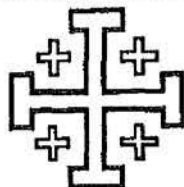


DIOCESE OF RICHMOND

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August 9, 1995

Most Rev. Ronald A. Mulkearns
Bishop of Australia
#5 Lyons Street, South
P.O. Box 121
Ballaret, Vic. 3350

CONFIDENTIAL

Greetings Bishop Mulkearns,

After two letters refusing to meet with me, I received a telephone call from REDACTED, who has accused Father Paul D. Ryan of having sexually abused him. I arranged to meet him at a place of his choice with whomever he wished to have present. I met with him at a restaurant in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Only REDACTED and I were present. We met for about one and one half hours. What follows are the notes I took during our conversation, which I received explicit permission to take and to send on to you.

- REDACTED is now 31 years old.
- He has had a troubled and hard time in his 20's (although he never named the specifics).
- Father Paul D. Ryan was present during his seventh and eighth grade years at Star of the Sea Grade School, Virginia Beach, VA - September 1977 - to June 1978 and September 1978 - June 1979.
- During 1977-1978 year, "Father Ryan was gone for 3-4 months."
- Ryan appears in the school yearbook.
- In 1978, Father Ryan was rumored and/or caught with 8th graders using alcohol and drugs.
- In November and December 1978, Ryan invited REDACTED and two other kids to a condominium. Here Ryan invited them to swim naked and offered several beers. One kid stripped and swam. Ryan and others did not.
- The major incident for REDACTED occurred in May/June 1979. Ryan picked REDACTED up and took him to another kid's parents' condo (They were away for the weekend), supposedly to go to

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the movies. They stayed and Ryan consumed a whole bottle of wine. Then made mixed drinks for the kids, saying "It's too late for the movies now." They started playing cards. Ryan offered marijuana and they all smoked until "high".

They played "strip poker". Ryan had the kids strip after losing. In the bedroom he made them strip and get into bed. He made them play with themselves and masturbate while he watched. The lights were off.

Ryan undressed and got in bed between them. He fondled them, performed oral sex and hand masturbated them. Ryan then attempted anal intercourse with REDACTED. However he prematurely ejaculated.

The two boys started laughing and joking about him. Ryan stormed out slamming the door.

The other boy suggested telling Father Paul Gaughan, the Pastor of Star of the Sea. The boy told REDACTED who worked at the rectory. She told Father Gaughan. REDACTED did not know this occurred. Gaughan confronted Ryan and told him to leave the parish. Gaughan met with the other people's aunt and parents.

REDACTED alleges that the next Monday he sat with Father Gaughan on the rectory steps. "Is it true?" asked Gaughan. "Yes" said REDACTED, "I'll take care of this. He'll never be a priest here again! And I'll tell the authorities!" said Father Gaughan. Gaughan, "Any need to tell your parents, REDACTED?" "No!" said REDACTED (he had enough school problems).

Later that day in the parish parking lot near the rectory Ryan cornered REDACTED. He first offered money and then he threatened him not to tell the story. He told Ryan that he already told Gaughan and rushed off.

All these years REDACTED says he kept it quiet, thinking that he would "outgrow" it. During this time he tried to "forget the past and look to the future".

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In the last few years the has become much more reflective about his life, He told his mother two years ago. He then began counselling. He has been through about 20-25 sessions with his therapist. She is recommending a psychiatrist for future treatment.

REDACTED teaches martial arts full time and is a black belt in several of the arts. His therapist suggested that this is his "self protection" need come out.

REDACTED

He would not give his telephone number.

My meeting with REDACTED was peaceful and he was willing to share but with some apprehension. His basic request, backing off the \$100,000 demand, is:

- a) Allow him to begin psychiatric counselling
- b) After several sessions determine if he needs/could use an inpatient treatment program. This is his desire - a 30 or 60-day residential program. I would need to investigate this.
- c) Afterwards, a one month "sabbatical" which he did not further articulate.

I told REDACTED that I would submit his request, but that there might need to be further input from him and/or his therapist. He seemed to understand and be open to such.

Please let me know your advice and directions. I will try to respond as best I can.

Summer blessings!

Peace,

Rev. Robert M. Perkins

Rev. Robert M. Perkins
Vicar for Priests