

Brothers of Christian Instruction Vice-Province Japan-Philippines

Dts

Apologies

Dear

As the representative of the Brothers of Christian Instruction in Japan and the Philippines, I would like to apologize to you for the ordeal that one of our members, Brother Lawrence Lambert, has inflicted to you by his actions in the year 1965.

The sexual assault, which you were the victim, is a crime that cannot be rightfully atoned for as it cannot be undone and its sequels, after having disturbed your childhood, have lingered on in your adolescent years, your adulthood, and most probably in your daily life. At times, it may have dismantled your self-esteem even to the point of making you wish to leave this world. It is not just that Brother Lawrence took for himself what was not his, and took away from you also many rewards that life should have brought to you. It is sad and I am deeply sorry that it happened.

Our Congregation also bears responsibilities concerning the evil that was done to you. A warmer community life, a better awareness of the sexuality of men living in communities, and also a strong willingness to cope frankly with the evil done to you could have helped in preventing such wicked actions, or could have helped you get through that ordeal, but it was not the way the situation was dealt with. I am sorry.

The Congregation should help you as much as it can in the circumstances. As superior, I will make sure that the Brothers know the lines of action dictated by the Conference of the Bishops of Japan and our Congregation for the victims of abuse and the way to deal with such instances. I will do my best to put these lines of action into practice.

Brother Lawrence having been a child sex offender, I decided not to allow him to work at St.-Mary's International School anymore, and not to allow him to work amid children anymore.

Wishing you and your family the best, sincerely,

Raymond Ducharme 2014/1/21

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