

January 25, 2002

Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo
Apostolic Nuncio
3339 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 2008-3687

RE: Grave offenses against the Liturgy of the Mass, publicly scandalizing the Priesthood in public, unkind words with parishioners and possible sexual child abuse.
(Father Donald Dummer, OML)

Dear Archbishop Montalvo;

Enclosed please find a letter from _____ a parishioner of St. Mary's Church, 261 East 8th St., St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101. _____ came to my organization, Catholic Parents OnLine (CPO), desperately pleading for assistance because his voice was not heard among the local Hierarchy. Details of concerns are listed in his enclosed letter. Enclosed also find three videos, a photo of Fr. Dummer, and photos of the disarray of his living corridors presented as evidence of the extent of this problem. Be advised to consider if the videos are worth removing from the plastic bag.

Why confiscate Fr. Dummer's materials like this? _____ has been desperate to be heard, and believes proof is needed for his claims.

As obedient Catholics we join together with one another to ask that the authority of the Hierarchy justly discipline those who dissent from Catholicism AND those who place our children in danger of sin and neutrality of Catholic purpose, standard and expectation, including sacrileges altering of the Sacraments (especially the Eucharist)

To examine CPO, find us at www.catholicparents.org. We are faithful Catholics ready to encourage, support and assist parents with the Catholic education of our children according to Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition and the Magisterium.

The Body of Christ is strengthened when the Sacraments and Priesthood is honored. The Laity depends of the authority of the Catholic Church Hierarchy to take the lead in righteous judgment and discernment. Thank you for every consideration.

Good News Blessings

January/2002

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Father Dummer came to St. Mary's (261 East 8th St.) St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101 around the first of the year 1996 or 1997. We were told that Father Dummer was *ousted* (from) the Crookston Diocese by their Bishop! Enclosed please find a variety of examples of my concern regarding the leadership of this priest in my parish.

1. I work part time at St. Mary's and while working in Father Dummer's room (early in 1997), we (and myself) came across a number of VCR movies. I was shocked by one video of boys 10 - 12 years of age playing basketball --- nude.
2. I called the Archbishop's office because I was very concerned. I was told the Vicar General (Father Kevin McDonough) would talk to me and handle this matter. I hand-delivered the video to the Chancery, and turned it over to the Vicar General's secretary. I called Father McDonough a week latter and he didn't talk of doing anything about it. I heard no more about this matter.
3. , Early in Lent (March 13, 1997), I wrote to Archbishop Flynn (see enclosure) regarding five related issues; one being Father Dummer's practice of changing the Eucharistic Prayers and Words of Consecration, and not saying "the Body of Christ" as he gives Communion to parishioners.
4. Archbishop Flynn told me to work through these maters with pastor Father Hitpas, O.M.L., but we got nowhere. Father Hitpas, O.M.L., called us in and talked about this video we had turned over to the Vicar General. He so much as told us that we were dreaming. He seemed to tell us that we were not right.
5. Early in 1998, we found more videos in Father Dummer's room. One of the videos included actual homosexual acts between teenagers about 18 or 19 years old. It was terrible. I called the Vicar General again, and he said to drop it off to his secretary, Judy Delaney. This I did. I also gave him a audio tape of Father Dummer's answering machine revealing that when I call there, the message is never asking the name or the phone number of the caller but instead requesting the caller to send an website email to 96@aol.com. (This is not the parish email address)
6. I waited and waited and heard nothing from the Vicar General so I called him. I asked if he checked this out, and he said yes and that he destroyed the videos. I was shocked for again nothing was done. This priest was left alone to continue with his lifestyle AND confuse the people at each Mass with his version of the Liturgy.
7. Almost weekly we hear from people that had coffee at a popular local coffeehouse

where Father Dummer goes almost daily. We hear horrible stories about what he says about the Catholic Church to the people in the coffeehouse.

8. People from St. John's of Little Canada, Minnesota, witness his folly. Also, the ordained Deacon, Tony Denzio, who works at St. John's (located close to this coffeehouse). He came to me and asked me about this priest because of the rumors he hears from the people at his Church.
9. After Christmas Day Mass, 1998, many people in the community Room saw Father Dummer "run his hand" across a woman's breasts (I did not see this happen although I was there). The next day, _____, a person who was a witness, called me and didn't know what to do. I told him I would call the Vicar General and tell him to call the Church. Father Kevin called, and _____ told him of the incident he saw. Even after this, nothing was done.
10. I was disappointed again but decided to go to Father David Kalert, O.M.L. Provincial. Father Tom Singer, O.M.L. sat in on our talk. I spoke of my concern that Father Dummer's lack of faith (i.e. the Eucharist lacks the REAL PRESENCE) and his sexual orientation. After this talk nothing ever changed although Father Kalert said they would talk to him about saying Mass Liturgy according to Rubrics f1 RM. Nothing changed -- again.
11. Early in the year 2000, Father Dummer allows a Lutheran Minister to take his place as the Catholic Cleric at Regents Hospital. Father Dummer told us that there is nothing wrong with this. The people won't know the difference. He also told us that he gave the minister the Holy Oils if he needed it.
12. He has more than once put his hands on me, and rubbed my upper body and arms until I push him away. (I have witnesses of this) I believe Father Dummer to be dangerous to be in a parish where he comes in touch with YOUTH, and also his contact with children at Regents Hospital. (There is evidence of Father Dummer visiting young boys in their homes after they are released from the hospital.)
13. I have almost given up but after prayer and thought, I decided I would write to you for help in this matter. When I talked with Father Dummer's provincial, Father David Kalert, OML. I told him that I thought Father Dummer had problems, and needed some type of help or guidance.
14. I believe all my requests have gone unheeded. This priest is getting worse by the day. The three priests that live in the parish house with him know what is going on, but their superiors overlook the whole issue.
15. When cleaning just last week, we found a book in his room entitled, "The Multi-Orgasmic Man." (see enclosed photo)
16. Father Dummer said he had been to a same sex marriage, but was not involved but

that he approved of it.

17. Father Dummer said, and laughed about it, that he married a couple two weeks earlier and just visited the bride in the maternity ward in the hospital because "she dropped a kid" And laughed again.

18. Father Dummer told us that at this bride's wedding, the bridesmaid was beautiful and had lots of cleavage showing, and he could not take his eyes off of her. He said this gave him a big "nobber" in his pants during the Mass.

19. Father Dummer tells us that he talks very freely, and no body asks him anything, no one confronts him.

This is my last attempt to ask for help. I ask that you either send this priest to Reparative Therapy or to remove him from his ministry. Hopefully, you will act swiftly in this matter before something happens involving a civil law suit, and public scandal, not to overlook the emotional and spiritual damage befalling innocent children and vulnerable adults. Many people surely lose their faith because of his bad attitude, his un-priestly and his sexual behavior.

Please hear our cry for help in this matter.

Thank you.



3339 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008-3687

**APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

No. **13500**
No.

February 4, 2002

This No. Should Be Prefixed to the Answer

Personal and Confidential

Your Excellency:

I am forwarding to you the following material concerning a **Father Donald Dummer, OML**, which was sent to me from a of

- copy of letter, dated January 25, 2002;
- two enclosures accompanying letter, namely copies of correspondence from one to Your Excellency, dated March, 1997, and the other "To whom it may concern", dated January, 2002;
- three (3) videos of a questionable nature;
- and a packet of pictures.

Upon review of the above you will note the sensitive and serious nature of the concerns expressed by and Also, claims to represent an organization known as: **Catholic Parents OnLine**, with its own website (as indicated in her letter), and thus the potential for public scandal and the dissemination of these troubling allegations are evident. Thus, I present this information for your consideration, according it the pastoral response you deem effective and appropriate.

**His Excellency
The Most Reverend Harry J. Flynn
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
226 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, Minneapolis 55102-2197**

- With enclosures -

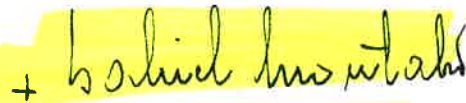
His Excellency
The Most Reverend Harry J. Flynn
Prot. No. 13500
February 4, 2002
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Respecting your competency in this situation and also realizing you already are aware of this unfortunate circumstance, I have not responded to . Rather, I rely upon Your Excellency's good judgment to address satisfactorily this matter, with the hope a resolution will be reached. Also, any information that you may wish to provide would be appreciated.

May I kindly ask that in any consultation you might have with the above-mentioned parties, please do so *without reference to the Apostolic Nunciature in order to maintain confidentiality.*

Thanking you for your very kind attention in this regard and assuring you of a remembrance in prayer, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gabriel Montalvo", is written on a yellow rectangular background. To the left of the signature is a small cross symbol.

Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo
Apostolic Nuncio

MISSIONARY OBLATES

OBLATE RESIDENCE
104 N. MISSISSIPPI RIVER BLVD.
ST. PAUL, MN. 55104-5698

February 13, 2002

Archbishop Harry Flynn
226 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55102

Dear Archbishop,

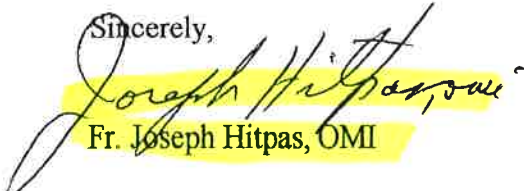
I met with Fr. Dummer this morning. He was embarrassed and apologetic. He claims he has no other tapes and has already thrown away the book that was in the picture. I pointed out to him that any such material was inappropriate, and that he should check carefully and get rid of anything else that might be in his possession. I will dispose of the tapes. He told me he no longer frequents the coffeehouse mentioned in the letter. He denied the accusation about the Lutheran Minister and the Holy Oils and claims that he has never touched. He also denied visiting young boys in their homes after they left the hospital. He adamantly denies ever possessing any kind of child pornography.

Many of the accusations are not new, and as _____ points out, were brought to the attention of Oblate Superiors and the Archdiocese at the time they occurred. They were not ignored, but were followed up on even though this may not have led to the results he would have liked. Unfortunately Fr. Dummer at times lacks prudence and common sense, and has limited social graces. Attempts have been made to address this, with limited success. In 1987-88 he did a parish CPE program in Boston. After leaving the Crookston Diocese in 1996, he received counselling with Sr. Dolores Rockers, OSF, for more than a year. He says he has a spiritual director. For some time the Oblates have required that he live in community and that he not be a pastor.

In spite of his shortcomings, my impression is that Fr. Dummer gives good service to the people at Regions Hospital. Given his age and history, I doubt that a treatment program would be of much value. If helpful, we could arrange for an evaluation to measure fitness for ministry.

You suggested a meeting with Fr. Dummer and myself. I will be out of town tomorrow and Friday, and am scheduled to attend an Oblate Meeting at Buffalo on Monday and Tuesday. Unless you feel there is some urgency to our gathering, I would suggest any time convenient for you on Feb. 20-22 or any day the following week, Feb. 25-Mar. 1. My private number (645-5042) has an answering machine and I check it regularly when travelling. Thank you for your understanding and sensitivity. Be assured of the Oblates willingness to do whatever is called for under the circumstances.

Sincerely,


Fr. Joseph Hitpas, OMI

Prot#13500

March 6, 2002

Personal and Confidential

His Excellency

The Most Reverend Gabriel Montalvo, D.D.

Apostolic Nuncio to the United States

3339 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Archbishop Montalvo,

I have received your personal and confidential letter of February 4, 2002 and the enclosed material which concerns a Father Donald Dummer, OMI, which was sent to you from a of . Included in your letter were also a copy of letter dated January 25, 2002, correspondence from . and three videos and a packet of pictures.

Upon receiving this material I called in Father Joseph Hitpas, OMI, the Superior of Father Donald Dummer, OMI. He did expatiate somewhat on the situation. He informed me that there has been an ongoing agitation between and Father Dummer. has had emotional problems and Father Dummer doesn't seem to have the sensitivity to recognize that but rather does things to aggravate him and these are usually minor liturgical violations.

belongs to an organization called **Catholic Parents OnLine** whose purpose is it to watch what is being taught in schools and in catechetical program. They are good people but at the same time seem to overreact to the slightest provocation.

I will be having a meeting soon with Father Donald Dummer and the Superior. I am enclosing a letter from the Superior to me which followed our meeting.

Thank you, your Excellency, for bringing all this to my attention. It is unfortunate that your office must be so burdened.

With every good wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Harry J. Flynn, D.D.

Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis



APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

3339 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008-3687

File
700 Donald Dummer, OMI

No. .13500.....

March 26, 2002

This No. Should Be Prefixed to the Answer

Personal and Confidential

Your Excellency:

Gratefully I acknowledge your kind reply of March 6, 2002, responding to my previous letter of February 4, 2002, concerning Father Donald Dummer, OMI.

Please be assured, Your Excellency, that the information you so graciously provided has been read carefully, duly noting that you expected to meet with Father Dummer and his superior, Father Joseph Hitpas, O.M.I. I trust that you will inform me of any further developments of which I should be apprised.

Thanking you for your kind attention in this matter and wishing you a prayerful and joyous celebration of the Lord's Resurrection, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo
Apostolic Nuncio

His Excellency
The Most Reverend Harry J. Flynn
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
226 Summit Avenue
Saint Paul, Minneapolis 55102-2197