

Father Thomas Duane



3/5/13 – Date of Birth

6/05/38 – Ordained (DUANE000131)

8/22/38 – Assistant Pastor, Saint Charles Borromeo, Saint Charles, MN (DUANE000131)

11/14/45 – Saint Bernard, Stewartville, MN, and Sacred Heart, Hayfield, MN

6/03/47 – Pastor, Saint Ignatius, Spring Valley, MN, with mission at Saint Patrick, LeRoy, MN
(DUANE000016)

6/30/54 – Pastor, Saint John the Baptist, Caledonia, MN and Loretto High School, Caledonia,
MN

8/22/61 – Pastor, Saint Gabriel’s, Fulda, MN (DUANE 000115)

Undated Letter from parishioner to Bp. Fitzgerald regarding a recent “scandal” where Duane embarrassed all by his “tipsy performance” of the service at Sunday Masses. People are well aware that Duane drinks heavily by his slurred speech when they call the rectory. Requests that something be done about this. (DUANE000108)

7/06/66 Letter from Bishop Fitzgerald to Duane noting he has received several complaints concerning his conduct, particularly certain circumstances at Mass on Sundays which would seem to indicate a serious illness or excessive use of intoxicating liquors. This is not the first report received by Watters, nor his first warning to Duane. Therefore, he is requesting Duane resign as priest from St. Gabriel’s on account of health. (DUANE000110)

7/06/66 Letter from Bishop Fitzgerald apologizing for Duane's "unfortunate appearances" and indicating that an investigation will be conducted. (DUANE000111)

7/07/66 Duane's resignation letter to Fitzgerald. Duane promises not to drink any alcoholic drink for at least a year under the penalty of suspension. (DUANE000106)

8/11/66 – Leave of Absence (DUANE000104)

9/01/66 – Chaplain pro tem, Mother Frances Home, Mankato, MN (DUANE000100)

2/21/67 Letter from Fitzgerald to Duane. Fitzgerald has heard that Duane has not been faithful in abstaining from alcohol use since his transfer from Fulda. If he continues to violate this command, he will automatically be deprived of his assignment at St. Patrick's. (DUANE000097)

2/25/67 Letter from Duane to Fitzgerald expressing his shame and sorrow for not faithfully keeping his promise to abstain from alcohol. He notes he did keep his promise for 4 months. (DUANE000096)

3/01/67 – Administrator, Saint Patrick's, LeRoy, MN (DUANE000097)

3/03/69 – Pastor, Saint Patrick's, LeRoy, MN (DUANE000092)

3/12/71 Letter from Parishioner regarding concerns about Duane's mental or physical problem. His breath frequently smells strongly of liquor. He forgets offerings at mass, has duplicated prayers during mass, occasionally has to be reminded that it's time for mass, and there have been no religious classes on Saturday since Christmas. (DUANE000089-90)

3/18/71 – Leave of Absence

2/06/72 Letter from Waters to Duane regarding concerns that his problems with alcohol have returned. Duane's participation at Guest house last spring seemed helpful. But, Guest House insists that no priest is able to keep sober when he leaves unless he is faithful in weekly AA meetings. (DUANE000080)

7/11/74 – Pastor, Saint John the Baptist de LaSalle, Dodge Center, MN and Saint Olaf Church, Kasson, MN (DUANE000076)

6/11/76 – Pastor, Saint Francis de Sales, Claremont, MN (DUANE000071)

5/18/79 – Retired (DUANE000067)

5/21/79 Letter from Fr. Duane's sister to Bp. Watters inquiring about and voicing concern for Duane's sudden retirement. When questioned, Duane explained it was due to a couple of parishioners at Claremont. His family is also aware of his alcoholism. (DUANE000065-66)

5/28/79 Letter from Bishop Watters to Fr. Duane's sister. He explains that he has been anxious to help Duane during these past 10 years with the "disease he has struggled to overcome." Watters strongly encouraged Duane to take advantage of the program at Guest House, but he was not interested. Duane was neglecting serious responsibilities at the parish. (DUANE000063-64)

4/28/93 – Died (DUANE000012)

4/28/02 Letter from Survivor to Bishop Harrington. She was molested by Fr. Duane at St. Ignatius Parish. She has also met one and heard of another woman he also molested, both now deceased. Fr. Duane would kiss and touch her and then be cruel to her in public. (DUANE000006-07)