

TO: File of REV. ROMANO FERRARO
FROM: Sister Jane Scanlon
DATE: April 29, 2002
RE: Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]

April 23, 2002

Fr. Steven Aguggia and I telephoned [REDACTED] we returned from the meeting with [REDACTED] we used 'speaker phone'. We indicated [REDACTED] afternoon. We invited him to tell us his story.

He said that he was sexually abused by Fr. Romano Ferraro beginning in 1974 when he was 7, 8, and 9 years old. He said that 10 years ago he went to a priest in Florida and spoke about the abuse. The priest's response was: "Pray for the priest." [REDACTED] found this response unhelpful and maddening.

I asked him where the abuse happened. He said it occurred in his family home, in St. Joseph Rectory, in Fr. Ferraro's sister's house in Brooklyn where there was a swimming pool, in Father's car at numerous locations - Long Island, Queens, somewhere down near the water. The abusive behavior included oral sex, masturbation, attempted sodomy, and inappropriate touching and activity in pools.

I asked him whether he had ever spoken of this with anyone. No, except for the priest he mentioned above. I asked him whether he thought some counseling would help him. He responded: "I guess." "What's happening with him (Fr. Ferraro)?" I mentioned his arrest and extradition to Massachusetts.

[At this point there was a brief interruption as one of his children came to the door.]

[REDACTED] continued: "He used to pull out a gun before he pulled down my pants. He never threatened me with it." I said: "You must have been scared." He responded: "I don't know what I felt." [REDACTED] began to cry.] After a little while he said: "I have to get off." I tried to give him my phone number, but he said that he would get it from his sister-in-law, [REDACTED]

April 29, 2002

I telephoned [REDACTED] having not heard from him since he had to hang up on the 23rd. I told him that the Diocese would like to offer him counseling. He responded: "I will look into it". Further I informed him that the Diocese would be reporting the allegation to the Queens County DA. He inquired: "why not Suffolk Co.?" and "If 5 year statute of limitation, why report it?". I explained. [REDACTED] informed me that since we last spoke he has told his wife and that she has been very helpful to him. He added: "By the time I knew it was wrong, I was too embarrassed to tell anyone."