

Very Reverend Joseph V. Gallagher, CSP  
President  
The Paulist Fathers  
86 Dromore Road  
Scarsdale, NY 10583

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20 June 1989

Dear Father Gallagher,

I am writing to clarify one point from our telephone conversation of 12 June 1989. As you recall, I noted that the Archdiocese's adoption of a Victim's Advocacy Program, while laudable, does not fully meet what I feel would be necessary to resolve my case. As I said in our conversation, I feel that if the Archdiocese refuses to acknowledge the abuse that I suffered, then at least the Paulists should acknowledge the fact by reading a statement similar to that which I previously sent to Father Lienert (subject to mutual approval) from the pulpit at St. Philip Neri Church at the same time that the Archbishop's letter announcing the Advocacy Program is read.

The point I wish to make involves your concern that such a statement would lead to widespread speculation and rumour. I have no objection to names being used in the statement, whether it be my name and/or Father Perone's. My family is well prepared for the possibility that our name will be made public, and they support my proceeding. The only reason why the draft statement I sent to Father Lienert did not contain names was because I understood that you and the Archdiocese would not want Father Perone's name made public.

As I mentioned over the phone, I believe that this is a story that should come out. I am beginning to realize that disclosure is necessary for my own peace of mind. Perhaps more important, the more I delve into it, the more convinced I am that Father Perone has not revealed the extent of his activities. I know that he has lied (or forgotten) that there was an "investigation" into his pedophilia about 1955. I have also contacted a relative who was subjected to something very close to an attempt at active sexual abuse by Father Perone. As I said over the phone, I suspect dozens of boys were abused by this person, and giving some publicity to one case will encourage those men (now) to step forward; the healing process cannot begin until the victim acknowledges that he has been abused, and understands that the child is never at fault. Hearing about the abuse of one victim will give other similarly situated victims

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Fr. Perone

the strength to come forward and face the horrific traumas that they were subjected to as children.

Unless my resolve changes (and it grows stronger and more certain every day), this story will come out. I invite you and the Archdiocese to participate to the full extent. Needless to say, your concern must be with past victims and with the prevention of future victims.

I look forward to hearing from you very shortly.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Street  
[REDACTED] Canada [REDACTED]

cc: Fr. Charles Lienert

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