

CLERGY FUND SOCIETY

| DATE | PAID | DATE | PAID | DATE | PAID | DATE | PAID | DATE | PAID | DATE | PAID |
|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 742 | 57.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 48 | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| 49 | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |

FORM 1-48-4377

FULL NAME **Rev. Richard Gardner Johnson**
 DATE OF BIRTH **Aug. 11, 1922** PLACE **Brighton, Mass.**
 SACRICAL STUDIES WHERE MADE **St. John's Seminary, Brighton**
 WHERE, WHEN AND BY WHOM ORDAINED **Cathedral of the Holy Cross; May 1, 1947; Most Rev. Richard J. Cushing**
 DEGREES **A.B. from Holy Cross 1943** WHEN ADOPTED INTO DIOCESE **Cushing**
 FAMILY NAME _____
 FAMILY ADDRESS **13 Shetland Road, Marblehead, Mass.** PHONE NO. **Marblehead**
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
NE. 1-0866

| APPOINTMENTS | | CAPACITY |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| DATE | PLACE | |
| 5/15/47 | St. Mary's, Ayer | Asst. |
| 1/25/51 | St. Mary's, Lynn | Assistant |
| 2/16/60 | Sacred Heart, Roslindale | Assistant |
| 10/10/72 | Star of the Sea, Salisbury | Pastor |
| 4/27/76 | St. Mary, Star of the Sea, Beverly | Pastor |

NAME **JOHNSON, REV. RICHARD G.**

JOHNSON, RICHARD G.
1-003

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON

ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

CHANCERY BUILDING, LAKE STREET

BRIGHTON, BOSTON 35, MASSACHUSETTS

On May 10, 1957 I called Dr. Gerald McCarthy, psychiatrist. He told me that after Fr. Johnson left here on Monday, he called the Doctor asking what he should do. The Doctor replied that he should do exactly as told--to have no further contacts of any kind with the [REDACTED] girl of the [REDACTED] girl.

The Doctor identified the two girls, as being [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. He said that Fr. J. is involved with both--a definite 'emotional involvement' which Fr. J. would call flirtation. The situation has dynamite, the Dr. says, because [REDACTED] is talking, writing letters etc. And while it is true that her statements probably will be discounted because she is mentally ill, the tragedy is--says the doctor--that they are true. Fr. J. has admitted such to Dr. McCarthy. Fr. J. is very much frightened as to what might happen--he is terrified that he might be sent to a monastery. Fr. J. has talked with Dr. McCarthy, and on one occasion consulted him in his office (he made other appointments, but then broke them). When he left the doctor's office late in the evening, the Dr. found [REDACTED] waiting outside for him (Fr. J.) Dr. McCarthy says that Fr. J. cannot be helped by psychiatric treatment because he does not want to be helped. He was told emphatically by Dr. Mc. not to see either girl again but he persists. The Doctor thinks that he is an adolescent, psychopath personality--not unlike some of the boys he meets at the Guidance Center.

The Doctor says that Fr. J. has actually been parking with [REDACTED]. Her family may not know of the involvement--if 2 members of the family have been mentally ill, it is not impossible that one of the parents may be so also, says the Dr.

[REDACTED] is writing many letters and notes--to [REDACTED] as well as to others. [REDACTED] brought ^{to} one of a lawyer--the F.B.I. could step in

JOHNSON, RICHARD G.

1-028

to the case, by reason of the use of the mails, says the Dr. The reaction of the lawyer was that the case "reeks." He cautioned the [redacted] girl to stay away from Fr. J.

When the Doctor insisted on the grave scandal that could be caused if [redacted] continues to talk, I asked him if the word of the girl could be accepted, seeing that she is mentally ill. The doctor replied that there is always a kernel of truth in what a schizophrenic says-- and besides she is telling the truth in this matter, *for Fr. J. has admitted this to Dr. McCarthy.* Fr. J. has a number of people coming to him apparently, whom he refers to psychiatrists. This fact is strange in itself, the doctor commented.

The doctor was especially annoyed because Fr. J. was quoted as saying that Dr. McCarthy would protect him. Fr. J. now denies having said this, the doctor told me.

Fr. J. was involved with a girl while he was a curate in Ayer, the doctor said. However, inasmuch as Fr. J. never told this to anyone except to Dr. McCarthy, the doctor insisted that this must not be revealed.

Asked if he thought that Msgr. McGlinchey might be deceived as to Fr. J's conduct, Dr. McCarthy said that he might well believe that [redacted] is annoying Fr. J., that Fr. J. wants nothing of it, that [redacted] is mental, that her statements cannot be believed, etc. He might well be convinced that everything is all right, seeing that Fr. J. is so effective in the parish--CYO, organizations, etc. The doctor believes that Fr. J. should be transferred. If that is not possible (Msgr. McGlinchey might object strenuously), Fr. J. should be made to report every two weeks here it should be hinted to him that we know the whole story, he should be kept anxious and concerned, the possibility of punishment should be kept before him.

ZGR

May 11, 1957

On May 14, 1957 Dr. Gerald McCarthy, the psychiatrist, called me on the telephone. He told me that on the previous Sunday evening, Fr. Johnson called him at 10 p.m. on the telephone, and kept him talking for an hour. The reason for the call was this: Fr. Johnson had received a letter from me, asking that he come to see me on next Thursday. He wanted the doctor's advice as to whether "to open up or not" when next he saw me. He said that he feared that his parents would find out about his difficulties. He had not seen either [redacted] or [redacted] since he talked with me. The doctor again advised him not to have anything to do with them. At Fr.'s request, the doctor made an appointment to see him on Monday at 8 p.m. On Monday evening, someone called from the Rectory, to say that Fr. J. was on a sick call and could not keep the appointment--but Dr. McCarthy heard Fr. J's voice in the background. Later, Fr. wanted an appointment on some particular evening. The doctor replied that on that evening, he would be at a doctor's meeting at the Harvard Club. Fr. J. then suggested that he join the doctor at that dinner meeting--the doctor refused. Dr. McCarthy commented that such a suggestion was an evidence of an adolescent approach--and so told Fr. Johnson.



PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Reverend Richard Johnson
St. Mary's Parish, Beverly

On February 18, 1994, I met with Father Johnson to report to him the allegations of sexual molestation by [REDACTED] while she was a high school student and parishioner at Sacred Heart Parish, Roslindale.

After reviewing, in general, the procedures of the Archdiocese for handling these matters, I described to Father Johnson the allegations made by [REDACTED] to Sister Catherine Mulkerrin on February 4, 1994.

He was shocked at the allegations. He said they were not true.

He remembers [REDACTED]. He is not sure that he tutored her, but he did tutor girls during that time. He tutored [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

He doesn't understand why she makes these allegations. He may have been a little affectionate with girls, but never did he sexually molest them. He also described that he would take eight to ten helpers after a dance to have breakfast. This would occur once in a while.

He remembers [REDACTED] as being a member of the band and the color guard.

He said that her accusations boggle his mind. He doesn't recall pulling her away from the color guard.

Again, he wondered why she made these allegations. I said maybe she perceived his hugs as sexual. He said she was on the shy side. A nice little girl. Not really part of the in-crowd type.

What he did remember about her was her coming to him to prepare for marriage to a Baptist. They wanted to get married in a Baptist church in Quincy.

He spoke of her family home being near the rectory and may have visited the house. He denies any sexual allegations.

I remarked to him that I was aware of the reports made about him to Bishop Larry Riley in the 1950's about two young women whose last names were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Father Johnson said that is all behind him and is all over.

I told him that I would talk with Sister Catherine in order to be clear about the allegations and the purpose of her reporting them. I asked Father Johnson for permission to tell [REDACTED] that he denied the allegations. Father Johnson agreed to this.

No conclusion was arrived at because of the difference between the allegations and Father Johnson's response.

JBM:mo'1
7117M
2/24/94 *Johnson*

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Reverend Richard Johnson
St. Mary's, Beverly

In 1957, Monsignor McNamara of the Boys' Guidance Center reported to Monsignor Riley that he had received a report from Dr. McCarthy about Father Johnson. At the time, Father Johnson was at St. Mary's, Lynn. It involved his being physically involved with vulnerable women. The names mentioned were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Dr. McCarthy saw the women and also was in conversation with Father Johnson about them as well. It seems Father Johnson admitted more to Dr. McCarthy than he did to Monsignor Riley.

The description of the involvement is emotional involvement (flirtation?). [REDACTED] was a sister of an off-duty diocesan priest.

Father Johnson is reported as being fearful of being sent to a monastery.

Dr. McCarthy reports to Monsignor McNamara that Father Johnson doesn't want help. He is adolescent and has a psychopathic personality. He has been parking with [REDACTED]. He should not see either girl anymore.

It seems that Father Johnson took singing lessons from Mrs. [REDACTED]

JBM:mo'l
7264M
4/4/94

JOHNSON, RICHARD G.
1-104

R. Johnson

entitlement: narcissistic personality; perception difficulties
come out looking good
personality traits - arrogant haughty, ~~and~~ minimize
things that happened

doesn't remember Dr. McCarthy - suspicious

abuse - isolate from peers
- history in other rooms - b
- blocking out.

vague assessment -

difficult to say reasonable probability
that something happened
✓ if linked to first complaint - seems to be
then could be some substance

✓ recommend: - let be reported
- let be reported to regulators

should Dr. Peto visit to Mrs. [redacted]
to decide whether there is substance
to the allegation.

call Purcell

Appointments

Recommendation

visit to [redacted]

Consult Cassen

Archdiocese of Boston
Assistant to the Secretary for Ministerial Personnel

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: File
FROM: Rev. Brian M. Flatley *BMF*
DATE: January 27, 1995
RE: Rev. Richard Johnson

Father Johnson came to Chancery on Friday, January 27 at my request. He was tanned and rested after a few weeks in Florida with Fathers Frank O'Sullivan and Charlie Duggan. He expressed surprise at my call. He thought this was all behind him.

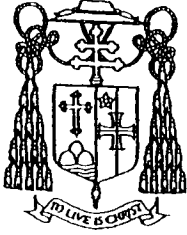
We had a very pleasant and wide-ranging conversation. I was able to bring to his attention the fact that we considered the allegations against him serious, but that we were not able to reach any conclusion about them because of the discrepancies between his story and that of [REDACTED], and that there would not be any restrictions on his ministry.

I told him that the Delegate's recommendation, approved by the Review Board, was that the Delegate should inform a priest in his vicariate about this allegation and that he and this priest should be in contact with each other on a regular basis. He questioned me as to why this was so. I said that this is a serious matter, and that there is a very disturbed woman in Florida who feels that his interaction with her is the source of her troubles, and that there was another allegation about him in the file. For his protection and for that of the Church it is important that we are able to say that we are monitoring his situation.

I asked if he would be willing to meet with Msgr. John McDonough. He volunteered that Father Frank O'Sullivan and Father Rick Beaulieu are aware of his allegations, and that he would be happy to meet with Msgr. McDonough. I suggested that they might meet quarterly, and that the conversation might simply be, "How are things going?"

He mentioned that the Parish is currently celebrating its 125th anniversary, and that once that is over, he is going to think about retiring, and joining Father O'Sullivan for more golf time.

JOHNSON, RICHARD G.
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CARDINAL'S RESIDENCE
2101 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
BRIGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02135

617-782-2544
617-782-8358-FAX

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON

This is to state that Reverend Richard G. Johnson, is a priest in good standing in the Archdiocese of Boston. He is in the Diocese of Palm Beach until May 1, 1998 to live in retirement as a Senior Priest of the Archdiocese of Boston.

To the best of my knowledge, in the external forum, I am of the opinion that he is of good character and reputation. I believe that he is qualified to perform his ministerial duties in an effective and suitable manner. There is no canonical or civil reason for his leaving the Archdiocese of Boston and I have no knowledge that he has been arrested, charged or convicted of any criminal act. More specifically, I am unaware of anything in his background which would render him unsuitable to work with minors. Further, I have no knowledge that he has a current, untreated alcohol or substance abuse problem.

Therefore I recommend Reverend Richard G. Johnson for priestly ministry in the Diocese of Palm Beach and I present him for faculties.

Archbishop of Boston

Assistant for Canonical Affairs
January 5, 1998

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Archdiocese of Boston
Assistant to the Secretary for Ministerial Personnel

COPY

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
MEMORANDUM

TO: Cardinal Law
FROM: Rev. William F. Murphy
DATE: January 12, 1998
RE: Request for faculties for Rev. Richard G. Johnson

Your Eminence,

Enclosed you will find a form which if completed will be sent to the Diocese of Palm Beach in Florida on behalf of Richard G. Johnson.

The reason I am sending you this is because there is an item in Father Johnson's file which pertains to sexual misconduct. However, while there was an allegation, there was never any proof and no disciplinary action was recommended by the Review Board or initiated by you. I feel it is entirely safe and appropriate for you to complete the enclosed form as is. However, I wanted to alert you to this so that you would not be signing it without foreknowledge.

WFM:tt
cc: Father Paul Miceli

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