer, after you had spoken with him that same day. I was, however, waiting for a report from Dr. John Regan, a report which has not yet reached me. Secondly, Father Robert was absent for a few days of vacation, and I wished to speak with him before writing.

In view of Father Robert's continued assertion of innocence, and in view of your willingness to permit Father Robert to continue as pastor of Saint Boniface in Hastings, if I judge this to be best under the circumstances, I have concluded that he ought to remain at Hastings, but under certain conditions.

These conditions are that he take a "sabbatical" for about three or four months, that during this time he have another psychiatric evaluation, and that arrangements for a directed retreat be made, if possible, a thirty-day directed retreat. Father Robert said that he would welcome these conditions when I spoke by phone with him yesterday. I informed him that I would check into various possibilities where these conditions could be best fulfilled. My hope is to find a suitable place where, during the "sabbatical," he could take one or the other course in theology or Scripture while also fulfilling the other two conditions. I anticipate that this "sabbatical" would cover the period from September through December of this year. Father Robert is confident that the two associate pastors could provide adequately for the needs of the parish in Hastings during his absence. If help should be needed on weekends, we would send such help from here.

I am hopeful that the matter in question will not become public and above all that there will be no scandal. I agree fully that, if the matter should become public and if scandal would result, the decision to permit Father Robert to remain would have to be reviewed. I would assume that you would become aware of this before I would, and I stand ready to cooperate in every possible way.

OSB BLUMEYER_00089

The Most Reverend John R. Roach, D.D.
Page Two
8 July 1976

With every good wish, I am
Sincerely yours in Christ,

John Eidenschink, O.S.B.
Abbot

cc: Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Office of the Archbishop

July 20, 1976

Filed : Robert Blumeyer

John Eldenschink, O.S.B.
Abbot
Saint John's Abbey
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

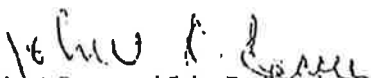
Dear Abbot John,

Thank you very much for your letter of July 8. I have been on vacation and just got to it.

I agree completely with your handling of Father Blumeyer's situation. It seemed to me after talking with him that it was almost impossible to assume guilt. I also think that the sabbatical which you have suggested and another psychiatric evaluation are most appropriate.

So far as I am concerned, I am going to assume that Father Robert has been effective in that parish and unless there is some further reason to question that that the issue now rests.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


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

OSB BLUMEYER_00091

Thursday, July 29, 1976

mother of Father Robert,
died yesterday afternoon. The funeral will be
at Lion County First Presbyterian Church in
George, Iowa, on Saturday, at 1:30 in the after-
noon. Please remember Father Robert's mother in
your prayers.

Abbot John

Blumeyer

August 9, 1976

Dear Father Robert,

Just a note to add to the enclosed, a note taken from Father Joel's letter to me of August 6, which I received this morning:

"A program: enclosed you will find the fall program for the Institute of Pastoral Studies. This institute offers a masters degree in religious education after 30 credits of work, but they will happily accept Robert without a graduate record exam and even though he is going to take courses for only a semester. The brochure outlines only the 1st semester program which is a program geared for someone who might also have a part-time ministry. Their summer program is designed much like our graduate theology program at St. John's and has many more offerings, but the "during the year" offerings seem to be excellent."

With all good wishes and the prayer that God bless you — and with greetings also to Frs. Blane and Stephen,

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

10 August 1976

The Reverend Joseph Kelly
Saint Jerome's Church
1709 West Lunt Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60626

Dear Father Kelly:

I am writing today to ask whether it would be possible for another of our priests to live at Saint Jerome's rectory from about the 15th of September, 1976, to about the 15th of January, 1977. I am able to give one of our priests, Father Robert Blumeyer, a one semester sabbatical in order to take courses at Loyola University's Institute of Pastoral Studies. Presently Father Robert is serving as pastor of Saint Boniface parish in Hastings, Minnesota.

Father Joel Daniel Kelly has been very happy at Saint Jerome's rectory and, since he will be leaving there shortly, I am wondering whether it would be possible for Father Robert to live at Saint Jerome's for the time indicated. To the best of my knowledge, Father Robert does not know Spanish but he is experienced in parochial work and I am sure he would be willing to help on weekends and also to some extent during the week days, if such help were needed. Saint John's would, also, gladly pay for his board and room if that were preferable. Father Joel will be able to give you further information about Father Robert should you wish it.

With sincere thanks for the hospitality shown to Father Joel, and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

John Eidenschink, O.S.B.
Abbot

JE/ev

AMBASSADOR 2-3170

St. Jerome's Church
1708 WEST LUNT AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60626

August 23, 1976

Most Rev. John Eidenschink O.S.B.
Office of the Abbott
St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Dear Abbott Eidenschink:

In response to your letter of August 10 we would be agreeable to have the Rev. Robert Blumeyer live at St. Jerome's while he attends courses at Loyola University.

If he proves to be as cooperative as Father Joel Kelly, he will be an asset to the parish while he is here. If he can help out somewhat especially on weekends, we will gladly supply room and board and pay some monthly salary as well.

Hoping this can be worked out and with best personal wishes, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

Joseph F. Kelly
Rev. Joseph F. Kelly

Pastor

OSB BLUMEYER_00095

27 August 1976

The Reverend Joseph F. Kelly
Saint Jerome's Church
1709 West Lunt Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60626

Dear Father Kelly:

Thank you very much for your letter of the 23rd of August in which you informed me that it will be agreeable to have our Father Robert Blumeyer live at Saint Jerome's while attending Loyola University. I appreciate, also, your willingness to provide him with board and room and, possibly, a small salary if he is as helpful as Father Joel Kelly was.

I have spoken by phone to Father Robert and he is awaiting final word from Loyola University. As soon as he hears from the University, he will be in touch with you.

Reciprocating your good wishes, and with a prayer that God bless you and your good work, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

John Eidenschink, O.S.B.
Abbot

JE/ev

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH 520 RAMSEY HASTINGS MINN 55033

September 16, 1976

Dear Father Abbot,

The last two weeks of final preparation here have much more demanding than I had expected and I have not been able to get to visit you as I had planned. I had to have some work done on my car, some checking with my doctor here and got my eyes checked. I will contact after having gotten somewhat settled in Chicago. I have registered and prepaid three courses. I think, however, that I will drop one and stay with four hours a week. I had a nice phone visit with Fr Kelly and told him that I would be better able to tell how much time I can put into the parish when I get there and get started.

The two men are doing a really fine job though I think they are a little anxious as to the amount of time and work the place demands. I am wondering if it would not be a good idea to give one of them the power of administration. It is your decision, of course, but I think it would be a good and helpful situation.

Sincerely,

Fr. Robert

28 September 1976

The Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Jerome's Church
1709 Lunt Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60626

Dear Father Robert:

I regret the delay in thanking you for your letter of September 16th which arrived while I was at Saint Benedict's in Archison for their visitation from the 19th to the 25th. It was a good visitation though the community is worried because of lack of vocations and because the merged school is steadily decreasing in enrollment. I hope that we were able to be of help to the community.

I hope that you have now become somewhat settled at Saint Jerome's and that the courses are going well. I think you were wise to consider dropping one so that you would have only four hours a week.

I appreciated your suggestion that one of the two at Saint Boniface be given the power of administration during your absence. That, of course, must come from the Archbishop. I will write him and suggest that he name Father Blane as the administrator pro tem. Even though Father Stephen has more pastoral experience, I think it best to ask that Father Blane be named administrator.

Today, Father Daniel will be sending out the latest Confrere, and, therefore, I will not try to give more news since I am catching up with correspondence of last week.

In the hope that everything will go well during the next months, and with every good wish, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JE/ev



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

POST OFFICE BOX 1979
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

Office of the Vicar General

September 29, 1976

C

Reverend Robert Blumeyer, OSB
St. Jerome Rectory
1709 W. Lunt Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60626

O

Dear Father Blumeyer,

P

During the absence of His Eminence Cardinal Cody, and upon presentation of your Right Reverend Abbot, faculties of the Archdiocese of Chicago, in accordance with Canon Law and the regulations of this diocese, are hereby granted you during your residence at St. Jerome Rectory, under the direction of the Reverend Joseph F. Kelly, Pastor, and until March 31st, 1977.

Y

Since this is not an assignment as a Canonical Assistant, specific delegation must be requested from the Pastor for any wedding at which you may be asked to officiate (Canon 1096).

Wishing you every blessing in your studies, and with kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Magr. Francis A. Brackin
Vicar General

P.S. - May I ask you to be good enough to complete the enclosed form and return it at your convenience.

cc: ✓ Right Rev. John Eldenschink, OSB - Abbot
Reverend Joseph F. Kelly, Pastor

OSB BLUMEYER_00099

October 2, 1976

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

Dear Archbishop Roach,

In your letter of July 20 of this year in reference to Father Robert Blumeyer, you approved of the plan I had suggested of permitting Father to remain as pastor of St. Boniface in Hastings, provided that he would take a sabbatical and undergo another psychiatric examination. Arrangements for the sabbatical and for the examination have now been made, and about a week ago Father Robert began taking courses in theology at Loyola University in Chicago, while living at St. Jerome's rectory. The courses will end on January 15, 1977.

In a letter which I received a few days ago Father Robert suggested that I ask that one of the two associate pastors at St. Boniface be named Administrator during the time of his sabbatical. I have just spoken by telephone with one of the associate pastors, Father Blane Wasnie, O.S.B., and he judged that it would be helpful in the care of the parish if he were named Administrator pro tem.

If this is agreeable, I would recommend that Father Blane Wasnie be named Administrator, effective immediately and ending on January 15, 1977.

In the hope that you are finding time to get out to enjoy the magnificent weather of these days, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

John Eidenschink, O.S.B.
Abbot

October 9, 1976

Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Church of St. Jerome
1709 Lunt Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60626

Dear Fther Robert,

On the 8th of July I wrote to Archbishop Roach, replying to his letter of the 30th of June, in which he indicated that you might remain as pastor of St. Boniface's, if I judged this best. I sent you a copy of that letter of July 8, since we had spoken over the phone about the conditions which I thought I should ask you to fulfill in remaining as pastor.

One of the conditions was "another psychiatric evaluation." With the help of Father Prior I am arranging for Father James Gill to call you as soon as convenient. Though he is based on the east coast, he comes to Chicago week— and has indicated that he would be happy to be of help to you. I am not sure just when he will call you; perhaps next weekend since I believe that is when he is in Chicago. I would ask that you cooperate with Father Gill (he spent a couple of days here a few years ago under Abbot Baldwin helping us to work out some of the problems that arose after Vatican II -- and is a fine man, fully trained). I am fully confident that he will be able to be of help to you.

In my letter of July 8 to Archbishop Roach I had mentioned also a directed retreat. But the courses you are taking and your working with Father Gill will cover for this. I hope, therefore, that there will be both a renewal in theology and in spirit.

Tomorrow I dedicate an addition to the school at Avon and then head on toward Mandan, where Father Bertram is undergoing treatment. I must be back by Wednesday noon for a meeting, then a meeting of the Seminary Advisory Board Wednesday evening, and a meeting of the Regents on Thursday morning -- so the schedule keeps full.

With all good wishes and a continued memento in prayer,

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

1977 Blumeyer, Robert

INFORMATION FOR THE ARCHIVES OF SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

NAME: ROBERT DONALD BLUMEYER
(Religious) (Baptismal) (Family)

BIRTH: BOYDEN SIOUX IOWA JUNE 11 1922
(City) (County) (State) (Month) (Day) (Year)

YOUR PATRON SAINT: ABBOT OF MOLLESMES NAMEDAY: APRIL 19

TRIENNIAL VOWS: st JOHN'S JUNE 11, 1950 ABBOT ALCUIN
(Place) (Date) (Before Whom)

FINAL VOWS/OBLATION: ST JOHN'S JULY 11, 1953 ABBOT ALCUIN
(Place) (Date) (Before Whom)

ORDINATION: ST JOHN'S ABBEY MAY 19, 1956 BATHOLOME
(Place) (Date) (Bishop)

FATHER'S FULL NAME:

FATHER'S BIRTHPLACE: BOYDEN, IOWA

FATHER'S NATIONAL DESCENT: GERMAN

FATHER'S RELIGION: LUTHERAN DATE OF BIRTH: MARCH 10, 1901

HIGHEST LEVEL OF FATHER'S EDUCATION: finished high school

FATHER'S OCCUPATION: FARMING NOW DECEASED
(When You Entered Monastery) (Now)

MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME:

MOTHER'S BIRTHPLACE: MEADEVILLE, PENNA.

MOTHER'S NATIONAL DESCENT: ENGLISH, GERMAN

MOTHER'S RELIGION: SEVENTH DAY ADV. DATE OF BIRTH: JULY 10, 1901

HIGHEST LEVEL OF MOTHER'S EDUCATION: FINISHED HIGH SCHOOL

YOUR CAREER BEFORE ENTERING THE MONASTERY:

I WAS IN GROCERY RETAIL FOR 5 YEARS BEFORE COMING TO ST JOHN'S

EDUCATION	SCHOOL	FROM	TO	MAJOR	DEGREE	DATE
B.A.	ST JOHN'S UNIVERSITY	1947	1956	PHILOSOPHY	B.A.	1952

ELEMENTARY: DISTRICT SCHOOL IN SIOUX COUNTY IOWA

SECONDARY: BOYDEN PUBLIC SCHOOL, BOYDEN, IOWA

UNDERGRADUATE: ST JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

THEOLOGY: ST JOHN'S SEMINARY

GRADUATE: ONE SEMESTER AT LOYOLA OF CHICAGO

POST-DOCTORAL:

OTHER:

LIST CHRONOLOGICALLY ALL THE MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS (lasting six months or more) YOU HAVE RECEIVED SINCE PROFESSION AND ORDINATION. Give (a) the type or nature of the work, e.g., assistant pastor or plumber or math teacher in Prep School, (b) the location, (c) the duration, (d) any special achievements or items of note, e.g., built parish hall in 1948, or Danforth grant in 1960.

ST BONIFACE CHURCH, HASTINGS, MINNESOTA 1956-1965	ASSISTANT
ST AUGUSTINE'S, ST CLOUD 1965-1968	ASSISTANT
ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH, BRONX, NEW YORK 1968-1969	ASSISTANT
ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, WAYZATA, MINN. 1969-1973	3 YEARS ASSISTANT 1 AND HALF YEARS PASOTOR
ST BONIFACE CHURCH, HASTINGS, MINNESOTA 1973-1978	PASTOR
ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH, AVON, MINNESOTA 1978- PRESNT (1979) 82	
ST. CATHERINE'S, FARHING, MN, JULY, 1982 -	

GIVE YOUR PARENTS' PRESENT ADDRESS, IF LIVING.

LIST YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE ORDER OF THEIR BIRTH. INCLUDE YOURSELF.
For those still living give their present address; for those who have died write "deceased." Put an asterisk
before those whom you want contacted immediately and directly by the Abbey when you die.

IN THE REMAINING SPACE AND ON AN ADDITIONAL SHEET IF NECESSARY PUT DOWN
ANY OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF YOURS THAT YOU
THINK SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY RECORDED.

2 March 1977

The Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Boniface Church
520 Ramsey Street
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

Dear Father Robert:

I would be grateful if you would arrange a visit to the Abbey and to myself since I am interested in hearing a report about your sabbatical in Chicago and about the meetings with Father Gill.

As you may have noted from Confrere, I will be absent all of next week for the Workshop for Abbots. I will be here throughout the week of March 13th. I would suggest that you plan to come on Wednesday, March 16th, either at 11:00 a.m. or at 3:00 p.m. I would, also, appreciate your letting me know whether you can come on the 16th and at which time you will come.

With greetings to Fathers Blane and Stephen, and with every good wish for these Lenten days, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JE/ev

18 April 1977

Ms Linda Gordon
Institute of Pastoral Studies
Loyola University of Chicago
6525 North Sheridan Road,
Chicago, Illinois 60626

Dear Ms. Gordon:

I regret that there has been a delay in my sending you a letter of recommendation for the Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., a priest of Saint John's Abbey, for admission to the Institute of Pastoral Studies of Loyola University.

I do certainly recommend that Father Robert Blumeyer be admitted to the Institute of Pastoral Studies. He has been and continues to be a dedicated pastor of souls, and I am confident that he will profit even more from the courses of the Institute. I will appreciate your kind consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely yours,

John Eldenschink, O.S.B.
Abbot

JR/zw

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH 520 RAMSEY HASTINGS MINN 55033

April 13, 1977

Dear Father Abbot,

Enclosed is a letter from Loyola asking for your letter of recommendation. I guess I forgot to ask you for this because I went to Chicago and they are still insisting. Would you have the time to write a brief letter of reference?

The trip to Europe was very fast but very exciting. I came down with a light touch of pneumonia but while feeling rather tired, am almost back to normal. The Holy Week and Easter liturgies were very well planned and carried out. Many have said it was the finest Holy Week they had ever attended. The crowded conditions of the church were again put into focus.

Hoping your Easter was a blessed one and that you are well, I remain,

Obediently,

Fr. Robert

18 April 1977

The Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Bernard Church
523 Lansey
Madison, Minnesota 55080

Dear Father Robert:

I have your letter of the 15th in which you enclosed the letter from Loyola asking for my letter of recommendation so that your permanent record file can be set up. I will gladly send the letter of recommendation today and I am, therefore returning the letter from Loyola to you.

I am happy to hear that though the trip to Europe was fast, it was exciting. I am sorry to learn that you had a little touch of pneumonia and hope that you are totally recovered now.

Our Holy Week services, also, went very well, though the Church was not crowded on any occasion.

With greetings to Fathers Blane and Stephan, and with every good wish, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JH/ev
Enclosure

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH 520 RAMSEY HASTINGS MINN 55033

June 2, 1977

Dear Father Abbot,

I intended to write much sooner but the final details on my date at Rochester were finalized only this morning. I will have to depart for Rochester on Monday the 6 of June since my examination begins early the next morning. They are not able to give me any clear picture of the time it will take but feel that I most probably will be finished on Friday - unless something is found that may need some attention. I will give you a full report when I have finished there.

I was released from our hospital Friday May 21 and spent the week end in Wyzata. I was feeling so well that I returned to St Boniface the following Monday and have been doing a certain amount of work since it is a very busy time with the last weeks of school.

I will not be able to attend the retreat since this is the time that I will be in Rochester. I will arrange for a retreat a little later in the summer.

Obediently,

Robert, OSB

OSB BLUMEYER_00110

June 4, 1977

Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Church of Saint Boniface
520 Ramsey
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

Dear Father Robert,

Thank you for your letter of the 2nd, which arrived this morning. I note that you will be leaving for Rochester on the 6th, next Monday, but I hope that this may still reach you before you leave.

This much I wrote Saturday morning, and then I was interrupted; now it is Saturday evening, and though this may go out with Sunday's mail, I have more doubts if you will receive it Monday. But in any case you will know that your letter reached me, and that I hope that the stay in Rochester will be short and that they will not discover anything seriously wrong. I appreciate your assurance that you will write me a full report after you leave Rochester.

While I regret that you will not be able to attend the retreat, I am happy that you have the opportunity to have a check-up in Rochester. I know you will keep the retreat in your prayers; it should be a good opportunity for the community to look at its problems, and hopefully come up with some good recommendations.

With every good wish and the prayer that God bless you, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH 520 RAMSEY HASTINGS MINN 55033

June 12, 1977

Dear Father Abbot,

I promised a report when I returned from my check up at Rochester. I have delayed this somewhat because I was quite exhausted and somewhat depressed with the experience. They really do give one a thorough going over and I found this physically exhausting.

I was most impressed with the doctor I had, who is said to be one of the best in this area of medicine in the world. He was very hard on me and put me on a very strict rest period to extend for a period of six weeks from the date that he saw me. I had hoped that he would not find that I did have an attack but he assured me that there was no doubt at all. The thing that disturbed him, and me, was that there had been some deterioration in the time that I left the hospital here and the check at Rochester. He showed me the cardiogram and even I was able to see this. He was very upset that I was almost back on a full schedule in the parish. He indicated that is has been a mild attack but unless I take it very seriously and adhere strictly to the prescribed rest and diet and quit smoking I simply will have another and this could be a very serious one. I can look forward to normal life and activity with this period a care. He has me frightened and I intend to do exactly as he has told me. I am not to take masses and while I can concelebrate I can not do any preaching.

The thought of inactivity is a very difficult one for me to face. I intend to spend some time at the abbey as soon as I feel well enough to make this drive. I may spend some time at a cottage of one of the parishoners - this is quite near here. I also spend a lot of time sleeping.

The doctor there is sending a full report to the doctor here and to Dr Regan. He will gladly send you a report also if you wish. He has a brother who is a Jesuit and understands religious orders well.

Hoping this finds you well, I remain,

Obediently,

Robert OSB

OSB BLUMEYER_00112

21 June 1977

The Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Boniface Church
520 Ramsey
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

Dear Father Robert:

I returned only yesterday afternoon from the General Chapter and from preaching at a First Mass in New York. I was happy to find your letter of June 12th on my desk, though I regret to learn that the check up was exhausting and that the doctor insists on a rest period of six weeks. I regret this latter because I know you will find it difficult to be idle for that long. However, I hope that you will follow the doctors instructions most carefully since he gave you the assurance that, if you do so, you will be able to return to a normal life thereafter. You will be welcome to spend as much time at the Abbey as you wish. I would only suggest that before you come you give either Father Fabian or myself a call so that we can be sure a room will be ready for you.

If it is not too burdensome for the doctor, I would appreciate his sending me a report.

In the hope that you are taking life easy, and with the prayer that God bless you, I am

Devotedly yours,

John Eidenschink, O.S.B.
Abbot

JE/ev

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH 520 RAMSEY HASTINGS MINN 55033

June 30, 1977

Dear Father Abbot,

Just a short note to inform you that all is going well - both in my case and the parish. I have been able to remain inactive rather well so far. I am getting just a little antsy but I have managed to control this well. I am following the doctors orders surprisingly well for me. I have contacted the doctor about a report to you and he promises this soon but to date it has not come in from Rochester. I guess they are just a little slow in matters of this kind.

Hoping this finds you well and asking your prayers,
I remain,

Obediently,

Robert OSB

5 July 1977

The Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.,
Saint Boniface Church
520 Ramsey
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

Dear Father Robert:

Thank you for your note of the 30th which arrived this morning. I am happy to know that you have been able to remain inactive and that all things are going well both for the parish and for yourself. I appreciate your having contacted the doctor to ask him to send me a report. I hope it will arrive soon.

I hope, too, that this hot and muggy weather is not hard on you. All here remain quite well and we are getting ready to welcome the six new novices on the 7th and for profession on the 11th.

With greetings for the Feast to yourself and to Fathers Blane and Stephen, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbat

JE/ey

1 September 1977

The Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Boniface Church
520 Ramsey Street
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

Dear Father Robert:

This morning I received a copy of the financial statement of Saint Boniface Parish which was prepared for the Archdiocese. I appreciate your sending me a copy and I am pleased to note that things seem to be going well.

This morning I also received a letter from Dr. Tan with which he sent me a copy of the letter you received from Dr. Fuster of the Mayo Clinic dated August 24th and written after your recent visit to Rochester. I note Dr. Fuster's judgment that you are doing well and that everything seems to be progressing nicely. However, his concluding paragraph indicated that you have a tendency to overwork, he emphasized that, "because of his cardiac condition, I think he has to slow down in his working conditions even if this means that he would have to transfer to another less demanding diocese." Apparently Dr. Fuster judges that you have not slowed down as much as he had recommended when you first saw him. Dr. Tan, however, recommends that a change not be made and he indicated that he has discuss this with you. I have no intention of changing your assignment unless your condition deteriorates and the doctor would recommend it. I hope, therefore, that you will follow the doctor's advice and curtail your schedule. I know that both Fathers Blane and Stephen are willing workers and I would hope that they could carry the brunt of the work. My greetings to them.

The last Confreere indicated that I spent a few days in the new health facility; it is a very fine set up and the care given was excellent. I returned to work yesterday feeling much better.

With every good wish, and a prayer that God bless you and keep you in good health, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JE/ev

March 18, 1978

Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Church of St. Boniface
520 Ramsey Street
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

Dear Father Robert,

I had hoped to be able to see you yesterday before you left, but I had a meeting with Father Prior and Father Subprior from ten to twelve, and after lunch I took a nap since I had been up till after midnight on Thursday night.

At the meeting with the Prior and Subprior I discussed with them the situation at St. Boniface rectory and parish. It is no secret that tensions have existed in the rectory, and there is some indication that these tensions have become known among some members of the parish. That, of course, is the real danger. For if the parish becomes aware of the tensions in the rectory, little good in the way of spiritual guidance for the parish can be accomplished because we know that example speaks so much louder than words.

What is the solution to the problems that exist in the rectory? The solution to be most desired, of course, would be that a real understanding would be worked out among the three of you which would result in a real working together for the welfare of the parish. Perhaps, given the difference in personalities that exists, that is too much to expect, though really it should not be if we are conscious of our being one in Christ and of our striving for one goal in our ministry. At least for the next two and a half months such an understanding can be reached among the three of you, followed by a working together for the welfare of the parish, fulfilling the words of St. Benedict in Chapter 72: "No one seeking what is useful for himself but rather what benefits another."

Perhaps, because of your health, it would be best to plan to appoint you to a smaller parish. I have given this serious thought, though I have not come to a final decision nor have I thought of a specific parish to which you might be assigned. I would appreciate your giving this prayerful thought also and your letting me know your reaction later. I hope to be able to come down to St. Boniface some day after Easter to have a good talk with the three of you, and then with each individually. I have not only thought about a change for you but also for Fathers Blane and Stephen. I am writing each of them today, and I will use for each the 2nd and third paragraphs above, because I think there has been some fault on the part of each and real understanding can only come about through the work of each.

In the hope that the work of Holy Week will not be too heavy, and with every good wish for a blessed Easter, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

OSB BLUMEYER_00117

April 25, 1978

Father Abbot John Eidenschink. O.S.B.
Collegeville, MN 56321

Dear Father Abbot:

Yesterday I had a long talk with Father Robert Blumeyer. He asked me to relate some of the discussion to you as it might give you a better understanding of his situation.

For some time now, I have been very concerned as he has not been a really effective person. He is not the Father Robert of five years ago or even two years ago. He does not meet situations, solve problems, and really lead the parish. He says his self-esteem is practically zero; he says he really "doesn't care any more!" When he is faced with critical problems it seems his nerves and/or heart cause him to be hospitalized. Part of this problem he lays to unfortunate assignments and combinations of people working together. If these are hurts, they are past and should be erased.

This man, who should be at the prime of his life, needs help. He needs some rather structured program of self-analysis, re-evaluation, and rebuilding of his spirit and priorities. How and where, I don't know.

I frankly wonder why and how I am so involved in an area in which I have no expertise. I wonder if I really have a right or ability to make judgments about another person's life and capabilities. I guess I am involved only because I really love this man. He is being wasted; wasting himself. Such a pity when he really has so many talents, so much to offer, and so much charisma with people--such a thorough involvement, and projection of the Mass. His homily messages are free flowing and directive, attentively accepted by the parishoners.

He seems willing to cooperate on rebuilding--maybe you can help him get back on track.

With best regards.

Copy: Fr. Robert

OSB BLUMEYER_00118

23 April 1978

Dear

Thank you for your letter of April 25th, written after you had a long talk with Father Robert Blumeyer. I appreciate both his request that you write me and your taking the time to do so. I am grateful also for your concern for Father Robert and the parish.

I had a good talk with Father Robert when he visited the Abbey on the afternoon of April 26th. We spoke of his need for help and we will be making arrangements for him to obtain that help. I would ask you to continue to remember him in your prayers and also to continue to give him the support of your friendship.

With every goodwish, and a prayer that God bless you and yours,
I am

Sincerely yours,

John Eldenschink, O.S.B.
Abbot

JJ/ev

cc: The Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.

May 1, 1978

Abbott John
St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, MN 56321

Dear Father:

An exciting event took place in St. Boniface Parish during the month of April. A grass roots movement grew and culminated in a Celebration of Appreciation for our three priests: Fathers Robert, Stephen and Blane. This celebration was a fine exhibition of the growth of parish dynamics and community spirit which has occurred here over the last two years.

We, the undersigned, feel we can speak for a vast majority of parishioners when we say that our church community has been vitalized by the presence of our priests--especially in the last two years. We have grown a great deal in our liturgical expression because of their understanding and innovations.

However, we feel that our growth has only begun, and the continued active role of these men is vital to further growth and understanding, realizing at the same time that Father Robert's health is an inhibiting factor.

This team has had a positive influence on the parish by greater participation in and attendance at all functions involving parishioners young and old.

We take this opportunity to make a positive statement concerning our priests. At the same time, we wish to thank you for your cooperation in sending the extra help on April 30th, making our special celebration possible.

With Concern We Are,

OSB BLUMEYER_00120

4 May 1978

Dear

I am grateful to you and to secretary and chairman
respectively of the Saint Boniface Liturgy Committee, for your
letter of May 1st.

Though I know that Fathers Robert, Blane and Stephen have done
good work at Saint Boniface Church, it is always good to hear
this from others. I am happy also that a grass roots movement
grew and culminated in a Celebration of Appreciation for the
three priests mentioned above. I am sure you will continue to
keep them in your prayers.

With every good wish, and a prayer that God bless you, I am

Sincerely yours,

John Eldenachink, O.S.B.
Abbot

JE/ev

18 May 1978

The Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Boniface Church
520 Ramsey Street
Hastings, Minnesota 55033

Dear Father Robert:

Just a brief letter to let you know that I have informed Father Andrew that you will succeed him at Avon. I am happy to let you know also that I have mentioned this to Bishop Spelts and he will, at the proper time, gladly approve the appointment.

You may, therefore, contact Father Andrew to set up a convenient time to visit with him about the parish. You could also discuss with him a convenient date for the change; I would be happy if the change could be made very soon after our community retreat.

With every good wish, and a prayer that God bless you, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JB/ev

26 May 1978

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

Dear Archbishop Roach:

After many meetings of our Personnel Staff and other consultations, I wish to propose the following changes among our men serving in parishes in the Archdiocese:

- 1) I wish to remove Fathers Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., and Blana Waenie, O.S.B., from Saint Boniface parish in Hastings. To replace them I present for the canonical appointment as pastor Father Florian Muggli, O.S.B. Father Florian was born in 1925, professed in 1945 and ordained in 1951. He served as Procurator of the community until 1972. In that year he was appointed pastor of Saint Mary's parish, Stillwater, where, according to all reports, he has done very well. I have no hesitation in recommending his appointment as pastor of Saint Boniface in Hastings effective June 15th. He and Father Stephen Beauclair, O.S.B., judge that they can adequately care for the needs of the parish.
- 2) To replace Father Florian at Stillwater, I wish to present Father Thomas Gillespie, O.S.B. Father Thomas was born in 1937, professed in 1958 and ordained in 1964. After his ordination he taught and also served as Dean of Discipline at the Collegio San Antonio Abad, our mission in Puerto Rico. After his return to the States he served two years as assistant at Saint Boniface in Cold Spring, and for the last two years at Saint Bernard's in Saint Paul. He has done good work and I believe that he is ready for an assignment as pastor. I do recommend him for this appointment effective June 15th.
- 3) I wish to withdraw Father Cosmas Dahlheimer from Saint Bernard's in Saint Paul.
- 4) To replace Father Cosmas and Father Thomas I wish to present Father Dunstan Moore, O.S.B., as associate pastor at Saint Bernard's, effective June 15th. Father Dunstan was born in 1950, professed in 1974 and ordained 13 May 1978. As a Deacon he interned at Saint Bartholomew in Wayzata; the reports of his work were fully satisfactory. I recommend him for the grant of the faculties of the Archdiocese.

OSB BLUMEYER_00123

The Most Reverend John R. Roach
26 May 1978
Page Two

Although Saint Bernard's will now have three priests instead of four, the pastor judges that the work of the parish can be adequately carried on especially since we plan to send a Deacon for his internship the coming first semester. The Deacon, Brother Gordon Gandy, O.S.B., who was born in 1956, and professed in 1975, will be ordained to the Diaconate on July 12th this year. I have consulted the pastor and he will welcome both of these men.

5) Because of his advanced age I think it best to withdraw Father Pirmin Wandt, O.S.B., from Saint Boniface parish in Minneapolis where he has been serving as assistant these past few years. He will reach 80 on June 11th. The pastor will be able to carry on the work there alone.

Trusting that you will find these changes acceptable, and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

John Eidenschink, O.S.B.
Abbot

JE/wv

19 June 1979

Dear Father Robert:

Thank you for the check of \$500 which you sent yesterday as surplus income. In the name of the community I am grateful.

From various reports I hear that everything is going well at Saint Benedict's parish and that your work is much appreciated. I am happy to hear this. It was good to see you at the conferences during the retreat; my only regret is that I did not have an opportunity to speak with you about the good work you are doing -- my schedule was full.

With every good wish, and a prayer that God continued to bless you and your work, I am

Devotedly yours,

Abbot

JE/ev

The Reverend Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.
Saint Benedict's Church
Avon, Minnesota 56310

OSB BLUMEYER_00125

1980

My name: Robert Blumeyer

ADDRESSES OF MY CLOSEST RELATIVES:

- 1) Name: _____
Address: _____
City & State: _____, Zip Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
- 2) Name: _____
Address: _____
City & State: _____, Zip Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
- 3) Name: _____
Address: _____
City & State: _____, Zip Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
- 4) Name: _____
Address: _____
City & State: _____, Zip Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
- 5) Name: _____
Address: _____
City & State: _____, Zip Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
- 6) Name: _____
Address: _____
City & State: _____, Zip Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____
- 7) Name: _____
Address: _____
City & State: _____, Zip Code: _____
Telephone Number: _____

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(612) 252-5131

ADMINISTRATION:
DARRELL L. SCHRYVER
MARYETTE S. GUSTAFSON

September 30, 1981

Abbott Jerome Theisen
St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321

Re: Father Robert Blumeyer
St. Benedict's Church
Avon, Minnesota 56310

Dear Abbott Theisen:

Father Robert Blumeyer was admitted to the St. Cloud Hospital on September 5, 1981 and discharged on September 18 showing evidence of an acute myocardial infarction (heart attack). He had been first seen in the Albany Hospital with serious cardiac arrhythmia and fortunately he responded to their resuscitation efforts and to medications administered after he arrived in St. Cloud.

He actually did extremely well during the hospitalization but will remain on several medicines until we have further evaluated him in our office. He is probably able to walk and climb stairs, drive a car, and gradually assume most of his previous activity. A rule of thumb prediction would be that he would be doing most activity he was previously capable of, by the end of six weeks.

I would think it reasonable to slightly limit his responsibilities in that time period, but by the same token would expect he would be functioning very well at the end of that time period. Our major instruction to him was that he discontinue smoking and attempt a moderate weight reduction.

I hope this information is what you needed, and if there are further questions, please feel free to call or ask for more data. I will expect to see Father Blumeyer periodically in the weeks to come for further evaluation.

Sincerely,

GLB:slh

OSB BLUMEYER_00127

Order priests given diocesan assignments



FATHER AELRED

Father Aelred Tegels OSB is appointed pastor of St. Benedict Church, Avon, effective June 15. He has served the Church of St. John the Baptist, Hugo., for the past six years.

Father Aelred was born in Sedan. He attended elementary and secondary schools in Osakis, and then transferred to St. John Preparatory School, Collegeville.

Father Aelred made final profession to the Benedictine Order July 11, 1946 and was ordained June 5, 1948. He has done post-graduate studies at Fordham University, University of Louvain and the Institute of Liturgy, Paris.



FATHER ROBERT

Since profession to the Order, Father Aelred has taught many subjects at St. John University, Collegeville, at various intervals. He was a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force, 1951-1953. And he has been editor of *Worship* magazine, published by the Liturgical Press, Collegeville, since 1964.

Father Robert Blumeyer OSB, is named pastor of St. Catherine Church, Farming, effective July 1. He has been pastor of St. Benedict Church, Avon, for the past four years.

Father Blumeyer was born in Boyden, Iowa. He attended elementary and secondary



FATHER JOSE

schools in his home area, and then continued his education at St. John University, Collegeville. He made final profession to the Benedictine Order July 11, 1953 and was ordained May 19, 1956.

Since that time, Father Blumeyer has had the following appointments: St. Boniface Church, Hastings (1956-1965); St. Augustine Church, St. Cloud (1965-1968); St. Benedict Church, Bronx, N.Y. (1968-1969); St. Bartholomew Church, Wayzata (1969-1973); St. Boniface Church, Hastings (1973-1978); and the Avon parish (1978-1982).



FATHER MACHO

Father Jose Luis Gutierrez OSB is named associate pastor of St. Augustine Church, St. Cloud, effective August 2, 1982. He has been chaplain at Mt. St. Benedict, Crookston, for the past year.

Father Jose is a native of Guadalajara, Mexico. He completed elementary, secondary and undergraduate studies in his native country, and then transferred to St. John's University, Collegeville, for graduate studies in theology.

Father Jose made final profession to the Benedictine Order July 11, 1973, and was ordained December 22, 1973.

He has served the following appointments: educational roles at St. John Preparatory School and University; pastoral roles in Humacao, Puerto Rico; New York, N.Y.; Moorhead; St. Boniface Church, Cold Spring; and Crookston.

Father Jose ministered to migrant workers in the Red River Valley for four summers (1974-1977).

VILLAGE OF AVON
AVON, MINNESOTA - 56310

JANUARY 17, 1983

TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN:

DONALD FOREST BLUMEYER, BORN JUNE 11, 1922, GEDESS, SOUTH DAKOTA-U.S.A
IS A REGISTERED VOTER IN THE CITY OF AVON, MINNESOTA 56310

THIS CERTIFICATION IS CORRECT AND TRUE, CERTIFIED BY THE CITY CLERK
OF THE CITY OF AVON, THIS THE 17th, DAY OF JANUARY, 1983.

CITY OF AVON
CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

OSB BLUMEYER_00129



FATHER ROBERT BLUMEYER

BORN: Boyden, Iowa 6-11-1922
PROFESSED: July 11, 1950
ORDAINED: May 19, 1956
DIED: October 5, 1983 age 61

Before coming to Saint John's, Donald Blumeyer worked in retail grocery for five years. He came to Saint John's in 1947 and entered the novitiate in 1949. After ordination, Father Robert was assigned the assistant at the parish of Saint Boniface in Hastings for nine years. His next assignment was to the parish of Saint Augustine in St. Cloud for three years.

In 1968, Father Robert became the assistant at Saint Benedict Parish in the Bronx, New York for one year. Following his New York assignment, he was named assistant at Saint Bartholomew Parish in Wayzata for three years and then pastor for a year and a half. In 1973, Father Robert was appointed pastor at Saint Boniface Parish in Hasting until 1978. He then became pastor of Saint Benedict Parish in Avon until 1982. His last assignment was to the parish of Saint Catherine in Farming.

Father Robert was an accomplished pianist and loved music. It was this interest that prompted him to promote congregational singing in the parishes he served. For a number of years, Father Robert suffered from the effects of heart disease and spent a considerable amount of time in and out of the Saint Cloud Hospital. He died while pastor in Farming at the Saint Cloud Hospital.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

OSB BLUMEYER_00130

FATHER ROBERT DONALD BLUMEYER, O.S.B.,
died at the Saint Cloud Hospital on Wednesday, October 5, 1983.
Father was born in Boyden, Iowa, on June 11, 1922. He made
profession of monastic vows on July 11, 1950, and was ordained
to the Roman Catholic priesthood on May 19, 1956. He earned a
BA from Saint John's University in 1952 and he took his theology
in Saint John's Seminary from 1952-56.

Father Robert spent 27 years in pastoral ministry. He served in
the following parishes:

Saint Boniface Church (Hastings, MN.): 1956-65 and 1973-78;

Saint Augustine Church (St. Cloud, MN.): 1965-68;

Saint Benedict's Church (Bronx, N.Y.): 1968-69;

Saint Bartholomew's Church (Wayzata, MN.): 1969-73;

Saint Benedict's Church (Avon, MN.): 1978-82;

Saint Catherine's Church (Farming, MN.): 1982-83.

Wake service will be at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 6, at Saint
John's Abbey Church. The funeral will be at 3:30 p.m. on Friday,
October 7, at Saint John's Abbey Church with burial in the abbey
cemetery.

Father Robert is survived by two brothers:
and

Oct 22, 1983

Saturday

Dear Father Abbot Aheisen

I just recieved the Harting home
Tanner paper and all were awl dear
Father Roberts Blumeyer died. I am
very sadler by this. He was so
-very very much loved in Harting.
I know. He was a very special
friend of my brother Arnold. I am
so sorry. when I would go back to
Harting each year to visit my family
I would always say, I hope Fr Roberts
is saying Mass. How he was
missed in Harting when he was
transferred. He was a very loved
and love able friend. And he loved
us all who belonged to St Boniface
Church. Our love is heaven's

gain. Dear Father ^{Thomas} I am sending
a Mass installment for him. You
may keep it or pass it on to his
family. Would you have 3 or 4
prayer memorial card you could
send me. I would be deeply grateful.

Also would you let me know how
Father Demetrius Wegmann is. We
use to write to each other all the time.
Father was pastor in Hastings St Boniface
when I was in grade school. We always
keep in touch. Ever all of a sudden he
stopped writing, at that time I heard he
was not well. Please let me know. and
give him my greeting if he is well
enough to remember me. I also have
very dear and happy memory of Fr. Thomas
Hohmann. The wonderful way he had ^{word}
with us kids in grade school. Do you a
picture or memorial card of Fr. Hohmann.
Father Demetrius will always be

remember as the priest who always
 had hand out's for every ^{and} medal holy
 card rosary pray book you name it.
 My mother has a crucifix in our
 hall made of burnt matches from
 Fr. Demitrius, and its with great pride
 that she tell every one who goes it to
 her. Oh the beautiful memory I have
 of that that priest. May be that's way
 I have dedicated my religious life to
 the sanctification of priest from
 the very beginning when I he come
 a religious. I feel so bad I lost the
 rosary Fr. Demitrius gave me when I
 entered the convent. But all these priest
 from St Bonifac and all priest in the
 world are in my prayers in a special
 way. Pray for me that I may be as
 holy as they were and are one day.
 Yours in the spirit by I heart of
 Jesus.

31 October 1983

Dear

Thank you for your recent letter and for your kind words about Father Robert Blumeyer. It is certainly true that he died too young. He was able to work only part time during the last year or so because of his failing heart. But you expressed it very well when you said that he was a beloved pastor in Hastings. The people whom he ministered to in other places said the same about him. Thank you for your promise to remember him in prayer.

Yes, Father Demetrius Haggmann is still living. He is now residing in our health center but he is in good physical health. His memory is very short but he is always very pleasant and gracious.

You probably know that Father Othmar Hohmann died in 1980.

Thank you once again for remembering Father Robert! It is good to hear from those whom he touched during his life of ministry.

Blessings and peace in the Lord!

Sincerely yours,

Abbot Jerome Theisen, O.S.B.

JT/ev
Enclosures

OSB BLUMEYER_00135

ST. CLOUD TIMES
10/6/83

Deaths

Blumeyer 10/5/83

COLLEGEVILLE — The Rev. Robert D. Blumeyer, 61, died Wednesday at St. Cloud Hospital.

Funeral services will be at 3:30 p.m. Friday at St. John's Abbey Church. Burial will be in the abbey cemetery.

A wake service will be at 7 tonight at St. John's Abbey Church.

Fr. Blumeyer was born June 11, 1922, in Boyden, Iowa, entered St. John's Abbey July 11, 1950, and was ordained May 19, 1956. He spent 27 years in pastoral ministry at St. Boniface Parish, Hastings; St. Augustine Parish, St. Cloud; St. Benedict Parish, Bronx, N.Y.; St. Bartholomew Parish, Wayzata; St. Benedict Parish, Avon; and St. Catherine Parish, Farming.

Survivors include brothers, John, Hastings, and Vern, Sheldon, Iowa.

listed also - Shirley

w.
L.
R.

Benedictine Father Blumeyer dies at St. Cloud hospital

Benedictine Father Robert D. Blumeyer, 61, who served at two archdiocesan parishes, died Oct.



Bartholomew parish, Wayzata, from 1969-73.

He was born in Boyden, IA, on

June 11, 1922. He received a bachelor of arts degree from St. John's University, Collegeville, in 1952 and studied theology at St. John's Seminary. Father Blumeyer made his profession of monastic vows as a Benedictine on July 11, 1950, and was ordained to the priesthood on May 19, 1956.

His other assignments included St. Augustine parish, St. Cloud; St. Benedict parish, Bronx, NY; St. Benedict parish, Avon, MN, and St. Catherine parish, Farming, MN.

The funeral was held Oct. 7 at St. John's Abbey church with burial in the abbey cemetery.

St. Catherine
Father Robert Blumeyer, OSB, is named pastor of St. Catherine Church, Farming, effective July 1. He has been pastor of St. Benedict Church, Avon, for the past four years.
Father Blumeyer was born in Boyden, Iowa. He attended elementary and secondary schools in his home area and then continued his education at St. John University. He made final profession to the Benedictine Order July 11, 1953 and was ordained May 19, 1956.
Since that time, Father Blumeyer has had the following appointments: St. Boniface Church, Hastings (1956-1965); St. Augustine Church, St. Cloud (1965-1968); St. Benedict Church, Bronx, N.Y. (1968-1969); St. Bartholomew Church, Wayzata (1969-1973); St. Boniface Church, Hastings (1973-1978); and the Avon Parish (1978-1982).
D. J. J.

ON WEDNESDAY, 10:40 A.M., OCTOBER 5, 1983

Father Robert Donald Blumeyer, O.S.B.

BORN IN BOYDEN, IOWA, JUNE 11, 1922;
PROFESSED JULY 11, 1950; ORDAINED MAY 19, 1956;
DIED PEACEFULLY IN THE LORD.



Father Robert entered our community in 1949. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1956, the centenary year of our early monks' arrival in Minnesota. Shortly thereafter he was assigned to the parochial ministry, a work that he did not exactly anticipate but which he fell in love with and continued to follow for the next twenty-seven years. He served as an associate or pastor in our parish in Hastings for fourteen years and for briefer periods in Saint Cloud, Wayzata, Avon and Farming in Minnesota, and in the Bronx in New York. He particularly gained the respect and love of youth and teenagers. He zealously prepared classes for first Holy Communion and Confirmation and preserved the group photographs as cherished remembrances. He was ever filled with enthusiasm for parish life, and the people to whom he ministered found him cheerful and pleasant. He loved music and was a gifted pianist. He used this expertise in promoting congregational singing in the parishes where he ministered. Afflicted with a serious heart ailment in recent years, he bore his cross with courage and patience until his final moment. He was alert and ready for the coming of the Lord. He regarded Christian life as an exodus, a pilgrimage, a traveling along the road that involves work and alertness. We thank God for Father Robert's life and service among us. We are encouraged by his alertness to the Lord and we believe that he together with all the dead are still "in the Lord". They have not passed beyond the care of Christ but rest in His peace.

FOR THE REPOSE OF HIS SOUL WE ASK EACH NOVICE AND PROFESSED MONK OF OUR ABBEY TO OFFER TWO MASSES IN THE MANNER ALLOWED BY HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE PRIESTHOOD OF CHRIST. IN OTHER HOUSES OF OUR FEDERATION OUR CONFREERE IS RECOMMENDED TO THE USUAL PRAYERS AND MASSES FOR DEPARTED MONKS. THE CONCELEBRATED MASS OF THE RESURRECTION WAS OFFERED ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1983, AT 3:30 P.M., IN THE ABBEY CHURCH, FOLLOWED BY BURIAL IN THE ABBEY CEMETERY.

ST. JOHN'S ABBEY
COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA

Jerome P. Theisen, O.S.B.
ABBOT

FUNERAL MASS FOR FATHER ROBERT BLUMEYER Lam 3:17-26 1 Th 4:13-18 Lk 12:35-40

Father Robert expected the coming of the Lord. He was alert and ready. Alertness, readiness, and energy characterized his whole life -- from early days in the monastery, which I recall, to his final months and days in the monastery, which we all recall very clearly. We also recall his love for music, his talent in playing the piano, and his concern for choral music wherever he lived and worked.

Father Robert was ordained to the priesthood in 1956, the centenary year of our early monks' arrival in Minnesota. Shortly thereafter he was assigned to the parochial ministry, a work that he did not exactly anticipate but which he fell in love with and continued to follow for the next 27 years. He was filled with enthusiasm for parish life, and people to whom he ministered found him cheerful and pleasant, a joy to be with. His first assignment was Saint Boniface Church in Hastings; he was there as an assistant pastor for nine years and later came back as pastor. He also served in Saint Augustine Church in Saint Cloud, Saint Benedict's Church in the Bronx, New York, Saint Bartholomew's Church in Wayzata, Saint Benedict's Church in Avon, and Saint Catherine's Church in Farming.

The gospel reading challenges us to be alert and to expect the return of the Lord.

Funeral Mass for Father Robert Blumeyer -- page two

Alertness and expectation characterize our life as Christians. We are advised to be wide-awake and to listen for the return of the master, Jesus Christ. The gospel compares his return to an arrival of a thief in the night. It is strange that the Son of Man is compared to a robber, a burglar! The point of the message, of course, is that the arrival will be sudden and that no one knows the time.

The time of the arrival of Christ is uncertain but not the coming itself. He will come even if there is a delay. The early Christians were worried about the delay for they expected an immediate return of Christ. They wondered what would happen to the dead who were no longer around to be alert to Christ's approach. Saint Paul tells them and us that there is no cause for worry. Both the living and the dead will be able to greet the Lord. One group has no advantage over the other.

Death does not mean that one is outside the realm of Christ's care. Both the living and the dead are within his care and concern. The living wait in hope, and while they wait they work. Idle waiting does not mark the true Christian spirit. It is waiting and work coupled with hope and alertness. The gospel speaks of belt fastening,

Funeral Mass for Father Robert Blumeyer -- page three

an action that reminds us of the exodus. The Christian life is an exodus, a pilgrimage, a traveling along the road that involves work and alertness.

Each day we greet the new light on the road. Our expectation of meeting the Lord is new every morning. But our expectation is also confirmed by a recollection, a remembrance of the resurrection of Jesus, his presence with us in liveliness and power, and the steadfast love that God manifested to Israel and to the followers of Jesus.

Today, as we thank God for Father Robert's life and work among us, we are encouraged by his alertness to the Lord and we believe that he together with all the dead are still "in the Lord"; they have not passed beyond the care of Christ but rest in his peace.



ROBERT DONALD BLUMEYER, O.S.B.

OSB BLUMEYER_00141

**Born in Boyden, Iowa
June 11, 1922
Professed July 11, 1950
Ordained May 19, 1956
Died October 5, 1983**

**I know that my Redeemer lives,
and on the last day
I shall rise again.
In my body I shall look on God,
my Savior.
I myself shall see him,
my own eyes will gaze on him.
This is the hope I cherish
in my heart.**

**St. John's Abbey
Collegeville, Minnesota**

Filed:

: Robert Blumeyer

7-30-97.

I was writing this letter not knowing the outcome. I was uncertain and afraid. Like I have been for so many years. I had a alcoholic father. And I think when I first met Father Roberts, that I had found a father figure. He would listen to my problems and try to help. I trusted him. He would take me out to eat and around town to meet other people. One night he took me and a friend to this radio station. And they put us on the air for a call in talk show. It was for parents to call in and ask what they should do with their kids. To see if they had drug problems or just how to relate to them. And then after the show. He brought us to a Sauna to relax. That's when I found another side to Father Roberts. He just put his hand on my thigh and just said relax. Not much happened that night, I think because there were two of us.

I was into pot and L.S.D. at this time in my life and I owed the drug dealer some money. So I turned to Father Roberts for help. That day when I went to see him and told him my problems, he asked if he could take some pictures of me. He showed me some pictures of naked boys and asked if I would pose in them. So I took off my clothes and he took ~~some~~ ^{some} pictures. When he was done he told me to get dressed and he gave me the money I needed. I thought I was a normal kid at that point in my life. I was 14 yrs old. I liked girls. Was doing OK in school. Sure I had an alcoholic father and a mother that had to work alot to support 6 kids. So we were on our own alot. The next time I seen Father Roberts I needed money again. So he asked me to get undressed again and I did. But he wanted to do more than take pictures. He started touching me on my private parts. And he did things to me that I now were wrong but I trusted him not to hurt me. And I wanted the money.

From that point on I knew what he wanted and I knew what I had to do to get money from him. I started doing a bit of drugs and alcohol then I made it easier for me if I was high. My grades dropped off. So I quit school at 15 and ran away and hitchhiked to California. When I was on the road I needed money. I called Father Roberts and he wired me some. I came back home after 4 months. I tried to go back to school. But by then I had no self-esteem. By then I think I was already an alcoholic. So I quit school again. And my Mom told me I could live there. But had to support myself if I wasn't going to go to school. So I started selling drugs. But I was using a lot. And I always seemed to owe the Drug Dealer. So back to Father Roberts I went. So I would let him perform whatever acts on me that he wanted. That's when he told me he saw another priest in

St Louis Park. And asked if I would be willing to pose nude for some pictures for him. So I did. Now I knew how to make money. I started seeking out older gay men. To make money. Places to stay. And there was always free alcohol. I met a girl by then at 17. I tried to have a relationship with this girl. It lasted for a while. But the whole time I was seeking out men to take care of my needs. For rent, alcohol, drugs and spending money. I felt so ashamed and guilty that I ended the relationship. And went into my first Treatment Center in 1979. By then the town of Wayzata either kicked him out of town or he just left. And went to Hastings. And when I needed money, I knew where to go still. Then he left Hastings and went to Aron Mo. And I followed him up there also. That's when I robbed the safe in the Parish. And he told me that was it. He said he'd call the police if I showed up. So I joined the Army also in 1979. By then I was a full blown alcoholic. The Army ~~is~~ only lasted for 1 1/2 months. When I got out of the Army.

I started roving the streets of Mpls.
Doing alot of Drugs and Drinking every Day. So
I started to hit loving Park where I knew about
selling my body to take care of my needs. I could
never hold down a job. I tried. But my Drug
and Alcohol problem had its hook in me. So in
1985 I went to Ancker St Hospital. To go Straight
I really wanted to quit running from myself
and to stop using. When I got out of Treatment
I was sober for the 1st time in 20 yrs. This was
in 1985. I stayed sober for 1yr. But while I was
sober I joined Mpls. Mem. It was an Out Call
service. Now I was a professional Hooker. So
I started using again. Just to cope. To try
to hide my guilt. I didnt know how to
live. I still dated girls. But it would never last
I was to ashamed to tell anyone. In 1987 I
got a DWI and went to a work release
program in jail. So when I got a check. I
took off To Texas. Hoping for a new beginning

After about 3 months there I met a nice girl and started dating. I had a job and everything seemed O.K. I wasn't still using. And I got drunk and when I woke I was in bed with a man. Then I realized I was addicted to more than drugs & alcohol I was addicted to sex. I stayed with this girl for 2 yrs, but the whole time I would seek out self-satisfaction from men. Using them. By now I felt dead inside. I hated myself. I couldn't control anything. And ever since the days with Father Roberts until March of 1997. I cursed God. I hated him, I couldn't trust in God or the Church. Then I walked out in front of a car in March. And something happened. I believe it was a divine intervention. I'm still in a cast and I'll more than likely have to have more surgery. But I am sober today. And I pray every morning to give me strength and I pray every night and thank him for keeping me sober today. I am going to A.A. twice a week and seeing a counsellor once a week or so. I have a lot of deep seeded problems. But I'm sober and trying.

Due Blamed Father Roberts for a long
time. And it's time to let it go. I feel
grateful that my life was spared. And that I
get another chance. So I have my Health,
my Sobriety and a willingness to believe
in God and that things will get better.
With A.A. and my Drs. and God I finally
think I have a chance at a Normal productive
life. It's going to be a long hard road. The
Old me would ask for some financial aid.
But if you would just keep me in your
prayer. That is all I ask.

To My New Beginning.

7

7-30-97

I'm writing this letter not knowing the outcome. I am uncertain and afraid. Like I have been for so many years. I had an alcoholic father. And I think when I first met Father Roberts, (I think) that I have found a father figure. He would listen to my problems and try to help. I trusted him. He would take me out to eat and around town to meet other people. One night he told me to a friend, to the radio station. And they put us on the air for a call on a talk show. It was for parents to call in and ask what they should do with their kids, to see if they had drug problems or just how to relate to them. He promised to assign them to relax. That's what I found another side to Father Roberts. He just put his hand on my time and just said relax. Not much happened that night, I think, because there were two of us.

I was into pot and LSD at this time in my life and I owed the drug dealer some money. So I turned to Father Roberts for help. (I remember) That day (when) I went to see him and told him my problems. He asked if he could take some pictures of me. He showed me some pictures of naked boys. And (he) asked if I would pose nude. So I took off my clothes and he took some pictures. When he was done he told me to get dressed. And he gave me the money I needed.

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When I was on the road and needed money. I called Father Roberts and he wired me some. I came back home after four months. I tried to go back to school. But by then I had no self esteem. By then I think I was already an alcoholic. So I quit school again and my mom told me I can live there. But I had to support myself if I wasn't going to go to school. So I started selling drugs. But I was using a lot. And that always seemed to owe the drug dealer. So back to Father Roberts I went. So I would let him perform whatever acts on me that he wanted. That's when he took me to another priest in Saint Louis Park. And asked if I would be willing to pose nude for some pictures for him. So I did. Now I knew how to make money. I started seeking out older gay men. To make money. Places to stay. And there was always a free alcohol.

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Wayzata either kicked him out of town or he just left. And when to Hastings. And when I needed money I knew where to go still. Then he left Hastings and went to Avon, MN. And I followed him up there is as well. That's when I robbed a safe in the parish and he told me that was it. He said he'd call the police if I showed up. So I joined the army also in 1979. But then I was a full blown alcoholic. The army only lasted for one and a half months.

When I got out of the army I started roaming the streets of Minneapolis, doing a lot of drugs and drinking every day. So I started to hit Loring Park where I knew about selling my body to take care of my needs. I could never hold down a job. I tried. But my drug and alcohol problem had its hook in me. So in 1985 I went to Anoka State Hospital to go straight. I really wanted to quit running from myself and to stop using. When I got out of treatment I was sober for the first time in twenty years. This was in 1985. I stayed sober for one year. But while I was sober I joined Minneapolis Men. It was an Out Call service. Now I was a professional hooker. So I started using again. Just to cope. Just to try to hide my guilt. I didn't know how to live. I still dated girls. But it would never last. I was so ashamed to tell anyone.

In 1987 I got a D.W.I. and went to work release program in jail. So when I got a check I took off to Texas, hoping for a new beginning. After three months there I met a nice girl and started dating. I had a job and everything seemed OK. I was still using. And they got drunk and when I woke up I was in bed with a man. Then I realized I was addicted to more than drugs and alcohol. I was addicted to sex. I stayed with this girl for seven years. But the whole time I would seek out some satisfaction from men. Using them. By now I felt dead inside. I hated myself. I couldn't control anything. And never have pitched since the days with Father Roberts until March of 1997. I cursed God. I hated him. I couldn't trust in God for the Church.

Then I walked out in front of a car in March. And something happened. I believe it was divine intervention. I'm still in the cast and I'll more than likely have to have more surgery. But I am sober today. And I pray every morning to give me strength and I pray every night. And thank him for keeping me sober today. I'm going to AA twice a week and seeing a counselor once a week or so. I have a lot of deep seated problems. But I (am) sober and trying. I've blamed Father Roberts for a long time. And it's time to let it go. I feel grateful that my life was spared. And I'm getting another chance. So I have my health, my sobriety, and a willingness to believe in God, and that things will get better. With AA and my doctors and God I finally think I have a chance at a normal productive life. It's going to be a long hard road. The old me would ask for some financial aid. But if you would just keep me in your prayers. That is all I ask.

To my New Beginning

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

226 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-2197
Phone: 612-291-4400 Fax: 612-290-1629

The Chancery

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

August 18, 1997

Rt. Reverend Timothy Kelly, OSB, Abbot
St. John's Abbey
P. O. Box 2015
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321-2015

File: Robert Blumeyer
: Abbot Timothy

Dear Father Abbot,

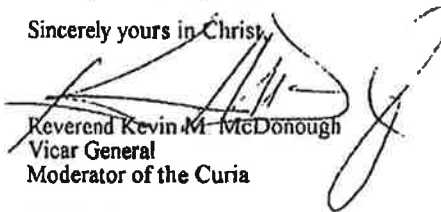
I am enclosing a copy of a letter which, although dated July 30, we have just received at the Chancery. There is no return address and no last name, so I cannot contact the person who wrote.

The author of the letter claims to have been abused and exploited over a number of years by a "Father Roberts". I looked through our records and could find no one of that name in the time period described. I did, however, come across the name of Father Robert Blumeyer. He was in Wayzata in the very early part of the 1970s and then moved successively to Hastings and Avon. This is the same set of assignments that the attached letter indicates.

I wanted you to be alerted to this story. I do not know if Father Blumeyer is still associated with the Abbey or not. Furthermore, the author of the letter asks to be remembered in prayer, and I want to ask your assistance in that regard. Finally, although he currently indicates no desire for any further, my guess is that we will be contacted again. I wanted you to be apprised of this.

Please let me know if there is anything that you would like me to do in regard to this situation. I wish you blessings in your service to the Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Reverend Kevin M. McDonough
Vicar General
Moderator of the Curia

KMM:md

Encl.

cc: Archbishop Flynn
Bill Fallon

OSB BLUMEYER_00152

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB BLUMEYER_00153

ATTORNEY-CLIENT/WORK PRODUCT

OSB BLUMEYER_00154

Reverend Kevin M. McDonough
Vicar General
Moderator of the Curia
226 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102-2197

Filed: Abbot Timothy
& Robert Blumeyer

Dear Father Kevin:

I received your letter dated August 18, 1997, with the copy of the anonymous letter sent to the archdiocese. This is one of those letters that one hates to receive but can also be grateful for knowing that someone who has apparently been deeply wounded is finally finding some healing.

If the Father "Roberts" he refers to is Father Robert Blumeyer I want to inform you that he died on October 5, 1983. During most of the years of his ministry in parishes I was stationed away from the abbey and had no knowledge then or now of these kinds of happenings taking place.

If the writer should once again contact you or the archdiocese I would be grateful if you would inform me. I would very much like to be part of any healing that he needs as a result of alleged misconduct of one of our monks.

According to our records, Father Robert was at St Bartholomew's Church in Wayzata from 1969-1973, three years as assistant and one and one half years as pastor. He went to St Boniface Church in Hastings in 1973 until 1978 as pastor. He then was moved to St Benedict's Church in Avon from 1978-1982.

I would appreciate being kept informed of further developments. Thanks so much for your help.

Sincerely etc.



"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." Mt. 12:3

Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

The Chancery

October 31, 2005

Abbot John Klassen, OSB
Saint John's Abbey
Collegeville, MN 56321-2015

1955
18
73

2005
50
1955
12-13
1967-68
24-25
1979

Dear Father Abbot,

I met on Friday, October 28, with [redacted] I believe that you have already received a phone call from Phyllis Willerscheidt about him. Nonetheless, I am writing to provide some more information and to ask your help and guidance in dealing with him.

[redacted] is 50 years old. He told me that he had been abused by Father Robert, a monk of Saint John's Abbey, while Father Robert was associate pastor at Saint Bartholomew in Wayzata. This initial sexual abuse, which took place when [redacted] was about [redacted] eventually evolved into a mutually exploitive adult sexual relationship between the two of them that continued until 1979.

14
1969

The allegation by [redacted] included a story that I have heard or read about from other places, but never encountered in the Twin Cities. He indicated that Father Robert got [redacted] involved sexually first by showing him a collection of photographs in Father Robert's possession. The photographs were of naked boys and young men. [redacted] told me that eventually Father Robert invited [redacted] to permit other priests, whose names or assignments he did not know, also to photograph him. Eventually, there was also genital sexual contact involved in [redacted] relationship with Father Robert and perhaps with the other, unnamed priests as well.

[redacted] told me that the relationship continued after Father Robert left Wayzata and moved to Hastings. He also saw Father Robert when he was in Avon. In fact, [redacted] told me that he robbed the safe at Avon as a way to break the relationship, knowing that Father Robert would not denounce him to the police but also hoping that Father Robert would distance himself. He claims that this is what in fact resulted.

I told [redacted] that I had never heard this of this particular priest or of there being a ring of priest involved in photographing and perhaps abusing teenagers. I told him that, since Father Robert was a priest of Saint John's, I would have to be in contact with you.

I have authorized the Archdiocese to pay counseling costs for [redacted] He is forwarding some of those to us this week.

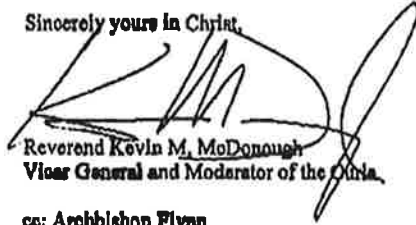
Abbot John Klassen, OSB
October 31, 2005
Page two

told me that had spent a good part of his life using sex to con other people. It is not absolutely certain to me that his allegation is true. It certainly is explosive, and it surprises me that we would never have heard about this before. Nonetheless, I want to take him very seriously and to offer him counseling support.

Father Abbot, I would like a chance to review this with you at your convenience. I would like to discuss with you what the next steps might be both in offering pastoral support to and in investigating the veracity of his allegation.

I am sorry to have to bring this kind of matter to you. Nevertheless, I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you again, and wish you well in your service to the Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Reverend Kevin M. McDonough
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

cc: Archbishop Flynn
Mr. Andrew Eisenhammer



"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." Heb. 13:8

Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

October 31, 2005

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Saint John's Abbey
Collegeville, MN 56321-2015

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Abbot John Klassen, OSB

October 31, 2005

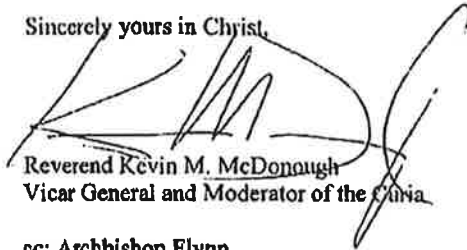
Page two

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I am sorry to have to bring this kind of matter to you. Nevertheless, I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you again, and wish you well in your service to the Church.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kevin M. McDonough', written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized.

Reverend Kevin M. McDonough
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

cc: Archbishop Flynn
Mr. Andrew Eisenzimmer

November 28, 2005

Father Kevin McDonough
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
226 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102-2197

Dear Father Kevin:

Thank you for your letter of October 31, 2005 regarding an allegation of sexual abuse by [redacted]. I wish to briefly summarize what I have done in response to the letter and then pose some questions for future responsive action.

From the data that has been gathered at this time it is very possible that Father Robert Blumeyer, OSB (deceased October 5, 1983) did abuse [redacted] over a period of ten years.

I met with [redacted] (a survivor of sexual abuse who serves on the Abbey External Review Board) on Wednesday, November 16 for about 45 minutes. During this meeting we included by telephone Ms. Phyllis Willerscheid, who as Archdiocesan advocate was the first point of contact with [redacted] shared the story of his meeting Father Robert Blumeyer and how this relationship became abusive and then exploitative over a period of ten years. Father Robert's photographs of nude boys and young men were claimed to be central to Father Robert's abuse in that Father Robert showed such photographs to [redacted] and cajoled [redacted] into posing for nude photographs in exchange for money. [redacted] mentioned only one priest at the location in either Hopkins or Saint Louis Park who also might have been involved in activity of this sort.

As you say in your letter, [redacted] noted that the relationship continued for ten years, from 1969-1979, spanning Father Blumeyer's service at Saint Bartholomew parish in Wayzata (three years as assistant 1969-1972 and one and one-half years as pastor 1972-1973), at Saint Boniface parish in Hastings (pastor 1973-1978), and Saint Benedict parish in Avon (pastor 1978 - 1982).

Some research questions

Could you have someone check the archives of the Archdiocese for material on the nature of the complaint that Archbishop Roach and Abbot John Eidenschink were dealing with at Saint Boniface parish in Hastings in the summer of 1976? I do not have any solid evidence regarding the nature of this complaint.

✓
Could you have someone check the archives of the Archdiocese for the report of Dr. John Regan, which is referred to in the letter from Abbot John to Archbishop Roach, dated July 8, 1976? This report could provide important insights into the understanding of the situation in 1976.

Could you have someone check the archives of the Archdiocese for who was serving as pastor or associate pastor in Hopkins and Saint Louis Park from 1969-1979?

I would like to have an extended conversation with you, either in person or by telephone, to discuss the following issues:

- a. Agree on the payment of psychological counseling and refund for mileage for
- b. Determine what if any compensation should be paid to him and how best to proceed with a settlement strategy;
- c. Determine the nature and scope of any joint, or separate, investigations of the allegations of _____ and
 - i. Whether this investigation will include all parishes that Fr. Blumeyer served in or only those parishes mentioned by _____
 - ii. Whether the investigation will seek to determine the identity of other parish members that might have claims relating to Fr. Blumeyer;
 - iii. Whether the investigation will include lay members of the parishes as many of the clergy that served with Fr. Blumeyer, as well as Fr. Blumeyer himself, are deceased; and
- d. Determine whether the Archdiocese is willing to participate in a report to law enforcement that the Abbey believes should be made.

We also need to think through a communication plan to the parishes in which Father Blumeyer served: namely, Elizabeth Ann Seton (formerly Saint Boniface), Saint Bartholemew in Wayzata, and Saint Benedict in Avon. Furthermore, this communication plan should be coordinated with any criminal investigation that is done.

I will ask my secretary Brother Kelly Ryan to contact your office to set up either a phone call or a meeting to seek greater clarity on these issues. Thank you for your assistance in dealing with a difficult situation.

Sincerely,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

2005-12-02 Update
8:43 AM

called. He says he can be reached at his cell phone all day:

November 29

Appointments

I tried calling James on this Wednesday afternoon.
Always a busy signal.

Dec 2

I called at his cell phone number -

I updated him on follow-up to our meeting on November 16.

- ① I brought the notes to the External Review Board and reminded them of the nature of the complaint
- ② I wrote a letter to Dr. Kevin McCauley, giving him an update on our progress & asking for a phone call or a meeting to work through the details of paying for counseling; mileage & counseling and BSA; also for compensation.
- ③ I called for his permission to use his name in reporting the offense to the local police jurisdiction. He gave the permission readily. I think I gave a nod to him
- ④ that we were taking this seriously.
- ⑤ I told him that the fact that Kevin told me is not an indication that we are dragging our feet or trying to duck his offer.

Authorization to Use Personal Correspondence

I, _____ hereby grant St. John's Abbey permission to use my personal correspondence dated 1997 to aid in further understanding and teaching regarding the impact of clergy sexual abuse on its victims.

In signing this release I grant the institution of St. John's Abbey and its member representatives to copy and disclose the letter in part or in its entirety.

I understand that every effort will be made to protect my identity from readers and that this letter will not be released or used outside of St. John's Abbey.

I agree to receive no compensation for signing this release. I also understand that refusing to sign this release would in no way impact my current or future relationship with St. John's Abbey.

This release has no expiration date but the use of this letter is likely to occur in 2005 and 2006. I understand that I have the right to revoke this release at any time.

Signed:

Witnessed

Date: 1-25-06

Date: _____

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Give form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.

Print or type instructions on page 2

1. Name
 a. Individual
 b. Business name, if different from above

2. Check appropriate box:
 Individual Sole proprietor
 Corporation
 Partnership
 Other
 Exempt from backup withholding

3. Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)
 4. Requester's name and address (optional)
 5. City
 6. U.S. account number(s) (optional)

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 2. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN), if you do not have a number, see How to get a TIN on page 2.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 2 for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Employer identification number	or	Individual's social security number

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
- I am a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien).

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the Certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. (See the instructions on page 2.)

Sign Here: Signature of U.S. person

Date: 3-1-06

Purpose of Form
 A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS must get your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA.

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to give your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, where applicable, to:

- Certify the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued).
- Certify you are not subject to backup withholding, or
- Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee.

If you are a foreign person, use the appropriate Form W-8. See Pub. 515, Withholding of Tax on Nonresidents, Aliens, and Foreign Entities.

Note: If a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

What is backup withholding? Persons making certain payments to you must under certain conditions withhold and pay to the IRS 30% of such payments after December 31, 2001 (29% after December 31, 2003). This is called "backup withholding." Payments that may be subject to backup withholding include interest, dividends, broker and barter exchange transactions, rents, royalties, nonemployee pay, and certain payments from fishing boat operators. Real estate transactions are not subject to backup withholding.

You will not be subject to backup withholding on payments you receive if you give the requester your correct TIN, make the proper certifications, and report all your taxable interest and dividends on your tax return.

Payments you receive will be subject to backup withholding if:

- You do not furnish your TIN to the requester, or
- You do not certify your TIN when required (see the Part I instructions on page 2 for details), or
- The IRS tells the requester that you furnished an incorrect TIN, or
- The IRS tells you that you are subject to backup withholding because you did not report all your interest and dividends on your tax return (for reportable interest and dividends only), or

5. You do not certify to the requester that you are not subject to backup withholding under 2 above (for reportable interest and dividend accounts opened after 1983 only).

Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding. See the instructions on page 2 and the separate instructions for the Requester of Form W-9.

Penalties

Failure to furnish TIN. If you fail to furnish your correct TIN to a requester, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Civil penalty for false information with respect to withholding. If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis that results in no backup withholding, you are subject to a \$500 penalty.

Criminal penalty for falsifying information. Willfully falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties, including fines and/or imprisonment.

Misuse of TINs. If the requester discloses or uses your TIN in violation of Federal law, the requester may be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

being of lawful age, for the sole consideration of
does hereby and for his heirs, executors, administrators, successors
and assigns release, acquit and forever discharge the Order of St. Benedict, Saint John's Abbey
and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parishes of Saint Bartholomew, Saint
Boniface and Saint Benedict as well as their agents, servants, successors, heirs, executors,
administrators, members and all other persons, firms, corporations, associations or partnerships,
from any and all claims, actions, causes of action, demands, rights, damages, costs, loss or
service; expenses or compensation whatsoever, to include past, present, or future therapy which
the undersigned now has on account of or in any way growing out of any and all known and
unknown, foreseen, and unforeseen property damage or personal or bodily injury and the
consequences thereof regarding or in any way flowing out of a claim for damages against Father
Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., the Order of St. Benedict and Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese
of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parishes of Saint Bartholomew, Saint Boniface and Saint
Benedict arising out of the actions of Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B. (deceased) and one or
more other priests whose names and religious affiliation he never knew.

It is understood and agreed that this settlement is a compromise of a disputed claim, not to be
construed as an admission of liability on the part of any party, and that the parties released by
this document deny liability for the incident and intend merely to avoid litigation and buy their
peace.

further declares and represent that no promise, inducement or agreement not
expressed herein has been made to the undersigned, that he has declined legal counsel, that this
release contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and that the terms of this release
are contractual and not a mere recital.

HAS READ THE FORGOING RELEASE AND FULLY
UNDERSTANDS IT.

Dated: 3-1-06

Subscribed before me this 1st day of
March 2006.


Notary Public



*Office of the Bishop
Diocese of Saint Cloud*

March 16, 2006

**Abbot John Klassen
Saint John's Abbey
P.O. Box 2015
Collegeville, Minnesota 56321-2015**

Dear Abbot John:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 11 and for the information regarding the misconduct of Father Robert Blumeyer. I appreciate hearing from you and am grateful for the information you have supplied relative to his assignments, both in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and here in the Diocese of Saint Cloud. I will share the contents of your letter with Father Marvin Enneking and I will wait to hear from you regarding a statement to be used at Saint Augustine's in Saint Cloud, Saint Benedict's in Avon and Saint Catherine's in Farming.

On another, lighter topic, I will ask Father Marv about the fishing in central Minnesota. I hope you and your community are having a very blessed season of Lent. Happy feast of Saint Patrick.

With kind personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ.

**+John F. Kinney
Bishop of Saint Cloud**

JFK/ckh

Cc: Reverend Marvin Enneking, Vicar General

OSB BLUMEYER_00171

April 3, 2006

Reverend James Perkl
Church of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton
2035 W. 15th Street
Hastings, MN 55033-9294

Reverend Michael Reding
Church of Saint Bartholomew
630 Wayzata Blvd. E.
Wayzata, MN 55391-1743

Dear Fathers Perkl and Reding,

Thank you for our recent conversation concerning abuse committed by a now deceased priest and monk of Saint John's, Robert Blumyer, during the 1970s. Permit me to summarize in this letter what I heard. I am providing this to you so you can share it with your leadership if you would like. I am also sending copies of this to Archbishop Flynn and to Abbot John Klassen at Saint John's.

Both of you told me that you had heard, in your conversations with parishioners, nothing about abuse committed by this man. He served as associate pastor of your parishes, and was at each for a fairly short time. There is relatively little memory of him in either parish.

Father Perkl, you indicated that you have had extensive public discussions in your parish about the issue of clergy abuse. In fact, I participated in one which included several hundred members of your parish. At that time, we welcomed not only any complaints about the particular priest we were addressing, but also any other issues that might come forward. There in fact has been nothing. As a result, you would simply like to share the information about Robert Blumyer with your Parish Council or other lay leadership body. While you believe that further publicity in the parish is unnecessary, given the history of very extensive public conversation in the past, you are going to check this out with your lay leadership. If that group thinks differently, you are certainly open to doing some form of public communication in your parish.

Father Reding, your assessment of the situation at Saint Bartholomew is somewhat different. You have also had meetings in the parish concerning child protection and clergy abuse, but none of those meetings was prompted by a specific complaint of abuse. Any discussion about Robert Blumyer would be the first such situation with which you had to deal with in Wayzata. Therefore, you think that a more broad-based

Rev. James Perkl
Rev. Michael Reding
April 3, 2006
Page two

communication in your parish would be useful. This is reinforced by the fact that Blunyer committed his abuse first while living at your parish. Shortly after Easter, you will take all of this information to your lay leadership group. You will seek from them their thoughts about communication with the parish, and will put together a plan of implementation.

To both of you, I indicated the willingness of Abbot John Klassen and my own willingness to provide written materials, to talk with your leadership group, or to be present for a community meeting or meetings. Please keep us in mind as resource people.

Father Reding, there are many pastors in our Archdiocese (including Father Perkl) who have experience with the kind of broad communication you are considering. If you would like to have some other names from whom to seek advice, please let me know.

Given that we are now so close to Holy Week and Easter, I do not anticipate from either of you that you will be acting on these things before the middle of April. On the other hand, my sense is that we will have done whatever your leadership advises before the summer begins. If I have an incorrect impression, please let me know.

Thank you for your willingness to address these matters straightforwardly. In particular, I appreciate the way both of you want to seek the advice of your parish lay leaders. In the meantime, I wish you a blessed Holy Week and Easter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Kevin M. McDonough
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

cc: Archbishop Flynn
✓ Abbot John Klassen

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT

CONFIDENTIAL

**Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis
And Saint John's Abbey
Statement Concerning Abuse Charges
Against Fr. Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.**

In September, 2005, a 50-year-old man informed the Victim Advocate of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis that he was sexually abused as a young man by the late Fr Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., a priest of the Saint John's monastic community. The report has been deemed credible.

The abuse began in 1969 when the victim was 13 and Fr. Blumeyer was assistant pastor at St. Bartholomew parish in Wayzata and continued for approximately ten years while Fr. Blumeyer served in pastoral roles at Saint Boniface parish in Hastings and Saint Benedict parish in Avon, MN. Fr. Blumeyer died October 5, 1983.

The Archdiocese and Abbey have paid for therapy for the man and he has accepted a financial settlement from Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese.

Neither the Archdiocese nor the Abbey knows of other allegations of abuse against Fr. Blumeyer.

In making this statement, Archbishop Harry Flynn and Abbot John Klassen express deep regret and remorse and reaffirm a commitment to assist this victim and other victims in their process of recovery and healing.

The victim advocate for the St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdiocese is Ms. Phyllis Willerscheid: 651-291-4497

The victim advocate for Saint John's Abbey is Gary Schoener at the Walk-In Counseling Center: 812 870-0565

OSB BLUMEYER_00174

Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
And Saint John's Abbey
Statement Concerning Abuse Charges
against Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.

In September, 2005, a 50-year-old man informed the Victim Advocate of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis that he was sexually abused as a young man by the late Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., a priest of the Saint John's monastic community. The report has been deemed credible.

The abuse began in 1969 when the victim was 13 and Father Blumeyer was assistant pastor at St. Bartholomew parish in Wayzata and continued for approximately ten years while Father Blumeyer served in pastoral roles at Saint Boniface parish in Hastings and Saint Benedict parish in Avon, MN. Father Blumeyer died October 5, 1983.

The Archdiocese and Abbey have paid for therapy for the man and he has accepted a financial settlement from Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese.

Neither the Archdiocese nor the Abbey knows of other allegations of abuse against Father Blumeyer.

In making this statement, Archbishop Harry Flynn and Abbot John Klassen express deep regret and remorse and reaffirm a commitment to assist this victim and other victims in their process of recovery and healing.

The victim advocate for the St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdiocese is Ms. Greta Sawyer: 651-291-4497

The victim advocate for Saint John's Abbey is Gary Schoener at the Walk-In Counseling Center: 612 870-0565

April 27, 2006

**Diocese of Saint Cloud
And Saint John's Abbey
Statement Concerning Abuse Charges
against Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.**

In September, 2005, a 50-year-old man informed the Victim Advocate of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis that he was sexually abused as a young man by the late Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., a priest of the Saint John's monastic community. The report has been deemed credible.

The abuse began in 1969 when the victim was 13 and Father Blumeyer was assistant pastor at St. Bartholomew parish in Wayzata and continued for approximately ten years while Father Blumeyer served in pastoral roles at Saint Boniface parish in Hastings and Saint Benedict parish in Avon, MN. Father Blumeyer died October 5, 1983.

The Archdiocese and Abbey have paid for therapy for the man and he has accepted a financial settlement from Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese.

The Abbey does not know of other allegations of abuse against the late Father Blumeyer. He served as assistant pastor at Saint Catherine's parish in Farming from 1982-1983.

In making this statement, Abbot John Klassen expresses deep regret and remorse and reaffirms a commitment to assist this victim and any other victims in their process of recovery and healing.

The victim advocate for the Saint Cloud Diocese is Mr. Tom Keaveny who can be reached at 320 761-5963.

The victim advocate for Saint John's Abbey is Gary Schoener at the Walk-In Counseling Center: 612 870-0565

May 2, 2006

**Saint John's Abbey
Statement Concerning Abuse Charges
against Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.**

In September, 2005, a 50-year-old man informed the Victim Advocate of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis that he was sexually abused as a young man by the late Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., a priest of the Saint John's monastic community. The report has been deemed credible.

The abuse began in 1969 when the victim was 13 and Father Blumeyer was assistant pastor at St. Bartholomew parish in Wayzata and continued for approximately ten years while Father Blumeyer served in pastoral roles at Saint Boniface parish in Hastings and Saint Benedict's parish in Avon, MN. Father Blumeyer died October 5, 1983.

The Archdiocese and Abbey have paid for therapy for the man and he has accepted a financial settlement from Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese.

The Abbey does not know of other allegations of abuse against the late Father Blumeyer. He served as assistant pastor at Saint Benedict's parish in Avon from 1978-1982. If you or someone you know has experienced abuse, please contact the victim advocate listed below.

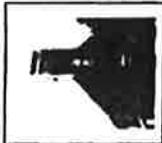
In making this statement, Abbot John Klassen expresses deep regret and remorse and reaffirms a commitment to assist this victim and any other victims in their process of recovery and healing.

The victim advocate for Saint John's Abbey is Gary Schoener at the Walk-In Counseling Center; 612 870-0565

May 8, 2006

St. Catherine's Church - Farming

Pastor - Father Julian Schmieging O.S.B. 548-3550
May 21, 2006



Wed May 24 - 8:00 AM Pro-Life Mass
(Wed. Services at Community Center)
Sat May 27 - 8:15 PM For the parish
Sun May 28 - 10:00 AM at St. Martin
Mon May 29 - 9:00 AM + Gerald & Collette Theis

Eucharistic Minister for shut-ins: Ruth Massmann 548-3393

mefel.net
today)

Mass Schedule:
St. Catherine's
Wed - 8 AM (Cassa Center)
Sat - 8:15 PM
St. Martin:
T/Th/F - 8 AM
Sun - 10 AM

CCD - Mary
Bulletin-In
Bulletin de
Farming C.
Farming C.
Trustees: L
Food Shelf
Society/LCS
Catholic AI
Christian V
Mission So
Ushers - D

Reconciliation - before Saturday Mass (7:45) or by appointment
Marriage - call at least 6 months prior to wedding date
Baptism - call for information on Baptism program

Parish Activities Calendar

Mon, May 29 - Memorial Day Mass - 9:00 am - Richmond Legion will be at the cemetery at 9:45 am

Sat, June 3 - Pentecost Sunday - Regular Mass Schedule

Wed, June 7 - NO MASS - Fr. Julian on retreat

Sat, June 17 - Father's Day Mass - Special blessing for Fathers

Deepest Sympathy to the family (

May he rest in peace.

'Thank You' from the St. Catherine's Council of Catholic Aid to the graduates, their parents, families, friends and all who attended the Graduation Mass and Reception. Also a special 'thank you' to the committee for serving the rolls and beverages.

Food Shelf - A container is in the church entry for your donations of non-perishable food items and personal care items. If you have questions or wish to donate cash, call Darlene Buerman (597-2273).

AREA EVENTS

Mon, May 22 - First Instructional Class for Natural Family Planning, Office of Marriage and Family, St. Cloud - at 6:30 pm - lasts 1 1/2 hrs - most insurance cover cost of instruction and follow-up - questions/registration call 370-252-4721

Mon, May 29 - Late Heavy Legion Memorial Day Service - Mass 10:30 am, meal after service - roast beef, hot ham, mashed potatoes, vegetable, dessert - all are welcome

Wed, June 14 - First Instructional Class for Natural Family Planning, Office of Marriage and Family, St. Cloud - at 6:30 pm - lasts 1 1/2 hrs - most insurance cover cost of instruction and follow-up - questions/registration call 370-252-4721

Farming Baseball

Sun, May 21 - Farming at St. Martin
Sat, May 27 - Farming at Meire Grove
Sun, May 28 - Elrosa at Farming



Bee - ATTITUDES

Bee - busy doing what you love to do
Bee - true to the dreams God's given you
Bee - sure to taste the sweetness of each day
Bee - silly, giggle lots, take off and play
Bee - bold enough to trust your wings and fly
Bee - lieve the power of prayer will get you by
Bee - happy and keep your outlook bright and sunny
Bee - yourself...Bee-cause you're such a honey.

*Congratulations
First
Communicants*

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 **St. Bartholomew**
Catholic Faith Community
May 7, 2006

From Fr. Michael

In the mail this week, all parishioners should have received a letter from me along with a statement from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis and St. John's Abbey sharing some very sad news from the history of our St. Bartholomew Catholic Faith Community. I want to reprint those statements here to help ensure that all parishioners are informed. First, my words:

I was recently informed by officials from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis and officials from St. John's Abbey of a report concerning the sexual abuse of a minor at St. Bartholomew some 37 years ago. The details of the case are described in the enclosed statement from the Archdiocese and the Abbey. (You may recall that the priests who served St. Bartholomew were Benedictine priests from St. John's Abbey until the mid 1980s.)

It grieves me to learn, for the first time, that this tragedy of sexual abuse in the church has directly touched this St. Bartholomew Community. I think that, particularly for those of you who were here in 1969, this incident brings this formerly-distant phenomenon close to home. I know that we will all want to pray for this unnamed victim and anyone else who may have been harmed by the sin of sexual abuse.

Upon reviewing the material sent to me by the Archdiocese and the Abbey, it has helped me to keep in mind the following facts as we begin to work through this together:

- This case is 37 years old.
- There are no other known victims.
- Fr. Blumeyer is deceased and unable to speak for himself.
- There is no legal action pending against St. Bartholomew, the Abbey, or the Archdiocese.
- The assets of St. Bartholomew Community are not at risk.

Although this case is not likely to become a major news story, it is important that you, as St. Bartholomew parishioners, are fully informed. In addition, Abbot John Klassen of St. John's Abbey will be coming to St. Bartholomew for a parish meeting to be held on Wednesday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m. This will be an opportunity for you to

become more fully informed, to ask any questions you may have, and to voice your concerns. Catholic parishioners from Hastings (where Fr. Blumeyer also served) will be invited to this meeting as well.

And now, the statement from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis and St. John's Abbey:

In September, 2005, a 50-year-old man informed the Victim Advocate of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis that he was sexually abused as a young man by the late Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., a priest of the St. John's monastic community. The report has been deemed credible.

The abuse began in 1969 when the victim was 13 and Father Blumeyer was assistant pastor at St. Bartholomew parish in Wayzata and continued for approximately ten years while Father Blumeyer served in pastoral roles at St. Boniface Parish in Hastings and St. Benedict Parish in Avon, MN. Father Blumeyer died October 5, 1983.

The Archdiocese and Abbey have paid for therapy for the man and he has accepted a financial settlement from St. John's Abbey and the Archdiocese.

Neither the Archdiocese nor the Abbey knows of other allegations of abuse against Father Blumeyer.

In making this statement, Archbishop Harry Flynn and Abbot John Klassen express deep regret and remorse and reaffirm a commitment to assist this victim and other victims in their process of recovery and healing.

The victim advocate for the St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdiocese is Ms. Aneta Sawyer: 651-291-4497.

The victim advocate for St. John's Abbey is Gary Schuener at the Walk-In Counseling Center: 612-870-0565.

STAPLES NEEDED FOR IOCP FOODSHELF



The FoodShelf is in need of baked (or other) beans, cream soups, packaged potatoes, tuna, tomato products, honey, mac & cheese and sugar. Huge quantities of these items are needed which continue to be unavailable for purchase at the food bank. Leave your donations in the baskets in Narthex or take directly to IOCP.

Also, we extend a million thanks for supporting the 2006 Minnesota FoodShare effort. To date, 41,786 pounds of food and \$10,294 have been donated locally to help local families. As you know, the need is always there. You're the best!

Focus on Justice

"There is enough in the world for everyone's need, but not enough for everyone's greed."

- Mahatma Gandhi

EMPTY BOWLS

A soup dinner sponsored by the Art Dept. of Wayzata High School.

Thursday, May 25 ~ 5:00-7:00 p.m.
in the high school cafeteria.



A suggested donation of \$10 includes both the soup dinner and your choice of a handmade bowl in which it is served, created by the students of Wayzata High. Soup is donated by Sunset's and Ponera Restaurants and bread by Breadsmith. All proceeds go to support the IOCP Foodshelf. Tickets may be purchased from IOCP.

Ministry Schedule—June 2006

Saint John's Abbey Statement Concerning Abuse Charges Against Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B.

In September, 2005, a 50-year-old man informed the Victim Advocate of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis that he was sexually abused as a young man by the late Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., a priest of the Saint John's monastic community. The report has been deemed credible.

The abuse began in 1969 when the victim was 13 and Father Blumeyer was assistant pastor at St. Bartholomew parish in Wayzata and continued for approximately ten years while Father Blumeyer served in pastoral roles at Saint Boniface parish in Hastings and Saint Benedict parish in Avon, MN. Father Blumeyer died October 5, 1983.

The Archdiocese and Abbey have paid for therapy for the man and he has accepted a financial settlement from Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese.

The Abbey does not know of other allegations of abuse against the late Father Blumeyer. He served as assistant pastor at Saint Augustine's parish in Saint Cloud from 1965-1968. If you or someone you know has experienced abuse, please contact the victim advocate listed below.

In making this statement, Abbot John Klassen expresses deep regret and remorse and reaffirms a commitment to assist this victim and any other victims in their process of recovery and healing.

The victim advocate for Saint John's Abbey is Gary Schoener at the Walk-In Counseling Center: 612-870-0565.

May 8, 2006

***Note: Fr. Blumeyer was pastor of St. Catherine's for a very short time before his death in 1983.

Su	M	Tu	Wed	Th	Fri	Sat
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						ng isters: an se ir
2	2	2		2	3	
5	6	7		9	0	

OFFICE OF DAKOTA COUNTY ATTORNEY
JAMES C. BACKSTROM
COUNTY ATTORNEY



Dakota County Judicial Center
1550 Highway 55
Hastings, Minnesota 55033-2302
Philip D. Prokopowicz, Chief Deputy
Karen A. Schaffler, First Assistant
Monica Jensen, Community Relations Director

RECEIVED
JUN 05 2005

Telephone
(651) 438-4438
FAX: (651) 438-4470 (Civil Division)
FAX: (651) 438-4500 (Criminal Division)
FAX: (651) 438-4400 (Juvenile/Admin Division)
Email: ellomoy@co.dakota.mn.us

May 25, 2005

MICHAEL J. FORD
ATTORNEY AT LAW
QUINLIVAN & HUGHES PA
PO BOX 1008
ST CLOUD MN 56302

Re: and Father Robert Blumeyer (Deceased)
Your file no. 12701.12227

Dear Mr. Ford:

I am receipt of the letter you sent me concerning the prior acts of sexual abuse by Father Robert Blumeyer against *it was sad and troubling to read* *handwritten description of the sexual abuse which* had occurred over many years and how this has adversely impacted his life. I hope and pray, as I know you do as well, that *will be able to maintain his health and sobriety as he attempts to put the trauma of his sexual abuse* behind him.

As you well know, sexual abuse of this nature is a serious problem that can result in long-term, traumatic impact upon its victims. It is commendable that St. John's Abbey has adopted a policy pertaining to sexual abuse and sexual exploitation by priests which includes the forwarding of this information to the appropriate law enforcement and civil authorities when it comes to your attention. In the future, however, I would encourage you to do so promptly upon receipt of the information. Both the criminal and civil statute of limitations in Minnesota for cases of this nature are complex matters. The criminal statute of limitations varies depending upon the time the alleged offense occurred and the time the incidents are brought to the attention of law enforcement officials. The sooner this is done, the greater the opportunity will be for authorities to pursue appropriate criminal sanctions against offenders in situations such as this or for civil litigation to be commenced by victims against their perpetrators.

Letter in this instance was dated July 30, 1997. At a minimum, it appears that this matter was brought to your client's attention no later than November 3, 2005 (based upon the fax heading on the letter copy you sent to me) if not sooner, and yet it was not until a few weeks ago that this matter was sent to my attention. In this instance, this delay makes no difference as Father Blumeyer is dead and we are incapable of prosecuting him for any crimes he may have committed. However, had he been alive, the importance of timely notice may have been critical in our review of a situation such as this.

Very truly yours,

James C. Backstrom

JAMES C. BACKSTROM
DAKOTA COUNTY ATTORNEY

JCB:jlr
Enclosure(s)

Criminal Division
Scott A. Hersey, Head

Victim/Witness Coordinator
Patricia Ronken



90% post customer

Juvenile and Protective Services Division
Donald E. Bruco, Head

Office Manager
Norma J. Zabel

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Civil Division
Jay R. Siassen, Head

Child Support Enforcement Division
Sandra M. Torgerson, Head

5-11-05

OSB BLUMEYER_00184



JANELLE P. KENDALL
Stearns County Attorney

May 25, 2006

Mr. Michael J. Ford
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 1008
St. Cloud, MN 56302

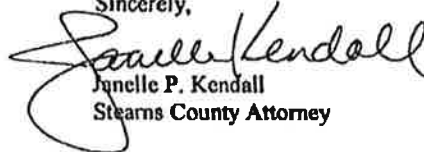
Dear Mr. Ford:

Thank you for your correspondence regarding _____ report. Since the report involves a person who is since deceased, my office is not in a position to take formal action. However, I applaud the Abbey's efforts in encouraging victims to come forward so that healing may take place, even in these situations.

You are correct that law enforcement may wish to discuss the incidents with _____ I discussed the matter with Sheriff John Sanner this morning, and I'll be forwarding this information to him for potential follow up.

If you have questions or concerns, please call me. I'll copy Abbot Klassen, _____ and Sheriff Sanner as well, so we're all aware of the situation.

Sincerely,


Janelle P. Kendall
Stearns County Attorney

JPK/lmk

cc: Stearns County Sheriff John Sanner (w/enclosures)
Abbot John Klassen

This is an account of a meeting with Greta Sawyer and
on June 16, 2006.

and

presented himself as a clean shaven, nicely dressed man. He is now 48 years old. He is about five feet nine inches tall, probably about 175 pounds. He spoke so softly during the 70 minute interview that I had to ask him to repeat the ends of sentences a number of times. When he first came into the room he was very nervous but gradually came to a greater degree of ease. He is very serious, seems to be depressed, and did not smile or laugh during the time together.

I thanked for having the courage, resilience, and desire for healing to come forward at this time. I acknowledged that it was hard for him to tell this story again, even after living with the impact for so long.

is the sixth of eleven children in their family located in Hastings, Minnesota. The situation which described during the course of this interview occurred in June, 1976, when he was 17. rector for Saint Boniface parish. I asked if he was a Mass server – no. I asked him if Father Robert frequently came to the house – no. One day Father Robert Blumeyer, the pastor of the parish, and had his estate the day and invited out for dinner. mom were very excited about this invitation because the family was very devout and revered priests. may well have been thinking about priesthood.

got in the car – it was a Ford Torino. remembers traveling on I-494 and other freeways when they were just constructing walls along the freeway. He remembers asking Father Robert what they were and Robert explaining that they were supposed to protect adjacent housing from the noise of the freeway. Father Robert took him to an Italian restaurant (Rucianos – sp?) and ordered drinks for each of them, even though was just 17. just let the drink sit in front of him – Robert asked him why he wasn't drinking it. They very seldom had alcohol in their home and way wasn't used to it. At Robert's urging he took a few sips but could feel the buzz very quickly, so he stopped. "I wanted something to eat – I was starved." Robert must have had at least two drinks during this time. thought to himself, "Mom would not be happy about this."

After dinner Father Robert drove to what looked to be a "mens' club, a bath house." They went into a sauna, each wrapped in a towel. Then they went into the shower – was uncomfortable about this but told himself: "I am safe – I am with a priest." He started washing my back and asked me to wash his back. "I was confused at this point, totally confused." I remember thinking, "I am with a priest, I can trust him." washed Father Robert's back. Then he told me to go back to this room – it was like a stall, perhaps a dozen of them. Each was about 6 feet by 8 feet in size, with a mattress on the floor. Father Robert told him to go to the back one in the corner. A few minutes alter he walked into the stall – was at this point very uncomfortable. Father Robert lay down beside on the mattress. is thinking to himself, "This

is not right – it can't be right." Then Father Robert reached down and put his hand on [redacted] genitals and started to arouse him. [redacted] got up, grabbed his clothes and put them on. He went outside the building, wanted to run, but did not know where he was and was very afraid. Father Robert came out a few minutes later and talked [redacted] into getting into the car.

Father Robert then took [redacted] to a bar downtown. There they sat at a bar but were separated by 3-4 barstools. [redacted] thought about trying to call home and ask his mom to come and pick him up. But he didn't know where he was. Father Robert tried to buy him another drink. He approached me and touched me but I jerked my body away from him and him, "Leave me alone!" [redacted] body was tensed and his eyes were on fire when he said this.") Father Robert asked [redacted] "Are you mad because I touched you?" [redacted] didn't answer – he wanted to go home. Father Robert finished his drink and ordered another one. Finally, he said, "I will take you home." After this, when we were in the car, [redacted] said the Father Robert asked him if he wanted to him to masturbate him.

It was late. [redacted] can't remember if the doors to the house were locked –he may have spent the night in the garage. The next morning when I came into the kitchen I asked my sister if she knew if mom was home. "I spoke so softly and started to tell her what had happened with Father Robert. But then mom came into the kitchen and she had heard what I said." She said in a very angry way, "How dare you talk about a man of God like that?" I ran out the door of the house and went to the house of my oldest sister.

"I was so nervous, so scared after mom caught me telling this stuff in the kitchen. I told my oldest sister what had happened. She called mom and explained what happened. Mom cried and wanted to talk to me. She said she was sorry for what she had said to me. I talked with her a long time. She was in total shock at what had happened. She immediately set up an appointment with Msgr. Durand (sp?) in Northfield. About one week later I went to see him. My aunts [redacted] came with my mom but they were outside the room – I was alone in the room with Msgr. Durand. I can't remember exactly what occurred but I told him what had happened. He said that it a monstrous thing that Father Robert had done. He was very irate. The meeting lasted for about one-half to three-quarters of an hour. [redacted] doesn't remember much else about this.

[redacted] remembers that his mom once approached Father Robert outside after Mass and told him, "I know what you have done." [redacted] dad died in 1994. He knew about the event, was very angry and upset when he found out about it.

I asked [redacted] if he had seen a therapist at any time following this incident, for the sake of helping him process the event. He said "no."

I then asked [redacted] to describe the impact of this incident on him. "After that, I couldn't trust anybody. Being alone with another man makes me very uncomfortable. I just lost all trust as a result."

started drinking heavily after this event. He did not graduate from high school even though he had been doing decent academic work before. He did not care about anything anymore. The heavy drinking continued for many years. "I figured, 'this didn't happen to my brothers – so I must be different.'"

I said to "You were not different or strange or weird. This was not your fault. This was not your fault. Father Robert did this because he thought he could get away with it – because he perceived a trusting and vulnerable young man."

I asked if had become an alcoholic –he said yes – he has been through treatment three times. He might have a few beers now and then but he can't get drunk now because of diabetes and ulcers. He did participate in AA for a number of years. He has been sober for six years.

My employment record is a series of one job after another. "I am still so ashamed of what happened to me that if my co-workers knew about it, they would run away from me. Now that I have come forward, it is hard to face my brothers and sisters." I asked if he was sure that all of his brothers and sisters knew the facts of his situation – He said, "I am sure they all know about it, but maybe the youngest two do not,"

I asked what he did now – he is a machinist, works on cleaning up parts after fabrication.

Why switch jobs? "Sometimes I found myself working with people who weren't very nice. At other times, I was cut from the payroll because of a slowdown in business."

I asked if he suffered from depression. He said yes. I asked him if he had ever been treated for it. He said no.

I asked if he had ever thought about suicide. He said "yes." I asked him if he had ever attempted it. He said "yes, once, with one-half bottle of aspirin."

I have moved from job to job, but getting nowhere. I asked myself, "Why am I not successful like my other brothers? They are all electricians..."

"I stopped attending church. At first I would go to Mass, then come out, and there would be the priest, shaking hands. And I would think to myself, "Are you one of them, too? I really liked going to church. But it was so uncomfortable that I couldn't go anymore. And family members didn't harass me about not going because they knew why I wasn't."

"I think my life has gone down many different wrong paths because of it."

I asked [redacted] why he came forward now. He said that he stopped in to visit his mom about a month ago. She said, "I want to talk to you." "She had a look in her face and showed me the bulletin insert from Saint Bartholomew's parish. I couldn't believe it, the same man who had made me a victim, had done it to someone else, almost in the same way, and about my age too." Mom said, "I think you should come forward."

I apologized to [redacted] on behalf of myself and the abbey. "This should not have happened to you."

[redacted] asked me to describe what happened next. I told that it was really important for him to get some therapy, to begin to process what had happened to him. Greta recommended a therapist to him at their first meeting and [redacted] has had one session with her. I described to him what my role is at Saint John's Abbey as abbot and how the archdiocese and the abbey work together on assignments.

I told [redacted] that it was important for him to come to a clearer understanding of his needs for healing. We cannot give him back the past 30 years, but we can hope that his next 30 will be more satisfying than the past 30.

Again, I thanked [redacted] for having the courage, resilience, and desire for healing to come forward at this time. I acknowledged how hard for him to tell this story again, even after living with the impact for so long.

Greta Sawyer then asked [redacted] if he wanted some time with her alone after my departure. And he said yes to that. Greta showed me to the door.

Notes for the record

Greta Sawyer is the new Victim Advocate for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Her phone number is 651 291-4497 and she works at the Hayden Center on 328 W Kellogg, Saint Paul. Take Kellogg off I-94 and go past John Ireland and Summit, then a right turn, the parking lot is right on the left. And the center is at the end of the parking lot.

Greta and I had our first conversation about [redacted] on Monday, June 5. We set up the appointment for June 16 as a result of that conversation. She also called me on June 13th, to see if I had arranged for our victim advocate to come to the meeting. I said no because I needed to be sure that [redacted] was comfortable with it. Greta had checked with [redacted] and he was not comfortable with another stranger being present and wanted to meet with Greta and me alone. I asked if mom would be part of the conversation. Greta said that she might accompany [redacted] to the office but that she would not be part of the meeting.

Abbot John Klassen, OSB
written from hand notes on June 17, 2006

July 17, 2006

Abbot John Clausen
St John's Abby
Box 2015
Collegeville, MN 56321-2015

Dear Abbot Clausen;

Here is my written account of the abuse I suffered and what I feel are the effects of the abuse on my life from the incident with Fr Robert Blumeyer. Also included with my written account is what I feel is a fair settlement. My contact number is _____ at home and you can leave a message. My address is;

Please contact me as soon as you have made a decision. Thank you.

OSB BLUMEYER_00190

July 14, 2006

This is my written account of the incident that took place 30 years ago with Fr Robert Blumyer. I am 48 years of age and just now realizing what a great impact this has had on my life.

It was June of 1976, I resided at rectory of St Boniface Church. Fr Robert Blumyer was staying there. I saw him on certain occasions getting into his car, he would wave at me I would wave at him. My family and I attended St Boniface church regularly. In June of that year Fr Robert Blumyer walked over to my house and talked with my mother. He asked her if he could take me out to dinner. She said it was okay with her. Then he approached me. I was outside in front of the house and I said yes. He had to go back to the rectory. I met him at a certain time out in back in the alley where his car was parked in the garage. We left from there. We drove to Minneapolis and stopped off to eat at a restaurant. The name of the restaurant was Ruchianos. He said that this was his favorite restaurant. Before dinner he suggested having a couple of drinks. He ordered both of us a drink. They were both hard liquor drinks. He just started drinking. I had only a few sips of mine. I was only seventeen and hadn't started drinking at that point. Fr Blumyer was drinking pretty steadily. I started after a few sips on an empty stomach to feel a little intoxicated. So I just stop drinking my drink altogether. Fr Blumyer finished his second drink and he asked me why I wasn't drinking mine. I explained to him that this was the first time I had hard liquor and I didn't really care for the taste of it. So we finished our meal and left the restaurant. We got into his car and not sure where we were going I thought we were just going home after the restaurant. When he pulled up in front of this building I had absolutely no idea where I was. I asked him why are we stopping here? Fr Blumyer told me that it was a place that he came to rest and relax. I was just a little nervous at that point. But knowing that he was a priest I went into that building with him. He asked me if I had ever been in a sauna before. I told him no. So we went into the sauna with just towels on us. After leaving the sauna we went to the showers. In there he asked me to wash his back. Confused at that point I washed his back. There were a couple of other men in the shower staring at me as if this was not right. They gave us that, what are you guys doing sort of look. I looked away and was very confused at that point. Fr Blumyer told me to go into the other room. There were separate stalls in this room. And there were matrices on the floor in the stalls. He said to me that I should go lay down in the end stall. So I did with just a towel around me. I thought I was going to have this stall to myself. He entered my stall a few minutes later and laid down next to me. I was very nervous at this point he then reached his hand through my towel and started massaging my genitals. I then got up and got my clothes and then put them on. Then left that building. I was scared and nervous. I waited near his car. He came out about ten minutes later. I can't remember what was said. After getting into the car he said I will take you home. But instead of taking me home right away he stopped at a bar. I asked him why we were stopping here I want to go home. I went in the bar and sat at the bar wondering if I should call my mom. Fr Blumyer sat 3 or 4 stools from me. After about

OSB BLUMEYER_00191

ten minutes he came down to where I was sitting put his hand on my shoulder and I jerked my shoulder away. He asked me are you mad because I touched you? I told him that I want to go home now. On the way home I was quite all the way. Upon arriving to my house he had asked me if I wanted to masturbate. I did not understand the word then. I asked him what's that? He replied jack off. So I left the car. I can't remember if I spent the night in the house or in the garage. In the morning I went in the kitchen where my younger sister was in the kitchen. I asked my sister if mom was around. She said she didn't know where mom was. So, I starting yelling obscenities about Fr Robert Blumyer. And then at that point my mom entered the kitchen. She pointed at me in a rage saying how dare you talk about a Father like that. So I left the house scared. I then drove to my sister in St Paul. I was scared and nervous so I felt I had to tell somebody what had happened. I explained it all to my sister. She was in total disbelief. She immediately contacted my mother and explained to her what had happened. After learning of this my mother felt really bad for chasing me out of the house. She just wanted to speak to me as soon as she could. I explained to her what happened. She was in total shock. She cried and told me was sorry. Then she said she didn't know why this happened. Then she said that she was going to set up a meeting with the monsignor a higher up. It was about a week to a week and a half that she took me down to Northfield Minnesota to meet with Monsignor Durand. I met with Monsignor Durand and he explained to me that it was a monstrous thing that Blumyer had done. That's all I remember about that meeting. It was later that Monsignor Durand contacted St John's Abby to talk to someone about Fr Blumyer. I found out later that it was the Abbot who contacted my mother in response to the call from Monsignor Durand. The Abbot asked my mother if she believed me. She answered, I have no reason not to believe him. I found out very recently that Fr Blumyer called my mother a couple of times on the phone denying such a thing happened. The first time my mom hung up on Fr Blumyer. He called right back and said that he just didn't know what to tell my mother. My mother told me that she had approached Fr Blumyer at a church gathering and she said that she confronted him about this briefly. She said that he was very nervous. She told him that he should say 3 Hail Marys a day. He replied yes and more. After this we heard absolutely nothing from St John's Abbey or anybody else.

Most of my anguish and pain from what happened 30 years is feeling that no one would do anything or cared to do anything to set things right. I felt that the church condoned Fr Blumyer's actions and that I was not worth bothering with, or somehow I deserved this. I turned away from the church although my faith in the Lord has not changed. I was very pleased to hear Pope John Paul II announce several years ago that the Archdiocese was not going to harbor these men who did these evil deeds and that they were not above the law. But I was angry too because it was too late for Fr Blumyer. He lived his life out without consequences for his wrong doings. I went on with my life always feeling dirty and worthless and could not talk to anyone about it. I felt ashamed and disgusted. When this was reported to Fr Durand 30 years ago nothing was done about it. They just swept it, and me, under the carpet. I think what has effected me the worst out of all of this is not being able to trust anybody. My feelings of being ashamed led to heavy drinking years after that. I am also very nervous around other men. It is very hard to face people who knew about this. I just wanted to leave and hide away from other people. I felt

shame knowing other family members knew about this. I also stopped going to church. I have experienced a lot of depression. This led to even heavier drinking. I am always feeling very different from the rest of my family, especially my brothers

I am coming forward now because of seeing the flyer talking about a victim of Fr Blumyer who had come forward. If I had not seen this flyer I most likely would not have come forward. This has always been in the back of my mind, but I had never done anything about it. I had stopped by my mom's house to visit. She had this strange look on her face. She approached me and said that she had something to show me. We stepped outside and she showed me this flyer that she had gotten from her best friend who received this flyer from the church. I read it and I was shocked at what I was reading. When my mom read the letter she was angry at the part that said, at this time no other victims had come forward. In the letter a meeting was scheduled for people to come and talk about this. My mom told me that I should go to this meeting or if I couldn't go to the meeting I should call the numbers listed. I decided to call the number for the Archdiocese. After reading this letter I felt angry. What had happened 30 years ago flashed in my mind. I felt ashamed and disgusted of having to re-live all of this again. I felt bad for my mother having to show this to me. All the bad memories had come back to her too.

July 29, 2006

Br. Benedict Leuthner, OSB
Saint John's Abbey

Dear Benedict,

For your awareness I am sending you a copy of a letter I received from
on July 28, 2006. We (you, Bob Stich, Mike Ford, and I) will have to de-
termine how to respond.

I have also sent a copy to Father Kevin McDonough and to ; the chair
of the External Review Board.

Sincerely,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

Encl: Copy of letter dated July 17

3 named in abuse allegations

By Frank Lee fclee@stcloudtimes.com

Published: July 29, 2006 1:00AM, Saint Cloud Times

COLLEGEVILLE — New allegations of sexual misconduct surfaced Friday against three members of the St. John's monastic community.

The Revs. Michael Bik, Bruce Wollmering and the late Rev. Robert Blumeyer were named in a statement by the abbey based on an annual review board report to Abbot John Klassen.

"It is the abbot's view that these allegations are credible," said the Rev. William Skudlarek, abbey spokesman.

The allegations against Bik were made in 1997 and include "inappropriate sexual conduct with two teen-agers in the 1970s" before he joined the abbey and before his ordination.

The allegations against Wollmering were made in 2004 and include "sexual misconduct early in the 1980s reported by a former St. John's (University) student," according to Skudlarek.

The sexual abuse charges against Blumeyer were made in September and involved a teen-age boy he knew while an assistant pastor at St. Bartholomew Parish in Wayzata.

"Sometimes these things are not easy to hear. ... And, as far as I'm aware, they are permanently removed from ministry," Skudlarek said.

Accountability

As many as 13 priests at the abbey have faced similar allegations.

At least 26 priests in the St. Cloud diocese were accused of sexual abuse from 1950 to 2003.

Skudlarek did not elaborate on the allegations against Bik, Wollmering and Blumeyer but said there have been no subsequent allegations against Bik or Wollmering, who remain in Collegeville.

"We really do consider ourselves a family ... and so they are our brothers. You just don't say, 'You're not our brother any longer,' " Skudlarek said.

"The kind of ongoing supervision and mentoring that goes on here — they are in fact at much less risk of re-offending than they would be if they were simply sort of cut loose and on their own, and in fact, this makes for a more safe situation."

Bik, 57, and Wollmering, 65, live in the monastery and work under restrictions in the abbey "where their activities are guided by individual plans of accountability."

"That would mean in terms of freedom to travel, whether or not they could travel unaccompanied, the necessity of informing a superior in the monastery when they would be leaving campus, what parts of the campus they are restricted from," Skudlarek said.

Bik's main responsibilities were teaching theology and working in campus ministry at St. John's Preparatory School until 2002.

Blumeyer, an Iowa native, served as assistant pastor at the Church of St. Augustine in St. Cloud from 1965-68.

He died of a heart attack in 1983 at the age of 61.

Wollmering's main responsibilities were teaching psychology and working in the counseling center at St. John's University until 2003; he is now retired.

Assistance

"One of the reasons for being forthcoming with names is it allows those who may have been victims or affected to come forward with a certain degree of confidence that they will be heard," Skudlarek said.

St. John's Abbey has contracted with the Walk-In Counseling Center in Minneapolis, which is independent of the abbey, to provide assistance to victims of sexual abuse.

"We really do want to reach out to those who have been harmed in any way. We also want to provide for our members who have offended the kind of assistance they need to move on and to make reparations," Skudlarek said.

St. John's Abbey has also contracted with Project Pathfinder Inc., a nonprofit organization that assesses offenders and develops recommendations for treatment.

"Those individual plans of accountability (for Bik and Wollmering) are drawn up and worked out with Pathfinder, ... and basically what they determine is the risk factor of something like this happening again," Skudlarek said.

The abbey's external review board has met with the victims and made recommendations to Klassen for additional support for their "emotional and spiritual recovery."

"I think the other thing that's important, maybe, to underline is there has been no recidivism since these allegations were brought forward," Skudlarek said Friday.

Skudlarek said he was not aware whether the nature of the allegations against the three constituted any sort of criminal behavior.

"If there were anything here in which law enforcement would need to be involved with, that would immediately be reported — that's our policy," Skudlarek said.

How to report abuse or get help:

Victims of sexual abuse related to the St. John's monastic community can receive free and confidential assistance from the Walk-In Counseling Center in Minneapolis by calling (612) 870-0565. For information, visit www.walkin.org.

Review board

St. John's Abbey's external review board was established in 2003 as part of the abbey's response to allegations of sexual misconduct by some of its members.

The nine-member board meets monthly and reports on key issues ranging from assessment and supervision of offenders to assistance for victims.

Source: St. John's Abbey.

July 31, 2006

The Rev. Kevin McDonough
Vicar General
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
226 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Kevin,

As per our phone conversation in June, here is a narrative account of Father Robert Blumeyer's behavior towards him. It is dated July 17, but I only received it on July 28.

In my conversation with him, I was careful to ask when this behavior took place, and he said without hesitation that it was in June, 1976.

I am sending copies of his letter to our legal team and to the chair of our External Review Board.

Sometime in the middle of August I would like to speak with you to determine how best to proceed.

Sincerely,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

Encl: Copy of letter dated July 17

July 31, 2006

For your awareness and that of the External Review Board, I am sending you a copy of a letter I received from _____ on July 28.

Sincerely,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

Encl: Copy of _____ letter dated July 17

July 31, 2006

Robert T. Stich, Esq.
STICH, ANGELL, KREIDLER & DODGE, P.A.
The Crossings, Suite 120
250 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2190

Dear Bob,

For your awareness I am sending you a copy of a letter I received from
on July 28, 2006. We (you, Brother Benedict, Mike Ford, and I) will have
to determine how to respond.

I have also sent a copy to Father Kevin McDonough and to the chair
of the External Review Board.

Sincerely,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

Encl: Copy of letter dated July 17

Abbey names 3 more accused abusers

• The names have been added to the list of St. John's Abbey clerics who have faced plausible allegations of sexual abuse recently or in the more distant past.

By PAMELA MILLER
pmiller@startribune.com

The names of three priests accused of sexual misconduct, primarily in the 1970s and '80s, have been released by St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minn., abbey officials said Wednesday.

The abbey's external review board, created in 2003 in response to sex-abuse allegations, included the names in its annual report to Abbot John Klassen, said the Rev. William Skudlarek, Klassen's executive assistant.

The abbey has released about 13 other names in recent years, Skudlarek said. The newly named:

• The Rev. Robert Blumeyer, accused posthumously last year of having had a sexual relationship with a young man from 1969 to 1979, when he was assistant pastor at St. Bartholomew Parish in Wayzata. Blumeyer, who was associated with the

abbey, died in 1983 at age 61.

• The Rev. Michael Bik, 57, accused in 1997 of sexual contact with two teenagers in the 1970s, before he joined the abbey and before his ordination. Bik taught theology and worked in campus ministry at St. John's Preparatory School until 2002.

• The Rev. Bruce Wollmering, 65, a retired St. John's psychology teacher and counselor, accused in 2004 of sexual misconduct with a student in the 1980s.

Bik and Wollmering are among about 10 accused community members who live at the abbey under restrictions, Skudlarek said. They may not do ministerial work and are limited in where they may travel, said Lee Hanley, the abbey's communications director.

The review board, which meets monthly, crafts plans for abusers on the basis of recommendations from Project Pathfinder Inc., a nonprofit group

with which it has contracted to assess offenders and recommend treatment and restriction plans, Hanley said. The abbey also has a contract with Minneapolis' Walk-In Counseling Center to help victims.

Skudlarek, who has been at the abbey since 1951, said he believes abuse has been greatly reduced. "We have dramatically heightened awareness of behavior and boundaries, and know now how very devastating this kind of abuse can be," he said.

Suzanne Severson, co-moderator of Twin Cities Voice of the Faithful, said her group "appreciates any efforts at improving transparency in relation to sexual abuse in the church." But Bob Schwiderski, who is active in several victims' advocacy groups, said St. John's Abbey could do more to help victims.

Swifter release of names and closer coordination with law enforcement officials and victims' advocacy groups would improve St. John's response system, Schwiderski said.

Pamela Miller • 612-673-4190

Monk kept his job after claims

Abbot: If accusations came to us now, we would act differently

By David Unze and Frank Lee
 dunze@stcloudtimes.com
 flee@stcloudtimes.com

COLLEGEVILLE — A member of the St. John's monastic community continued to work at St. John's Preparatory School for five years after he was accused of sexual misconduct.

The allegations against the Rev. Michael Bik were made in 1997 and included accusations of incidents with two teen-age boys in the 1970s, before he joined St. John's Abbey and before his ordination.



John Klassen "We would have handled (the Bik case) differently"

"With respect to Bik, if it came to us today we would have handled it differently," Abbot John Klassen said.

Bik — and the Revs. Bruce Wollmering and Robert Blumeyer — were named in a July 28 statement by the abbey concerning alleged sexual misconduct from the 1970s and 1980s. Bik stopped working at the school in 2002.

"It was at that time we said it is inappropriate for Michael to continue to be working in that situation," Klassen said.

See ST. JOHN'S, 5A ▶

FROM PAGE 1A

St. John's

Revelations

The accusations against the late Blumeyer were made in September and involved a teenage boy Blumeyer knew as an assistant pastor at a Wayzata parish starting in 1969.

"We have had two additional people come forward against Father Robert Blumeyer in June and July 2006," since the abbey disclosed the allegations against Blumeyer in May, Klassen said. Both victims are males.

Wollmering was accused in 2004 by a St. John's University student of sexual harassment that allegedly started when he was a sophomore in 1984 and lasted until he graduated.

"One of the reasons we felt imperative to make this public at this time is that if there are other victims, they can come forward," Klassen said.

Wollmering retired in 2004 as chair of the St. John's psychology department — the same year the accusations were leveled against him.

"He wished to step down at the time ... in relation to this and some other issues," Klassen said.

Bik and Wollmering could not be reached for comment.

Reaching out

Klassen said there are 10 members of St. John's monastic community who are on restriction — or "supervision," as he preferred to call it — including Bik and Wollmering.

"In other words, avoidance of student residence halls on campus, situations where he would have the capacity to develop a relationship with undergraduate men and ongoing attention to living monastery life and therapy," Klassen said.

The Revs. Cosmas Dahlheimer and John Eldenschink, who were on the restriction list as far back as 2002, have since died.

"With Wollmering, the inappropriate behavior was not the sexual abuse of a minor. It was sexual harassment, and in my mind there is a difference," Klassen said.

Klassen also was concerned about those Wollmering may have counseled as chair of the St. John's psychology department in Collegeville, whether any misconduct occurred and how to help them.

The abbey is making its concerns about Wollmering public because the confidentiality surrounding counseling records prevents direct communication.

The allegations against Bik and Wollmering were made public after the abbey's external review board submitted its annual report to Klassen and the abbey's senior council.

"The review board has been very helpful ... because they really have urged us to make these allegations public," Klassen said.

That way, if there are additional victims, they can receive the help they need, he said.

Sexual misconduct allegations released by St. John's monastic community

by Joseph Young
Visitor Interim Editor

COLLEGEVILLE — St. John's Abbey External Review Board's annual report to Abbot John Klassen, released July 28, included credible allegations of sexual misconduct against three members of the St. John's monastic community. The Board has dealt with the allegations, according to a news release about the report.

Father Michael Bik was alleged to have had inappropriate sexual contact with two teenagers in the 1970s, before his ordination and his joining the Abbey, according to the release. Father Bruce Wollmering, a retired St. John's University faculty member, had early-1980s sexual misconduct alle-

gations made against him in 2004 by a STU student. Father Robert Blumeyer, who died in 1983, was alleged with having an abusive 10-year relationship with young man that began in a Twin Cities parish in 1969.

The release added that the Abbey has been working with the Board "to tailor responsible plans for members of the monastic community charged with credible abuse allegations."

The Abbey has contracted with Project Pathfinder, Inc., a non-profit service that assesses offenders and develops recommendations of safety plans for them. The Board has been given summaries of those plans for the individuals involved.

In addition, according to the release, the Abbey has contract-

ed with the Walk-in Counseling Center of Minneapolis to provide first-response assistance to victims of any further allegations of abuse. That initiative resulted from assistance procedures available to victims that were developed by the Board's Victim Assistance Committee.

"We want anyone who may have been abused by members of our community to be able to feel free to come forward with confidence that they will be listened to," said Benedictine Father William Skudlarek, Abbey spokesman.

Through its relationship with the Walk-in Counseling Center, the Abbey can "reach out to those who may have in any way been damaged by abuse," Father Skudlarek said, "in a way that

allows them to bring allegations forward without having to go directly to the Abbey."

Project Pathfinder, he said, "aids the Abbey in supervising and mentoring" monks who have been abusive. It recommends treatment and plans of accountability designed to lead to spiritual and emotional recovery of the monks.

It also "assesses the risk factors so that supervision can be put in place so that any recurrence of abuse can be minimized," Father Skudlarek said.

Fathers Bik and Wollmering live and work under supervision at the Abbey. Father Wollmering, now retired, mainly taught psychology and worked in the counseling center at STU until 2003. Father Bik taught

theology and worked in campus ministry at St. John's Preparatory School until 2002.

Father Blumeyer was an associate pastor at St. Augustine Parish in St. Cloud from 1966 to 1988.

The Abbey established the nine-member External Review Board in 2003 as a part of its response to allegations of sexual misconduct against some of its members.

The Walk-in Counseling Center's Web site is www.walkin.org. The Abbey encourages victims of sexual abuse by members of the monastic community to contact the center for free and confidential assistance. Phone Gary Schoener at the Center: 612-870-0565, or e-mail him at grschoener@aol.com.

Abbey defends its handling of clergy offenses

By Frank Lee
flee@stlouispostdispatch.com

ST. LOUIS PARK — St. John's Abbey officials say the claims made Wednesday by a national advocacy group for clergy molestation victims are inaccurate.

The group calls the abbey's eventual disclosure July 26 of allegations of sexual misconduct from the 1970s and 1980s "begrudging" and "reprehensible."

"Our fear is that during these inexcusable delays by the abbey, other kids may have been hurt and were certainly put at risk," said David Clohessy of St. Louis, Mo.

Clohessy is the national director of Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, or SNAP, which had a news conference Wednesday outside a Catholic high school in St. Louis Park.

"They are at least implying recklessness on our part that's simply uncalled for," said the Rev. William Skudlarek, spokesman for St. John's Abbey in Collegeville.

MORE INSIDE

Find out how to report abuse and get help. Page 6A.



William Skudlarek
Abbey acts of responsibility

Full disclosure

Allegations against the Rev. Michael Blk were made in 1997 and involved two teen-age boys in the 1970s, before Blk joined the Catholic abbey and before his ordination.

"Abbot John (Ejassen) has already explicitly said if we had known in 1997 what we now know — and there has been an incredible amount of learning not only in the church but by society about sexual abuse since then — we would have done things differently," Skudlarek said.

Blk was allowed to work at St. John's Preparatory School in Collegeville for



John Ejassen
Abbey restricts work of accused priests

See SNAP, 6A ▶

FROM PAGE 1A

SNAP

five years after he was accused of sexual misconduct.

"We were dealing here with allegations of abuse that took place decades earlier before Michael Bilk came to St. John's," Skudlarek said.

Clohesy, a victim of sexual abuse by a cleric, said any information the Collogeville abbey has regarding sexual misconduct by its monks should be turned over to police.

Bilk, 57, and the Rev. Bruce Wollmering, 65, live in the monastery and work under restrictions "where their activities are guided by individual plans of accountability," Skudlarek said last month.

"We think common sense and common decency require that all information about suspected sex crimes should be given to independent officials in law enforcement — not to biased, untrained church officials," Clohesy said by phone after Wednesday's news conference.

The work restrictions by the abbey include "avoidance of student residence halls on campus," Klassen had earlier said.

"We know that abbey officials claim they monitor these guys, but the simple truth is no one can monitor a child molester

HOW TO REPORT ABUSE OR GET HELP

Victims of sexual abuse related to the St. John's monastic community can receive free, confidential assistance from the Walk in Counseling Center in Minneapolis by calling (612) 870-0565. For information, visit www.walkin.org.

ON THE NET

See the letter SNAP sent Wednesday to Abbot John Klassen. Go to www.scltnas.com and click on this story.

24/7 — certainly not a cleric supervising a fellow cleric," Clohesy said.

SNAP

Accusations against the late Rev. Robert Blumeyer were made in September, involving a teen-age boy Blumeyer knew when he was an assistant pastor at a Wayzata parish starting in 1969.

"When allegations are brought forward, one needs time to determine if the allegations are true and how to proceed," Skudlarek said.

While Blumeyer's name was included in the July 28 news release, the abbey disclosed the allegations against him as early as May, which was reported by the media, Skudlarek said.

"It seems to me that SNAP was expecting an immediate

disclosure, and that is not always the best way to go considering the feelings of the victims involved," Skudlarek said.

In 2004, Wollmering was accused by a St. John's University student of sexual misconduct that allegedly started in 1984.

SNAP handed out 200 fliers Wednesday in the St. Louis Park neighborhood where the Rev. Dunstan Moore, a St. John's cleric accused of molestation, worked in the 1980s.

"It's just unconscionable. May God have mercy on Klassen and his colleagues when a victim comes forward and reports abuse after this," Clohesy said.

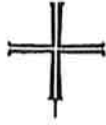
Ersta Sanger conversation

8-18-06 10 min

Told Ersta that I had spoken with my team
that the next step was to get to gether with
Kevin McDonough & talk with him about
how best to approach a settlement.

is getting therapy & has been in touch
with Ersta to ask about progress. Sessions
for this to move forward -

The individual firm of Darts has
never called back - Ersta says this often
occurs that individual move in jobs & starts



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

Office of the Abbot

September 15, 2006

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter to me with a written account of the abuse you suffered from the late Fr. Robert Blumeyer and of the effects that abuse has had on your life.

First of all, on behalf of the monastic community of Saint John's I want to apologize for the grave harm that one of our members inflicted on you. I also want to thank you for your courage in coming forward at this time. The pain you have suffered from this incident has been enormous, and you have borne it for thirty years. As you said, informing us now of the person who was responsible for this incident has dredged up once again all the suffering and mental anguish he brought upon you and your family. I hope and pray that your willingness to make this incident known, as difficult as it was for you to do that, will help to remove the feelings of shame and restore your ability to trust others.

I want to assure you, that when we said in the parish bulletin of Saint Bartholomew's Church in Wayzata that only one victim had come forward, we were not in anyway discounting the fact that you and your mother had reported the incident to Monsignor Durand shortly after it happened, or that the Abbot had contacted your mother in response to a call he had received from Monsignor Durand. There was nothing in Fr. Blumeyer's file to indicate that the Abbot had heard from your mother, and thus we were not aware that this incident had been reported. There was a reference in the file to some kind of unacceptable behavior that had taken place at this time, but no details were given and there was no indication that the behavior was in any way sexual.

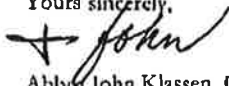
Finally, I want you to know that I have been trying to set up a meeting with the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis to discuss our response to what you believe a fair settlement would be. Thus far we have been unable to find a time when it would be possible for all the people who need to be involved to meet. I am going to be away for the rest of the month, but my secretary will continue to work on scheduling this meeting, and I hope that it will be able to take place in early October. I will be back in touch with you to let you know where things stand.

P.O. BOX 2015, COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015
Phone: (320) 363-2546 • Fax: (320) 363-3082 • E-mail: abbot@osb.org • Web: saintjohnsabbey.org

OSB BLUMEYER_00209

Thank you again, for bringing this painful incident to my attention. I promise to do all I can to respond compassionately and justly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

September 15, 2006

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter to me with a written account of the abuse you suffered from the late Fr. Robert Blumeyer and of the effects that abuse has had on your life.

First of all, on behalf of the monastic community of Saint John's I want to apologize for the grave harm that one of our members inflicted on you. I also want to thank you for your courage in coming forward at this time. The pain you have suffered from this incident has been enormous, and you have borne it for thirty years. As you said, informing us now of the person who was responsible for this incident has dredged up once again all the suffering and mental anguish he brought upon you and your family. I hope and pray that your willingness to make this incident known, as difficult as it was for you to do that, will help to remove the feelings of shame and restore your ability to trust others.

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Thank you again, for bringing this painful incident to my attention. I promise to do all I can to respond compassionately and justly.

Yours sincerely,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

OSB BLUMEYER_00211

11-21-06

Conversation with

(5:45 pm)

① Remain in the presence of holding the gun as it is
to go ahead & make a withdrawal order
from the Senior Command & the Mountain Community

② After being ordered by Adjutant
Patricia Williams to pull up the spirit of the
& Skudlovek

③ By Dec 10

Following order, as prompted by E. W. Sawyer
to cut off the line on Friday, November 10.



**QUINLIVAN &
HUGHES, P.A.**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Writer's Email: mford@quinlivan.com
Writer's Direct Dial: (320) 258-7848

January 04, 2007

Keith J. Hughes
Gerald A. Thorne
Kevin A. Spellacy
Michael J. Ford
Michael F. Milligan
Dennis J. (Della) Sullivan
Michael J. Fehrminger
Steven R. Sullivan
Michael D. LaFountain
Ronald W. Brandenburg
Bradley W. Hanson
Kenneth H. Bayless
Michael C. Rajewski
Dym L. Elzer
Lance M. Soffer
Robert P. Cunningham
Melinda K. Sanders
Thomas J. Christenson
Mary B. Lakler
Heidi N. Thoenes
Shelly M. Davis
John J. Hoels
John H. Wrajer
James S. McAlpine
Kurt L. Duvachner
Laura A. Stiles

**RE: Claim involving Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B. (deceased)
Our File #12701.12227**

Enclosed please find a copy of the Release of All Claims which, as you will note, releases all persons and entities against whom claims might have been made for the actions of Fr. Blumeyer.

As was stated multiple times during our January 2nd meeting, you have the right to have this document reviewed by an attorney of your choice. I told you during that January 2nd meeting that the Abbey would reimburse you for up to \$ 5,000 of costs related to such a review by an attorney.

I understand that you have decided to proceed without the benefit of counsel.

Please call me so that we can schedule a date and time to meet and exchange a signed copy of the release for a draft in payment of the settlement. I would expect it to take at least a week to ten days from today's date for me to assemble the funds needed to make that payment.

Sincerely,


Michael J. Ford
Attorney at Law
MJF/mjf

Mailing Address
PO Box 1008
Saint Cloud, MN 56302
www.quinlivan.com

Saint Cloud Office
Wells Fargo Center
400 South First Street, Suite 600
Phone 320.251.1414 Fax 320.251.1415

Little Falls Office
First Street Suites
107 First Street SE, Suite 105
Phone 320.632.0440

Livonia Office
120 North McKenzie Street
Phone 507.449.9944

BC: Andrew J. Eisenzimmer
W/encl Chancellor for Civil Affairs
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
226 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55102-2197

William Skudlarek, OSB
Executive Director
Monastic Interreligious Dialogue
Saint John's Abbey
Collegeville, MN 56321

RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

being of lawful age, for the sole consideration of _____ } plus the payment for eight (8) more counseling sessions through February 3, 2007, does hereby and for his heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns release, acquit and forever discharge the Order of St. Benedict, Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parish of Saint Boniface as well as their agents, servants, successors, heirs, executors, administrators, members and all other persons, firms, corporations, associations or partnerships, from any and all claims, actions, causes of action, demands, rights, damages, costs, loss or service, expenses or compensation whatsoever, to include past, present, or future therapy after February 3, 2007 which the undersigned now has on account of or in any way growing out of any and all known and unknown, foreseen, and unforeseen property damage or personal or bodily injury and the consequences thereof regarding or in any way flowing out of a claim for damages against Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., the Order of St. Benedict and Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parish of Saint Boniface arising out of the actions of Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B. (deceased).

It is understood and agreed that this settlement is a compromise of a disputed claim, not to be construed as an admission of liability on the part of any party, and that the parties released by this document deny liability for the incident and intend merely to avoid litigation and buy their peace.

_____ further declares and represent that no promise, inducement or agreement not expressed herein has been made to the undersigned, that he has declined legal counsel, that this release contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and that the terms of this release are contractual and not a mere recital.

HAS READ THE FORGOING RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS

Dated: _____

Subscribed before me this ____ day of
January, 2007.

Notary Public

Skudlarek, William

From: Michael J. Ford [MFord@quinlivan.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 12:04 PM
To: Michael J. Ford; Elsenzimmer, Andrew
Cc: Leuthner, Benedict; Skudlarek, William
Subject: RE: Settlement - Correction, the check will hopefully be mailed on January, not May, 16.

Dear Andy:

Correction, the check will hopefully be mailed on January, not May, 16.

Sincerely:

Michael J. Ford
Quinlivan & Hughes, P.A.
1-800-325-5650
1-320-251-1414
1-320-258-7848
FAX 251-1415
mford@quinlivan.com

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From: Michael J. Ford
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 11:56 AM
To: 'Elsenzimmer, Andrew'
Cc: 'Leuthner, Benedict'; 'Skudlarek, William'
Subject: Settlement

Dear Andy:

We have received it.

Many thanks.

I have written to [redacted] advising him generally that there will be a period of time that will have to pass until the funds are available to me in my trust account to issue a trust account check to him for payment of the agreed upon settlement (I have not discussed with him where the funds that are being deposited in to my trust account are coming from).

My trust account custodian will then check with our depository bank daily until it has been confirmed that both the Abbey and Diocese checks have cleared and the funds are then available. Immediately upon those funds being available I will issue a trust account check and mail that to

1/9/2007

ement

Page 2 of 3

In the mean time, I expect to have received from _____ an executed, notarized, copy of the settlement agreement.

If I don't have that executed settlement agreement in hand by the time that the trust account check is ready to be issued I will call _____ and make arrangements for a face to face meeting at a location of his choice (likely to be a Perkins Restaurant in Vadnais Heights) where we can exchange check and executed release (I am a notary and will notarize his signature at that meeting if necessary).

_____ and I have agreed orally to a mail exchange of settlement release for check so this face to face version is simply a fall back process should something go amiss with the receipt of the executed settlement release.

I hope to be able to mail the check on or about May 16th. .

Sincerely:

Michael J. Ford
Quinlivan & Hughes, P.A.
1-800-325-5650
1-320-251-1414
1-320-258-7848
FAX 251-1415
mford@quinlivan.com

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From: Eisenzimmer, Andrew [<mailto:eisenzimmer@archspm.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 11:43 AM
To: Michael J. Ford
Subject: Settlement

Michael, we sent late yesterday, by over-night FedEx, our check for our portion of the settlement proceeds. Would you confirm by reply e-mail once you have received that?

Andrew J. Eisenzimmer
Chancellor for Civil Affairs
The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
226 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102-2197
Telephone: 651.291.4405
Facsimile: 651.290.1629
eisenzimmer@archspm.org

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1/9/2007

OSB BLUMEYER_00222



Writer's Email: mford@quinlivan.com
Writer's Direct Dial: (320) 258-7848

January 08, 2007

Keith F. Hughes
Gerald L. Thoreen
Kevin A. Spellacy
Michael J. Ford
Michael T. Milligan
Dennis J. (Mike) Sullivan
Michael T. Feichtinger
Steven R. Schwegman**
Michael D. LaFontaine
Ronald W. Brandenburg
Bradley W. Hansonn
Kenneth H. Bayliss
Michael C. Rajkowski
Dyan J. Ebert
Luke M. Seifert
Robert P. Cunningham
Melinda M. Sanders
Thomas J. Christensen*
Mary B. Mahler
Heidi N. Thoenes
Shelly M. Davis
John J. Hoefs*
John H. Wenker
James S. McAlpine
Krista L. Durtwachter
Laura A. Steffen
Retired:
John D. Quinlivan
*Qualified ADR Neutral
**MSDA Certified Civil
Trial Specialist

This follows up our telephone conference of January 5th during which you inquired in to the time frame for delivery of a check in payment of the settlement that we have negotiated.

As I explained, as soon as the funds necessary to pay that settlement are delivered to my law firm's trust account and are made available for disbursement, I will issue a law firm trust account check in the amount of

You expressed a preference in our January 5th discussion to my mailing that check to you after you had signed the release, and had your signature notarized, and returned that release to me.

I believe that the funds needed to pay the settlement should be deposited in my law firm's trust account and thereafter deemed available for disbursement by Tuesday, January 16th if all goes as planned.

I will, thereafter, immediately cause my law firm's trust account draft made payable to you in the amount of to be issued and will mail that to you.

Enclosed for your convenience is another copy of the release along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Ford
Attorney at Law
MJF/mal/397770

Enclosure

Mailing Address
PO Box 1008
Saint Cloud, MN 56302
www.quinlivan.com

Saint Cloud Office
Wells Fargo Center
400 South First Street, Suite 600
Phone 320.251.1414 Fax 320.251.1415

Little Falls Office
First Street Suites
107 First Street SE, Suite 305
Phone 320.632.0440

Luverne Office
120 North McKenzie Street
Phone 507.449.9944

OSB BLUMEYER_00223

January 8, 2007
Page 2

BC: Andrew J. Eisenzimmer
Chancellor for Civil Affairs
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
226 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55102-2197

William Skudlarek, OSB
Executive Director
Monastic Interreligious Dialogue
Saint John's Abbey
Collegeville, MN 56321

Benedict Leuthner, O.S.B.
Treasurer
Order of St. Benedict
Saint John's Business Office
Wimmer Hall 202, Box 2222
Collegeville, MN 56321-2222

RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

being of lawful age, for the sole consideration of plus the payment for eight (8) more counseling sessions through February 3, 2007, does hereby and for his heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns release, acquit and forever discharge the Order of St. Benedict, Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parish of Saint Boniface as well as their agents, servants, successors, heirs, executors, administrators, members and all other persons, firms, corporations, associations or partnerships, from any and all claims, actions, causes of action, demands, rights, damages, costs, loss or service, expenses or compensation whatsoever, to include past, present, or future therapy after February 3, 2007 which the undersigned now has on account of or in any way growing out of any and all known and unknown, foreseen, and unforeseen property damage or personal or bodily injury and the consequences thereof regarding or in any way flowing out of a claim for damages against Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., the Order of St. Benedict and Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parish of Saint Boniface arising out of the actions of Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B. (deceased).

It is understood and agreed that this settlement is a compromise of a disputed claim, not to be construed as an admission of liability on the part of any party, and that the parties released by this document deny liability for the incident and intend merely to avoid litigation and buy their peace.

further declares and represent that no promise, inducement or agreement not expressed herein has been made to the undersigned, that he has declined legal counsel, that this release contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and that the terms of this release are contractual and not a mere recital.

HAS READ THE FORGOING RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS

Dated: 1-16-07

Subscribed before me this 16 day of
January, 2007.


Notary Public





SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

CONFIDENTIAL

Office of the Abbot

November 27, 2007

Dear Councilor:

With this letter I include three documents: 1) the account by a victim of sexual misconduct which occurred in June of 1976; 2) a letter from Archbishop Roach written to Abbot John Eidenschink on June 30 of 1976, and 3) a letter from Abbot John Eidenschink to Archbishop Roach on July 8, 1976. I believe that the account which is given by the victim is what triggered the letters between Abbot John and Archbishop Roach.

I am asking you as a Council for your support to go to the monastic chapter to delegate authority to the Council to determine an amount to settle this case. I plan to bring it to the community on December 5.

Sincerely,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

P.O. BOX 2015, COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA 56321-2015
Phone: (320) 363-2546 • Fax: (320) 363-3082 • E-mail: abbot@osb.org • Web: saintjohnsabbey.org

OSB BLUMEYER_00229

Ford, Michael J.

From: Michael J. Ford
Sent: 02/28/2008 03:23:30 PM
To: Elenzimmer, Andrew
CC:
BCC:

Attachments:

Priority: Normal
Request: None
Security: Normal
Deliver After: 0 day(s)

Subject: [Order of St. Ben (Insurance)] claim by O.S.B. (deceased) involving Fr. Robert Blumeyer,

Dear Andy:

Attached please find the typed narrative provided by [redacted] to Abbot John Klassen, O.S.B. and Greta Sawyer on February 14th.

I believe that Fr. William Skudlarek, O.S.B. may have already provided, at the Abbot's direction, of the enclosed [redacted] narrative to Fr. Kevin McDonough.

Abbot John reports that [redacted] stated to the Abbot and Ms Sawyer that he was a good friend of [redacted] that the two of them ran away together to California, that [redacted] had been sexually abused by a priest, but that [redacted] never shared with [redacted] the identity of the priest or the details of the abuse.

Also attached are two narratives relating to [redacted] The first narrative is handwritten and dates back to 1997 and is believe to have been written by [redacted]

OSB BLUMEYER_00234

The second narrative is dated 10-31-05 and is a letter from Fr. McDonough to Abbot Klassen reporting on a meeting Fr. Kevin had with _____ on 10-28-05.

I have reviewed all three narratives and find that while there are similarities, there are differences. For example, _____ describes a relationship that extended from approximately 1969 in to 1970. By contrast, _____ reports a one-time encounter in the summer of 1970.

I believe that Fr. Blumeyer was an Assistant Pastor at St. Bartholomew Parish in Wayzata from 1969 to 1972 and was Pastor in 1972 and 1973.

Could you verify that _____ or his family were parish members during that time period?

Sincerely:

Michael J. Ford
Quinlivan & Hughes, P.A.
1-800-325-5650
1-320-251-1414
1-320-258-7848
FAX 251-1415
mford@quinlivan.com <<mailto:mford@quinlivan.com>>

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***CIRCULAR 230 DISCLOSURE:** Any tax advice contained in this email including any attachments (unless expressly stated otherwise) is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for purposes of avoiding penalties under the Internal Revenue Code.*

My name is _____ I was born on March 3, 1955. I grew up in Wayzata, Minnesota with my parents _____, two older sisters, and one older brother. I was brought up in the Catholic Church. We were members of St. Bartholomews parish. I was confirmed, made my first communion and also served as an altar boy. I attended St. Bartholomews Grade School from the 1st through 8th grades.

In my seventh grade year I began attending Wayzata Junior High School while also attending catchisom classes or CCD as we used to call them. It was around this time that Father Robert Blumeyer came to St. Bartholomews as assistant pastor and also served as our CCD instructor. He was very popular with us young teens because he seemed to relate to us and how we were feeling. I remember my mother saying "How good Father Roberts was with the kids." She really admired him. Father Roberts would occassionly take us youths on short day trips and outings. One time, I recall he took us to a house full of young colledge aged men up near St. Cloud. He said he was their unofficial spiritual leader.

On one day in the summer of 1970, Father Roberts invited me to come and spend the night at the rectory. Looking back this should probably have raised a red flag, but at the time it did not seem to out of the ordinary seeing how I had gone on other day trips with him and there had never been any reason not to trust him. After getting permission from my parents, Father Roberts picked me up and brought me to the rectory where we had dinner. After dinner, Father Roberts asked me if I would like a drink. I said sure. So he gave me a drink mixed with brandy and 7-Up. It tasted good and I drank it fairly quickly. After that he made me a second then a third drink. Shortly after this, we left the rectory in his car and he drove us into downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota. He took me into a bath house where there were other older men. He encouraged me to undress and take a steam bath with him and the others. I told him I was uncomfortable with doing that, but he assured me it would be OK. So I finally agreed to undress. It didn't take long for the combination of alcohol and heat to make me become dizzy. Father Roberts helped me get dressed and then took me back to the rectory. He led me to an upstairs bedroom where he helped me to remove my clothes. He told me to lie down and relax. He left the room momentarily then returned with a towel. He then began to fondle my genitals untill my penis became erect, I said this is wrong, but he kept telling me it was OK and a perfectly natural thing to do. He continued to masturbate me untill I ejaculated into the towle. He then unzipped his pants and exposed his penis to me and asked me to masterbate him. I said no but he kept saying it was ok. I began to cry and he left the room. I layed there crying untill I finally fell asleep. I awoke early the next morning, got dressed and left the rectory without seeing or speaking to anyone. I was so confused and felt so ashamed. I felt like I could not tell anyone what had happened. Being my first sexual experiance I wondered, does this mean I am gay?. Did I do something wrong that God was punishing me for?. Certainly I felt it was my fault, if for no other reason than I let myself be put into the situation in the first place. I vowed I would never again allow something like this to occur. I no longer trusted anyone, especially male authority figures. I began to withdraw from my parents. I stopped attending CCD classes and eventually stopped attending church. This was

the cause of much discourse between my folks and myself, but I could not bring myself to let them know the truth. My mother loved him so much. I felt if I ever told her what had happened it would kill her. I began to use alcohol and drugs. I had lost all self esteem. I had lost all my faith in the church, in God, in everything I had been raised to believe in. My grades at school began to slip. I quit playing football, of which I had been a starter on both offense and defense. I continued living at home but things deteriorated to the point that when I was seventeen I quit school and ran away from home. I spent the next year living on the streets in California. I came back to Minnesota in 1973 but could not go back to living at home.

For the next couple of years I bounced around from one menial job to the next, never quite sure where my life was going. During this time I started experiencing pain in my lower back. I went to doctors and sought chiropractic treatment but was unable to find a cause or a cure for the pain.

I met a woman in 1975 and we married in 1978. We had two sons, one born in 1980 and one born in 1981. I never allowed my sons any contact with the church or any other organization in which they may be exposed to any unsupervised contact with anyone. I kept my secret, along with all my feelings buried deep inside of me. Never allowing anyone in or to get too close to me, as to not let myself be hurt again. I continued using alcohol and drugs to mask the pain and to keep from having to deal with feelings that I didn't want to admit I even had. In 1985 my wife left me, taking my two sons back to New Jersey where she was from. I was devastated. The only two good things left in my life were gone. I sank into a downward spiral of depression and alcohol and drug abuse.

Then in 1986 my Mom died from heart disease. In 1987 Dad died of complications from diabetes. I was alone. I had lost everyone in life I had ever loved. Over the next several years, I allowed my house to go into foreclosure and filed for bankruptcy. I managed to get by living off friends, doing odd jobs, and etc. until my oldest sister and her husband took me in to live with them. He was a recovering alcoholic and got me into the AA program where I was able to give up the alcohol and drugs.

In 1992 I met a wonderful woman whom I married in 1993. This is when my life finally began to turn around. My oldest son came back to live with us. I got a good job as caretaker on a private estate in Wayzata where I grew up. We have been here now going on 15 years. We have three beautiful granddaughters.

In the last year, after reading about other victims of abuse by Father Roberts, I was able to contact Greta Sawyer at the archdioceses and tell her my story. She recommended I see a therapist provided by them. I began seeing Ms. Jan Bucher last year. I am finally able to talk about what happened to me all those years ago. I have stopped blaming God and myself. I continue to have trouble with lower back pain but I have become aware that a lot of what I'm feeling is caused by stress and tension which could be helped by dealing with the root causes.

After all the numerous doctor visits, chiropractor treatments, and physical therapy sessions I have gone through, I have found out that some mental therapy can also be helpful. I am beginning to heal both physically and spiritually. Hopefully one day I will be able to regain my lost faith in the church, whom I still feel was

responsible for letting someone such as Father Roberts to become a priest and to prey on myself and other children like me. He took away my faith, my innocents, my self esteem and left me feeling only shame, guilt and self doubt. I have lived with these feelings for thirty seven years now and I am ready to move on with my life. Not only did father Roberts take away my faith, but that of my children and now my grand children.

For this I am asking the church for one an appology, two, compensation of for the pain and suffering I have endured, for loss of income and earning ability and three the continued cost of counseling so that I may continue to heal.

Abbot John Klassen's private account

From: Michael J. Ford [MFord@quinlivan.com]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 10:17 AM
To: Eisenzimmer, Andrew
Subject: Willingness of the Archdiocese to contribute towards a settlement of the claim involving Fr. Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., (deceased)

Dear Mr. Eisenzimmer:

Thank you for your voice mail message of May 16th confirming the willingness of the Archdiocese to contribute towards a settlement of the claim involving Fr. Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., (deceased):

I will keep you informed of the status of settlement negotiations with

Sincerely:

Michael J. Ford
Quinlivan & Hughes, P.A.
1-800-325-5650
1-320-251-1414
1-320-258-7848
FAX 251-1415
mford@quinlivan.com

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**QUINLIVAN &
HUGHES, P.A.**
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Writer's Email: mford@quinlivan.com
Writer's Direct Dial: (320) 258-7848

June 23, 2008

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Dennis J. (Mike) Sullivan
Michael T. Feichtinger*
Steven R. Schweppman***
Michael D. LaFontaine
Ronald W. Brandenburg
Bradley W. Hanson
Kenneth H. Bayliss
Michael C. Rajkowski
Dyan J. Ebert*
Luke M. Seifert
Robert P. Cunningham
Melinda M. Sanders
Thomas J. Christensen**
Mary B. Mahler
Heidi N. Thomas*
Shelly M. Davis
John H. Wenker
James S. McAlpine
Krista L. Durrwachter
Laura A. Steffen
Joel M. Frye

Of Counsel:
John J. Hoefl*

Retired:
John D. Quinlivan

**Qualified ADR Neutral*
***MSHA Certified Civil Trial Specialist*
****Also licensed in South Dakota*
***Also licensed in North Dakota*
**Also licensed in Wisconsin*

RE: Claim involving Fr. Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B. (deceased)

This follows up my letter of June 19th and our brief telephone conversation of June 20th.

Please consider this an offer to settle your claims involving Fr. Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B. (deceased).

As I explained during our telephone conversation I am legal counsel for St. John's Abbey.

I have been asked by Abbot John Klassen, O.S.B. to work with you towards a resolution of your claim involving Fr. Blumeyer.

Enclosed by way of reference please find a copy of your written outline of the facts and circumstances involving that claim.

As you may be aware, yours is not the first claim that has been made with respect to Fr. Blumeyer.

I have been authorized to offer _____ to settle your claims arising from Fr. Blumeyer's actions towards you.

While it is our preference to include future therapy in the release covered by this payment we have, on occasion, negotiated for a specific number of future therapy sessions.

If this amount is acceptable to you, I will provide you with a draft release that will release the legal liability of the Order of St. Benedict, Saint John's Abbey, the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parishes of Saint Bartholomew, Saint Boniface and Saint Benedict.

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Saint Cloud Office
Wells Fargo Center
400 South First Street, Suite 600
Phone 320.251.1414

Little Falls Office
First Street Suites
107 First Street SE, Suite 105
Phone 320.632.0440

Sioax Falls Office
300 Building
300 N. Dakota Avenue, Suite 313
Phone 605.271.8161

OSB BLUMEYER_00248

Please let me know when you contact me whether or not you wish to **discuss the** negotiation of a specific number of future therapy sessions in addition to the **payment.**

you during our conversation last week, you are certainly entitled to retain legal counsel to represent you and in matters of this sort it is always a good idea to do so. You should therefore feel free to consult with counsel and to have that attorney contact me if you wish.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Ford
Attorney at Law
MJF/mal/515001

Michael J. Ford
Quinlivan & Hughes, P.A.
1-800-325-5650
1-320-251-1414
1-320-258-7848
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Writer's Email: mford@quinnlivan.com
Writer's Direct Dial: (320) 258-7848

August 4, 2008

RE: Claims involving Fr. Blumeyer
Our File

Dear

This letter is in response to yours of July 15th, a copy of which I enclose for your reference.

I have been authorized to renew our offer of June 23rd in the amount of _____ and to agree to the 12 additional therapy sessions that you requested in your letter of July 15th in addition to the payment of _____.

We believe this offer to be consistent with offers we have made with respect to other claims involving Fr. Blumeyer.

If this offer is acceptable to you, I will provide you with a draft release that will release the legal liability of the Order of St. Benedict, Saint John's Abbey, the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parishes of Saint Bartholomew, Saint Boniface and Saint Benedict.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Ford
Attorney at Law
MJF/mal/523564
Enclosure

OSB BLUMEYER_00256

Writer's Email: mford@quinlivan.com
Writer's Direct Dial: (320) 258-7848

August 4, 2008

RE: Claims involving Fr. Blumeyer
Our File #

This letter is in response to yours of July 15th, a copy of which I enclose for your reference.

I have been authorized to renew our offer of June 23rd in the amount of
and to agree to the 12 additional therapy sessions that you requested
in your letter of July 15th in addition to the payment of

We believe this offer to be consistent with offers we have made with respect to
other claims involving Fr. Blumeyer.

If this offer is acceptable to you, I will provide you with a draft release that will
release the legal liability of the Order of St. Benedict, Saint John's Abbey, the
Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parishes of Saint
Bartholomew, Saint Boniface and Saint Benedict.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Ford
Attorney at Law
MJF/mal/523564
Enclosure

OSB BLUMEYER_00259



**QUINLIVAN &
HUGHES, P.A.**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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Writer's Direct Dial: (320) 258-7848

September 2, 2008

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Gerald L. Thoreen
Kevin A. Spullacy
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Michael T. Milligan
Dennis J. (Mike) Sullivan
Michael T. Feichtinger*
Steven R. Schweigman***
Michael D. LaFountaine
Ronald W. Brandenburg
Bradley W. Hanson
Kenneth H. Bayliss
Michael C. Rajkowski
Dyan J. Ebert°
Luke M. Scifert
Robert P. Cunningham
Melinda M. Sanders
Thomas J. Christenson**
Mary B. Mahler
Heidi N. Thoenies°
Shelly M. Davis
John H. Wenker
James S. McAlpine
Krista L. Durrwachter
Laura A. Steffes
Joel M. Frye

Andrew J. Eisenzimmer
Chancellor for Civil Affairs
Archdiocese of Saint Paul & Minneapolis
226 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55102-2197

RE:

Dear Mr. Eisenzimmer:

Following up on our conversation, attached please find a copy of the release executed by _____ along with a copy of that same release with a copy of driver's license thereon.

I told _____ that the payment for the additional twelve counseling sessions would be handled the same way that they have been in the past. In other words, he would get the counseling and the bills for same would then be sent to the Archdiocese.

I have confirmed with Br. Benedict that the Abbey will then reimburse the Archdiocese for _____ of those twelve sessions as well as _____ of the counseling sessions paid for by the Archdiocese to date.

If you have not already done so please send those prior counseling related invoices to either the direct attention of Br. Benedict or to me and I will send them on to Br. Benedict.

Thank you for your cooperation in resolving this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Ford
Attorney at Law
MJF/mal/529500
Enclosure

**Qualified ADR Neutral*
***MSBA Certified Civil Trial Specialist*
°Also licensed in South Dakota
***Also licensed in North Dakota*
°Also licensed in Wisconsin

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Phone 320.632.0440

Sioux Falls Office
300 Building
300 N. Dakota Avenue, Suite 313
Phone 605.271.8161

OSB BLUMEYER_00261

Mr. Eisenzimmer
September 2, 2008
Page 2

C: Benedict Leuthner, O.S.B.
w/encl. Treasurer
Order of St. Benedict
Saint John's Business Office
Wimmer Hall 202, Box 2222
Collegeville, MN 56321-2222

RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

being of lawful age, for the sole consideration of _____ plus the payment for twelve (12) more counseling sessions, does hereby and for his heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns release, acquit and forever discharge the Order of Saint Benedict, Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parishes of Saint Bartholomew, Saint Boniface and Saint Benedict as well as their agents, servants, successors, heirs, executors, administrators, members and all other persons, firms, corporations, associations or partnerships, from any and all claims, actions, causes of action, demands, rights, damages, costs, loss or service, expenses or compensation whatsoever, to include past, present, or future therapy after the aforesaid twelve (12) more counseling sessions, which the undersigned now has on account of or in any way growing out of any and all known and unknown, foreseen, and unforeseen property damage or personal or bodily injury and the consequences thereof regarding or in any way flowing out of a claim for damages against Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B., the Order of Saint Benedict and Saint John's Abbey and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the parish of Saint Boniface arising out of the actions of Father Robert Blumeyer, O.S.B. (deceased).

It is understood and agreed that this settlement is a compromise of a disputed claim, not to be construed as an admission of liability on the part of any party, and that the parties released by this document deny liability for the incident and intend merely to avoid litigation and buy their peace,

_____ further declares and represents that no promise, inducement or agreement not expressed herein has been made to the undersigned, that he has declined legal counsel, that this release contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and that the terms of this release are contractual and not a mere recital.

_____ HAS READ THE FORGOING RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTANDS IT.

Dated: 9-2-08

Subscribed before me this 2nd day of SEPTEMBER, 2008.

Michael J. Ford
Notary Public



Abbot John Klassen's private account

From: Michael J. Ford [MFord@quinlivan.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2008 2:30 PM
To: Leuthner, Benedict; Eisenzimmer, Andrew
Subject: (OSB (Insurance)) - status of settlement

Dear Br. Benedict and Mr. Eisenzimmer:

I have received the checks from the Order and the Archdiocese and am in the process of depositing them in my law firm trust account.

I have talked to _____ and made arrangements to meet with him in my office on September 2nd to secure an executed copy of the release and to provide him with a _____ law firm trust account check.

Sincerely:

Michael J. Ford
Quinlivan & Hughes, P.A.
1-800-325-5650
1-320-251-1414
1-320-258-7848
FAX 251-1415
mford@quinlivan.com

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Abbot John Klassen's private account

From: Michael J. Ford [MFord@quinlivan.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 06, 2008 3:46 PM
To: Eisenzimmer, Andrew
Subject: {OSB (Insurance)} - has agreed to settle his claim; proposed settlement process
Attachments: 523564.doc

Dear Andy:

As we just discussed, called me today to accept our most recent offer (copy attached) subject to my providing him with an acceptable form of a release.

I have a call out to Br. Benedict Leuthner, O.S.B., the Treasurer for the Order of Saint Benedict to confirm that we wish to proceed as we have in the past.

Namely, the Order and the Archdiocese provide me with checks in the respective amounts of by the Order and by the Archdiocese made payable to the "Quinlivan & Hughes, P.A. Trust Account."

It typically takes our trust account ten working days to "clear" a payment from the date of deposit before we can issue a check on those funds.

I told that I would provide him with a release, by mail, on Monday of next week (I am in New York City on bar business and won't be returning until next Monday).

I assume that will promptly approve the form of the release, which will be consistent with other releases we have used in earlier cases we have settled together.

Once has approved the release and the two checks have cleared and I have issued a law firm trust account check I will make arrangements to meet with in person at my office or another location acceptable to him, secure proof of his identity in the form of a copy of a government issued photograph identification document, secure and notarize his signature on the two originals of the release and issue the check to him.

Following our meeting if it is outside of my office I will provide with a copy of the notarized and signed release for his records. If the meeting takes place at my office I will provide him with a copy prior to his leaving.

I will then furnish to you and the Order a copy of the signed and notarized release.

As soon as I get confirmation from Br. Benedict that he wishes to proceed in this fashion I will call and ask you to send me the check from the Archdiocese.

Sincerely:

Michael J. Ford
Quinlivan & Hughes, P.A.
1-800-325-5650
1-320-251-1414
1-320-258-7848
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mford@quinlivan.com

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JEFF ANDERSON & ASSOCIATES PA
REACHING ACROSS TIME FOR JUSTICE

June 2, 2014

Bret D Franco
Kopon Airdo, LLC
233 South Wacker Dr., Suite 4450
Chicago, IL 60606

Robert T. Stich
Stich, Angell, Kreidler, Dodge & Unke, PA
250 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Re:

Dear Mr. Stich and Mr. Franco:

We represent _____ of _____, Minnesota.

Please send us any and all settlement agreements that you have entered into with or his family regarding personal injuries at St. John's or its representatives.

Please send the following agreements to us by Friday, June 13, 2014

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Anderson
jeff@andersonadvocates.com

JRA:ak

ATTORNEYS
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Pennsylvania

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J. MICHAEL RECK
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Texas
Pennsylvania

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ELIN LINDSTROM
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JOSH PECK
Minnesota

OF COUNSEL
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California

IOANNA ROMES
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Pasadena, California
Chicago, Illinois
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Honolulu, Hawaii
Charleston, South Carolina
Malvern, Pennsylvania
New York, New York
London, England

JUN 04 2014

Abbot John Klassen's private account

From: Klingeman, David
Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2005 1:32 PM
To: Abbot John Klassen's private account
Subject: RE: robert blumeyers pastoral associates

HASTINGS - ST. BONIFACE
LAMBERT WECKWERTH, PASTOR, 1949-1961
RODERIC ALBERS, PASTOR, 1961-1966
ROBERT BLUMEYER, ASSISTANT, 1956-1965

ST. CLOUD - ST. AUGUSTINE
PETER ST. HILAIRE, PASTOR, 1964-1972
GERMAIN LOEBER, ASSISTANT, 1962-1969
ROBERT BLUMEYER, ASSISTANT, 1965-1968

NEW YORK - ST. BENEDICT'S
PATRICK OKADA, ASSISTANT, 1964-1969
TIMOTHY KELLY, ASSISTANT, 1966-1970
LEON PILON, ASSISTANT, 1966-1970
MEL TAYLOR, ASSISTANT, 1967-1969
BRENNAN MAIERS, ASSISTANT, 1968-1970
GILES NATHE, PASTOR, 1968-1970
NATHAN SIMMONS, ASSISTANT, 1968-1973
ROBERT BLUMEYER, ASSISTANT, 1968-1969

WAYZATA - ST. BARTHOLOMEW
PHILIBERT HARRER, PASTOR, 1965-1972
ROBERT BLUMEYER, ASSISTANT, 1969-1972

ROBERT BLUMEYER, PASTOR, 1972-1973
JAMES KELLY, ASSISTANT, 1972-1973

HASTINGS - ST. BONIFACE
ROBERT BLUMEYER, PASTOR, 1973-1978
CLOUD MEINBERG, ASSISTANT, 1974-1976
BLANE WASNIE, ASSISTANT, 1976-1978
STEPHEN BEAUCLAIR, ASSISTANT, 1976-1980

AVON - ST. BENEDICT
ROBERT BLUMEYER, PASTOR, 1978-1982

11/3/2005

OSB2346

OSB BLUMEYER 00268

FARMING - ST. CATHERINE
ROBERT BLUMEYER, PASTOR, 1982-1983
MICHAEL MARX, ASSISTANT, 1982-1983

From: Abbot John Klassen's private account
Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2005 11:33 AM
To: Klingeman, David
Subject: robert blumeyers pastoral associates

Hello David -

Some time ago I requested a list of parishes where Robert Blumeyer served as associate pastor and pastor.

Could you also give me a list of pastors and associates who lived with Robert in those assignments? We have an allegation against Robert and I need to have these available for a probable investigation. Thanks, +John

11/3/2005

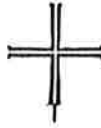
OSB2347

OSB BLUMEYER 00269

Parishes - Missions - Chaplains

9/30/2005

CITY	ASSIGNMENT NAME	NAME	POS	DATES
HASTINGS	ST. BONIFACE	ROBERT BLUMEYER	A	1958 - 1965
ST. CLOUD	ST. AUGUSTINE	ROBERT BLUMEYER	A	1965 - 1968
NEW YORK	ST. BENEDICT'S	ROBERT BLUMEYER	A	1968 - 1969
WAYZATA	ST. BARTHOLOMEW	ROBERT BLUMEYER	A	1969 - 1972
WAYZATA	ST. BARTHOLOMEW	ROBERT BLUMEYER	P	1972 - 1973
HASTINGS	ST. BONIFACE	ROBERT BLUMEYER	P	1973 - 1978
AVON	ST. BENEDICT'S	ROBERT BLUMEYER	P	1978 - 1982
FARMING	ST. CATHERINE'S	ROBERT BLUMEYER	P	1982 - 1983



SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY

Office of the Abbot

March 11, 2006

The Most Reverend John F. Kinney
Bishop of Saint Cloud
214 3rd Avenue South
Box 1248
Saint Cloud, MN 56302

Dear Bishop Kinney:

Per our conversation regarding the sexual misconduct of Father Robert Blumeyer, I include a narrative sketch of the abuse and the timeframe over which it occurred. I have not written everything here but have included the fundamental pieces of information. If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

I have been in conversation with Father Kevin McDonough regarding the announcement of these incidents at Saint Bartholomew's in Wayzata and Elizabeth Ann Seton in Hastings. He is in the process of seeking counsel from the pastors in those two parishes and I hope that we can deal with this shortly. I am in the process of drafting a statement for Saint Augustine's in Saint Cloud, Saint Benedict's in Avon, and Saint Catherine's in Farming. As soon as I have completed it, I will fax it to you or Father Marvin for your input.

When you see Marv, ask him by-the-by if he knows of any good lakes in central Minnesota, and any specific location in such a lake, where one might be able to catch sunnies and northerns. And watch the expression on his face!!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Abbot John Klassen, OSB

Enclosure: A Narrative of the Allegation against Father Robert Blumeyer

1. wrote to the St. Paul Archdiocesan Chancery July 30, 1997, detailing his association with and sexual abuse by a "Father Roberts" at parishes in Wayzata, Hastings and Avon, as well as his sexual relationship with the priest over a period of ten years.
2. There was no way to respond because did not provide his last name. It seemed clear, however, that he was referring to Fr. Robert Blumeyer, a monk of Saint John's Abbey, who had served in Wayzata, Hastings and Avon during the times referred to by
3. The letter was sent to Saint John's Abbey and filed in two files: Fr. Robert Blumeyer and
4. In August of this year, was referred to Phyllis Willerscheidt by a priest in the St. Paul Archdiocese. Willerscheidt is the Archdioceses designee for dealing with charges of sexual abuse. She also served as a board member for ISTI. The charges included being photographed nude on several occasions in exchange for money, and being set up with another priest (from St. Louis Park) for additional nude photographs.
5. Willerscheidt arranged a meeting for and Fr. Kevin McDonough, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia for the Archdiocese.
6. On October 31, McDonough wrote to Abbot John and described his conversation with
7. Fr. Robert Blumeyer's name had not surfaced as a perpetrator during the flurry of abuse charges in 1992 or 2002. Abbot John was unaware of the allegations prior to Fr. McDonough's letter of October 31.
8. Abbot John conducted a thorough search of the Abbey's files and found
 - a. handwritten letter
 - b. Correspondence between Abbot John Eidenschenk and Archbishop Roach dealing vaguely with allegations against Fr. Robert in 1976. The priest was evaluated by a Dr. Regan at that time, but Abbot John had not received a copy of the evaluation report prior to sending his letter to Archbishop Roach. Abbot John was unable to find a copy of the Regan report in Abbey files.
 - c. Fr. Robert vehemently denied the charges against him and he was not removed from his pastoral assignment. Abbot John and Archbishop Roach agreed that he should be given a "three or four month sabbatical" in the autumn of 1976 for "another psychological evaluation . . . and a directed retreat."
 - d. Fr. Robert remained in Hastings until 1979.
 - e. He was assigned to St. Benedict's in Avon in 1979 and remained there until 1982.
 - f. He was assigned to St. Catherine's in Farming in 1982 and died there of a heart attack October 5, 1983.
9. Abbot John has discussed his findings with Fr. McDonough and with Phyllis Willerscheidt.
10. Phyllis Willerscheidt suggested to that he meet with Abbot John. telephoned the Abbot immediately and arranged a meeting for

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LOCAL & STATE

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WWW.SCTIMES.COM/NEWS | THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2006

Abbey: Please report abuse

Residents who were victimized by priest urged to call for help

By Frank Lee
 lee@schtimes.com

St. John's Abbey is asking those who have been victimized by a former St. Cloud pastor to come forward after last year's revelations of sexual abuse in the St. Cloud diocese.

In September, a 50-year-old man claimed he was abused by the late Rev. Robert Blumeyer, a priest of the St. John's monastic community who died Oct. 5, 1983.

The abbot (John Klassen) does not know, at this point, of any other allegations of abuse against Father Blumeyer, said the Rev. William Skoldstrek, abbey spokesman.

The abuse began in 1969 when the victim was 13 and

Blumeyer was an assistant pastor at St. Bartholomew Parish in Wayzata, according to a statement the abbey released.

The abuse continued for almost a decade while Blumeyer served in pastoral roles at parishes in Hastings and Avon, but it wasn't until last year that the victim came forward.

"I guess what's been observed in cases like this is that a victim

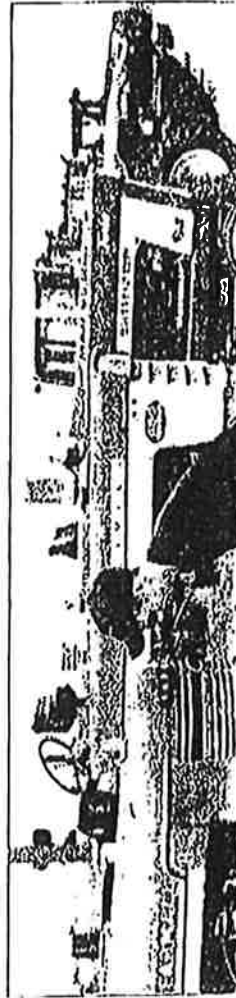
See ABBEY, B3 ▶

WORK HISTORY
 Robert Blumeyer was born June 11, 1922, in Boyden, Iowa, before he was ordained a priest May 19, 1956.

He spent 27 years in pastoral ministry and served at the following parishes before he died of a heart attack Oct. 5, 1983:

- St. Boniface Church, Hastings, 1956-65, assistant pastor.
- St. Augustine Church, St. Cloud, 1965-68, assistant pastor.

- St. Benedict Church, Bronx, N.Y., 1968-69, assistant pastor.
 - St. Bartholomew's Church, Wayzata, 1969-72, assistant pastor and pastor, 1972-73.
 - St. Boniface Church, Hastings, 1973-78, pastor.
 - St. Benedict Church, Avon, 1978-82, pastor.
 - St. Catherine Church, Farming, 1982-83, pastor.
- Source: St. John's Abbey, College Ave.



Police arrest 7 in meth make

riefly
 ed by Times staff.
 Jones contributed

ta Marine
 Iraq combat

JRN — A Marine southern Minnesota of Sherburne was roadside bomb spokesman for the Wednesday.

Robert Posivio combat operations any forces in the province, said Tom Posivio's godfa-

said Posivio was in a high-purposive vehicle hit by an improvised device.

rest 8 with
 clear 11

1 police conducted 1 patrol Wednesday people with 16 warrants, Sgt. 1 said
 arrested eight 1/2 warrants were

PAGE 1B
actor

no be a farmer later in possibility, but with the ik prices are, probably said. ed education instructor eyer, who grew up on a southern Minnesota, remembers students tractors to school for a years ago. Adamczak, the school's ural education instruc- FFA adviser, said stu- rive tractors to school monstration of pride. k grew up on a farm, he reasons she studied ure. "It's just something out rdinary," Wollack said. ne's got a car, but not e has a tractor." esday was junior Matt first time driving his John Deere tractor — the e his family owns — to . For him, tractors are f a novelty than a way Even so, he hasn't been escape the John Deere- onal rivalry. nk it's fun to debate, but not that much differ- e said. As he said that, nd junior Andy Pozorski ver wearing a sweat shirt d "International" on it. since I've known him, n John Deere versus In- onal," Leite added. like the Ford and Chev? Pozorski said.

FROM PAGE 1B
Abbey

will come forward when they are ready to come forward," Skudlarek said Wednesday. Blumeyer also served as assistant pastor at the Church of St. Augustine in St. Cloud from 1965-68 before the Iowa native died of a heart attack at the age of 61. The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis have paid for the victim's therapy. He also accepted a financial settlement from St. John's Abbey and the archdiocese. "I think his report was deemed credible simply because there was a correlation between the events he gave and the times and places where the father served," Skudlarek said. "However, it's not to be taken as an admission of some 'dereliction of duty' by the abbey." Klassen urges those who have been abused — or know someone who has been abused — to call Gary Schoener, victim advocate for St. John's Abbey, at (812) 870-0565. "We are providing an opportunity for a victim to go to a neutral place — a professional counselor who knows how to listen and respond properly," Skudlarek said. The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis was among the dioceses that did not meet child-protection guidelines, according to an audit by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops that was released in March.

State officials: Court phone calls are a scam

By David Unze
dunze@stcloudtimes.com

State court officials are warning Minnesota residents about bogus phone calls from people who ask for personal and financial information. Callers claim to be court employees and threaten a warrant for failing to comply with jury service and use false threats about jury service to acquire personal and financial information, such as Social Security numbers, credit card numbers or employer information. Some of the callers claim to be with the 7th Judicial District, which includes Stearns and other Central Minnesota counties, said Lissa Finne, communications specialist with the state court information office. "Courts do not call prospective jurors to seek personal information," said Tim Roberts, court administrator for Benton

and Stearns counties. Minnesota courts send jury service summons by mail and communicate by telephone only after a prospective juror has either returned a completed summons information form or has questions about the process, he said. Annually, jury offices throughout the state mail more than 150,000 jury summons, Finne said. The summons includes details about time and location to report for jury duty and asks prospective jurors to return a qualification questionnaire. The mailing also includes a phone number for the local jury office for anyone wanting to contact the court about the summons. It is a crime for someone to falsely represent themselves as a court official. Finne recommends hanging up and contacting police to report suspicious phone calls or threats.

FROM PAGE 1B
Memo

community bore the new memorial. "This back and between the two has grown," said J president of Central Vietnam Veterans Chapter 290. He is organize the new "And now, we're where we're going memorial together. For the original the family of Jerry

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Tributes

Ronnie I. Gutsch

moved to

Fern Neumann, 93
Benidji
May 24, 1912 - May 23, 2006

Freuling on Sundays to the area mission churches to celebrate Mass. Her high school was in St. Cloud.

Carol M. Melr
Jan. 9, 1934 -
Funeral service held 11:30 a.m. 26, 2006 at St. Catholic Church for Carol M. G. died at the Mir