

ST. MARY'S SEMINARY
ROLAND PARK
BALTIMORE 10, MARYLAND

March 1, 1949

Most Reverend Matthew F. Brady, D.D.
Bishop of Manchester
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

Your Excellency:

I am writing to inform you that on the doctor's advise I advised Mr. Gerald Chalifour to take a year off from the Seminary for reasons of health. The doctor could not find anything physically or anatomically wrong with him but he is suffering from a severe case of fatigue and is about thirty pounds underweight. In this situation it is practically impossible for him to follow the seminary life and studies.

This present condition I think is explained by his past history. In parochial school he skipped a grade; he made his high school in three years by going to Summer School every summer; he entered college at the age of fifteen and was accelerated through college completing it in three years; when he came to us for Theology he was just nineteen years old. This constant strain of studying without proper time for vacation for a growing boy has apparently accumulated to cause his present condition of fatigue.

Had he continued on at the present time he would need the full extent of a dispensation for age before Priesthood since he would only be 22½ years old. Taking this year out he will still be under age for the Priesthood. The doctor and I consulted at length about this situation and we deemed it the prudent thing to do to advise him to go home and rest and build up his strength. He is a good boy and a very likely candidate for the Priesthood so I am sure that if he profits as he should by his leave of absence he will be able to continue and make a good priest.

I trust that our decision will meet with your approval.

With profound esteem and all kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

James A. Laubacher S.S.

Very Rev. James A. Laubacher, S.S., D.D.
Rector

JAL:mr

St. John the Baptist Church
117 Bowville Street
Manchester, N. H.

May 26, 1946.

To Whom it may concern:

I am happy to state that I well know Gerald Chalifour, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Laurent Chalifour, of 147 Boutwell Street, in this parish.

I can truthfully declare that he is an exemplary young man, intellectually gifted, reliable, honest and laborious.

I am sure that he will faithfully and loyally fulfill any position of trust that may be given him.

I fear not to highly recommend him as a pleasing, docile and promising young man.

I will personally appreciate everything that may be done to help him along successfully in life.

Sincerely yours with every best wish,

Napoleon J. Gilbert
pastor.

St. John the Baptist Church

117 Gonville Street

Manchester, N. H.

May 26, 1946.

2032

I hereby certify that Gerald CHALIFOUR, son of Mr. & Mrs. Laurent Chalifour, of 147 Boutwell Street, Manchester, N. H., was confirmed in this parish, on May 4, 1941, by the Most Rev. John B. PETERSON, D.D., Bishop of Manchester.

Godfather: Aime MARTEL.

Sincerely:

Napoleon J. Gilbert
pastor.

Saint Anselm's College
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

2030

To Whom It May Concern,

Gerald Chalifour of
147 Boutwell Street, Manchester, has attended
St. Anselm's College since September 1944.
Mr. Chalifour's Scholarship is very satis-
factory, and I am pleased to say that he
is a young man of excellent character. We
gladly recommend him.

Stephen F. Parent

(Rev.) Stephen F. Parent

Registrar

May 17, 1946

PHILIPPE J. COTE, M. D.
267 KELLEY ST.
MANCHESTER, N. H.

May 31, 1946

To whom this may concern:

This is to certify that
I have examined Mr. Gerald Chalk
Jaw and found him to be in
perfect health.

Philippe Cote M.D.

June 11, 1946

To Whom It May Concern:

I was never affiliated with any other diocese or religious society.

Gerald Chalifour -

May 31, 1946

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that there has never been any insanity or epilepsy in the family.

Laurent A. Chalifour

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that I do not owe any money to any individual or business concern.

Gerald Francis Chalifour

Rev. Father Hurley:

I am enclosing a statement as to previous affiliation with any other diocese or religious congregation. All the other records and certificates requested on the application blank, I gave you last time. With many thanks for everything I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Gerald Francis Shalifow -

ST. ANSELM'S COLLEGE
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

2039

Gerald Chalifour

Transcript of the Record of
 Address **147 Boutwell St., Manchester, N.H.**

Entered **Sept. 4, 1944** Graduated } **Received A.B., June 12, 1947**
 Withdrew }

ENTRANCE CREDITS FROM:

English		Greek		Algebra		Science		Others
Latin		History		Pl. Geometry		Physics		
French		Economics		Sol. Geometry		Chemistry		
German		Sociology		Trigonometry		Biology		

DEPARTMENT	COURSE No.	DESCRIPTIVE TITLE	GRADE		SEM. HRS CREDIT	YEAR
			1st Sem.	2d Sem.		
Biology	11	Hygiene	C		3	
Chemistry	3-4	General	A	B	10	
Education	21	Educational Psychology	B		3	
		Tests and Measurements		A	3	
English	5-6	Public Speaking	B	B	2	
	1-2	Composition	A	A	4	
	21-22	American Literature	C	C	6	
	13-14	English Literature	B	B	6	
	11	Public Speaking	B		1	
	29	Shakespeare	A		3	
German	1	Elementary		B	3	
Greek	1-2	Elementary	C	C	6	
Latin	13-14	Composition	B	C	4	
	15-16	Livy, Horace	B	C	6	
	23-24	Composition	C	C	4	
	25	Ecclesiastical Latin	B		3	
	27-28	Ecclesiastical Latin	B	B	6	

Saint Anselm's College
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

2940

CC of THE DEAN

July 2, 1947

Rev. Michael J. Hurley, Chancellor
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, N. H.

Dear Father Hurley:

This is to recommend to you
Gerald F. Chalifour, of Manchester, who graduated
from St. Anselm's in June. He is making application
for admission to the Seminary.

He is a young man of excellent
character and a very good student. I have always
found him diligent and sincere in his work and
intentions. I am very pleased to recommend him
to you.

Very sincerely yours,
Bernard G. Holmes, O.S.B.
(Rev) Bernard G. Holmes, O.S.B.
Dean

ST. ANSELM'S COLLEGE
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

2041

Gerald F. Chalifour

Transcript of the Record of

Manchester, N.H.

Entered Sept. 5, 1944

Graduated
Withdraw

Received A.B., June 12, 1947

ENTRANCE CREDITS FROM:

English	Greek	Algebra	Science	Others
Latin	History	Pl. Geometry	Physics	
French	Economics	Sol. Geometry	Chemistry	
German	Sociology	Trigonometry	Biology	

DEPARTMENT	COURSE No.	DESCRIPTIVE TITLE	GRADE		SEM. HRS CREDIT	YEAR
			1st Sem.	2d Sem.		
Biology	11	Hygiene	C		3	
Chemistry	3-4	General	A	B	10	
Education	21	Educational Psychology Tests and Measurements	B	A	3 3	
English	5-6	Public Speaking	B	B	2	
	1-2	Composition	A	A	4	
	21-22	American Literature	C	C	6	
	13-14	English Literature	B	B	6	
	11	Public Speaking	B		1	
	29	Shakespeare	A		3	
German	1	Elementary		B	3	
Greek	1-2	Elementary	C	C	6	
Latin	13-14	Composition	B	C	4	
	15-16	Livy, Horace	D	C	6	
	23-24	Composition	C	C	4	
	25	Ecclesiastical Latin	B		3	
	27-28	Ecclesiastical Latin	B	B	6	

June 11, 1947

Mr. Gerald F. Chalifour
147 Boutwell St.
Manchester, N. H.

Dear Gerald:

The Most Reverend Bishop directs me to inform you that you have been assigned to First Theology at St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours

CHANCELLOR

June 11, 1947

Mr. Gerald F. Chalifour
147 Boutwell St.
Manchester, N. H.

Dear Gerald:

The Most Reverend Bishop directs me to inform you that you have been assigned to First Theology at St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours

CHANCELLOR

Certificat de Mariage—Certificate of Marriage 2944

Je, soussigné, certifie que } Laurent Chalifour
This is to certify that }
et } Cécile Yelinas ont été unis
and } were lawfully
dans les liens du Mariage le } 10th jour de } October 19 27
Married on the } day of }
en l'Eglise de } St. Marie, Manchester, N. H.
in the Church of }

Selon le Rite de l'Eglise Catholique Romaine,
According to the Rite of the Roman Catholic Church,

et conformément aux lois de l'état } New Hampshire
and in conformity with the law of the State of }

par le Rév. Père } A. J. Leclerc
by the Rev. Father }

Témoins } Geo Chalifour
Witnesses } Geo Yelinas

tel qu'il appert dans le Registre de Mariage de cette église.
as appears from the Marriage Register of said Church.

May 17 19 46

Rev. A. J. Dumas



Paroisse SAINTE-MARIE Parish

378, AVENUE NOTRE-DAME
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Je, soussigné, certifie que
I, the undersigned, do certify that

Francois Xavier Gerald Joseph Chalifour

enfant légitime de } *Laurent Chalifour*
lawful child of } *Cécile Yélinas*

né } *Sept. 17, 1928* Place *Manchester, N.H.*
born }

a été baptisé } *Sept. 17 1928*
was baptized }

Selon le Rite de l'Eglise Catholique-Romaine

par } *Rev. J. C. Morin*
by }

Parrain } *George Chalifour & M. Rose Gosselin*
Marraine }
Sponsors }

N. B.

Tel qu'il appert dans le Régistre Paroissial } Page *184*
As appears in the Parish Record }

Rev. A. J. Dumas

May 17 19 *46*

Diocese of Manchester

2046

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE SEMINARY

I.

- 1 Name? { Give all names in full, not initials } Gerald Francis Chalifour
- 2 Residence? { Street and Number Town, or City } 147 Boutwell St., Manchester, N.H.
- 3 In what Parish? St. John the Baptist
- 4 Birthplace: Where? Notre Dame Hospital, Manchester When? { Full date of Birth } Sept. 17, 1928
- 5 If not born in Diocese of Manchester, when did you locate permanently in this Diocese? -----

Enclose certificate of Baptism.

II.

- 1 In what schools did you receive Primary and Grammar education? St. John the Baptist
- During what calendar years? 1934 to 1941 inclusive.
- 2 What High Schools or Preparatory Schools did you attend? St. Joseph's High for Boys
- During what complete school years? 1941-44
- 3 What College did you attend? St. Anselm's
- During what complete school years? 1944 to 1945 inclusive.
- In what college grades? Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior
- 4 During how many complete school years did you study Latin? 5½ Greek? 1 Philosophy? 1
- 5 What College Degrees did you obtain? none

Enclose College reports for each year.

- 6 If your studies were notably interrupted, state when, for how long, why, and at what occupation.
-

III.

- 1 Do you apply for the Junior or the Senior Course of Philosophy? 2nd year of Philosophy at
- 2 What Seminary would you prefer to enter? St. Anselm's College
- Can you provide for your tuition expenses? Yes

Enclose recommendations from your Pastor and College Superiors.

- I. Confirmation record.
2. Parents marriage record.
3. Report of complete physical examination by reputable doctor.
4. Statement as to previous affiliation with other diocese or religious society.
5. Statement from parents as to insanity or epilepsy in family.
6. Statement from applicant as to any indebtedness for education etc.

July 10, 1992

Most Rev. Leo O'Neil
Bishop of Manchester

Dear Bishop,

This is to acknowledge your letter of June 24. I would have written sooner but my energy level has been somewhat at low tide. I wish to thank you for granting me retirement effective October 31st but more importantly for understanding the reasons why I had to request it.

You suggested that I keep in touch with you and I'd like to start now by sharing some thoughts with you. About my residence.....in 1985 when I became chaplain at Catholic Medical Center, the hospital did not provide quarters for the chaplain. I inquired but no rectory on the west side had room to accommodate me so I built a home where I am now living. I have made arrangements with one of my sisters for her to buy it over the next few years and then I would like to move to a place like the St. John the Baptist rectory to be with fellow priests. Years ago I had a dream that when I'd retire I would buy a place in Florida for the winter months and spend the summers doing ministry in New Hampshire. But now with Stan Skora gone (and Frs. Richer, Houle, Veillette, Belanger, Bouley etc.) I find that all my friends are gone and I'm certainly not going to go spend the winter in Florida alone. I might go for a few weeks if I can find someone to go with. My last vacation was 10 days in April 1990.

About my ministry.....as I told you I do not want a rocking chair retirement. After I leave St. Teresa's at the end of October, I would like to take the winter months off except for weekend help if needed in any Manchester parish. Winter travel is not exactly my favorite thing. Come spring, I would like to go on a sort of 'Kelley Temporary Services' basis, being available to replace temporarily priests who die, who are sick or who are alone in a parish and cannot get a replacement for their vacation, retreat or other legitimate absence. In this way I hope to be able to be of service to the diocese for as many years as possible.

Thank you for your prayers...I will keep in touch.....God Bless!

Respectfully yours,

Arnold F. Galikowski



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

*Cher
files*

MOST REVEREND LEO E. O'NEIL, D.D.

June 24, 1992

Rev. Gerald F. Chalifour
293 Wayne Street
Manchester, N.H. 03102

Dear Fr. Chalifour:

Thank you for your letter of June 18 requesting permission to retire effective October 31, 1992. I understand perfectly the various health-related reasons which motivate this request, and while I am sorry that it is necessary, I am willing to grant permission for retirement.

I would ask you to be in touch with Msgr. John P. Quinn, Secretary for Community Services, to make whatever practical arrangements are necessary to carry this out in an appropriate fashion. I would also ask you to be in touch, at your convenience, with Msgr. Albert W. Olkovikas, Co-Secretary for Temporalities, so that the appropriate financial aspect of your retirement can be arranged.

While I am sure that I will have occasion to meet with you personally in the near future, may I take this occasion to thank you on behalf of the people of the Diocese for your many years of dedicated service to them. I know that you have ministered zealously in all of your assignments, and while the fruits of your labors speak for themselves, I simply want to indicate my gratefulness for all that you have done in the name of the Lord. I know that even in retirement you will continue to minister in some way but I pray that your years of retirement will be happy and peaceful.

Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes, I am

Your friend in Christ,

+ Leo E. O'Neil

Bishop of Manchester

June 18, 1992

Most Rev. Leo E. O'Neil
Bishop of Manchester

Dear Bishop,

Pursuant to our short conversation in North Conway last week.....

When you were kind enough to invite me for lunch in January, you asked why I wanted to retire. Not wanting to take up any more of your time, I gave you the short answer that I was 'tired'. Permit me to expand on that answer now.

For the past 40 plus years I have suffered greatly from the effects of stress. Coupled with the fact that I have always been a workaholic and a perfectionist, this has made life very difficult at times. I had to take a year off in mid-theology, 2 months off in 1969 and again in late 1983 after I collapsed in the parish hall. I have been using tranquilizers on and off for over 40 years, always under a doctor's prescription. This stress has been manifested by headaches, gastro-intestinal difficulties, sleeplessness, chronic fatigue, intermittent hypertension (190/110), soreness in shoulders and neck and dizzy spells. On this last matter, a carotid bilateral ultrasound doppler in March 1992 showed negative for any cerebral circulation problems. For the past 5 years I have suffered anxiety attacks which cause nightmares, always focusing on the same concern, i.e. I won't be on time for whatever.

While my problem with stress and tension is not as clinically demonstrable as cancer or heart disease, it is nonetheless just as debilitating.

That is the reason why I am asking for retirement after 40 years of being 'au devoir'. I want to keep on working but feel that I need a respite from a permanent assignment and the accompanying schedules. I will admit that I felt guilty about asking when I thought of others who have been ordained longer than I have but are still working. But Dr. Guertin-Ouellette and the Rev. Roger Couture, o.m.i., my spiritual director, made me understand and accept the fact that I must consider my situation in asking for retirement and not that of others.

The exact date of my retirement of course depends on the convenience of the diocese.. Personally, I would like it to be next October 31st. I have made

will be all paid up with my October check. As I am forfeiting any monthly stipend from the Retired Clergy Fund, I would like my pledge to be paid out of earnings rather than savings.

Again I would state my intentions, as spelled out in my January 1st letter to you, that my first year's monthly retirement stipend be given to the Diocesan Seminarians Fund, the second year to the Sick Priests' Fund and future years to be determined on a yearly basis. I live a simple and frugal life and believe that I have enough to finish my days but I would reserve the right to begin collecting in the future if ever the need should arise. Who can know the future but the Lord!

I deeply regret the concern I have caused you in the past few months over my irresponsible actions of the late 1960's and early '70's. I ask for your forgiveness and prayers.

I wish also to thank you for the stole you presented to me at the convocation to mark my 40th. It was a nice gesture albeit a rare expression of affirmation from the diocese.

Please rest assured of my prayers for you in your most difficult job as Ordinary.

Sincerely in Christ,

Gerald F. Chalifour
Gerald F. Chalifour



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

MOST REVEREND LEO E. O'NEIL, D.D.

June 24, 1992

Rev. Gerald F. Chalifour
293 Wayne Street
Manchester, N.H. 03102

Dear Fr. Chalifour:

Thank you for your letter of June 18 requesting permission to retire effective October 31, 1992. I understand perfectly the various health-related reasons which motivate this request, and while I am sorry that it is necessary, I am willing to grant permission for retirement.

I would ask you to be in touch with Msgr. John P. Quinn, Secretary for Community Services, to make whatever practical arrangements are necessary to carry this out in an appropriate fashion. I would also ask you to be in touch, at your convenience, with Msgr. Albert W. Olkovikas, Co-Secretary for Temporalities, so that the appropriate financial aspect of your retirement can be arranged.

While I am sure that I will have occasion to meet with you personally in the near future, may I take this occasion to thank you on behalf of the people of the Diocese for your many years of dedicated service to them. I know that you have ministered zealously in all of your assignments, and while the fruits of your labors speak for themselves, I simply want to indicate my gratefulness for all that you have done in the name of the Lord. I know that even in retirement you will continue to minister in some way but I pray that your years of retirement will be happy and peaceful.

Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes, I am

Your friend in Christ,

Leo E. O'Neil

Bishop of Manchester

June 18, 1992

Most Rev. Leo E. O'Neil
Bishop of Manchester

Dear Bishop,

Pursuant to our short conversation in North Conway last week.....

When you were kind enough to invite me for lunch in January, you asked why I wanted to retire. Not wanting to take up any more of your time, I gave you the short answer that I was 'tired'. Permit me to expand on that answer now.

For the past 40 plus years I have suffered greatly from the effects of stress. Coupled with the fact that I have always been a workaholic and a perfectionist, this has made life very difficult at times. I had to take a year off in mid-theology, 2 months off in 1969 and again in late 1983 after I collapsed in the parish hall. I have been using tranquilizers on and off for over 40 years, always under a doctor's prescription. This stress has been manifested by headaches, gastro-intestinal difficulties, sleeplessness, chronic fatigue, intermittent hypertension (190/110), soreness in shoulders and neck and dizzy spells. On this last matter, a carotid bilateral ultrasound doppler in March 1992 showed negative for any cerebral circulation problems. For the past 5 years I have suffered anxiety attacks which cause nightmares, always focusing on the same concern, i.e. I won't be on time for whatever.

While my problem with stress and tension is not as clinically demonstrable as cancer or heart disease, it is nonetheless just as debilitating.

That is the reason why I am asking for retirement after 40 years of being 'au devoir'. I want to keep on working but feel that I need a respite from a permanent assignment and the accompanying schedules. I will admit that I felt guilty about asking when I thought of others who have been ordained longer than I have but are still working. But Dr. Guertin-Ouellette and the Rev. Roger Couture, o.m.i., my spiritual director, made me understand and accept the fact that I must consider my situation in asking for retirement and not that of others.

The exact date of my retirement of course depends on the convenience of the diocese.. Personally, I would like it to be next October 31st. I have made a pledge of \$5,000 to Mt. Carmel Nursing Home in memory of my father. Catholic

will be all paid up with my October check. As I am forfeiting any monthly stipend from the Retired Clergy Fund, I would like my pledge to be paid out of earnings rather than savings.

Again I would state my intentions, as spelled out in my January 1st letter to you, that my first year's monthly retirement stipend be given to the Diocesan Seminarians Fund, the second year to the Sick Priests' Fund and future years to be determined on a yearly basis. I live a simple and frugal life and believe that I have enough to finish my days but I would reserve the right to begin collecting in the future if ever the need should arise. Who can know the future but the Lord!

I deeply regret the concern I have caused you in the past few months over my irresponsible actions of the late 1960's and early '70's. I ask for your forgiveness and prayers.

I wish also to thank you for the stole you presented to me at the convocation to mark my 40th. It was a nice gesture albeit a rare expression of affirmation from the diocese.

Please rest assured of my prayers for you in your most difficult job as Ordinary.

Sincerely in Christ,

Gerald F. Chalifour
Gerald F. Chalifour



OFFICE OF THE AUXILIARY BISHOP

+ Most Rev. Francis J. Christian, D.D., Ph.D

Diocese of Manchester

June 8, 2000

Rev. Gerald F. Chalifour
P.O. Box 6272
Manchester, NH 03108-6272

Dear Gerry:

Thanks for your letter of June 6th. I appreciate the fact that you even considered the chaplaincy at Precious Blood Monastery and can certainly understand the reasons for feeling that you would not be able to accept the appointment. I am appreciative of all that you continue to do to fill in for priests in the area and pray that your health will enable you to continue that ministry as fully as you have.

Thanks again for your consideration of the Precious Blood.
With every good wish, I remain

Cordially yours in Christ,

Auxiliary Bishop of Manchester

June 6, 2000

Most Rev. Francis Christian
P. O. Box 310
Manchester, NH 03105-0310

Dear Bishop,

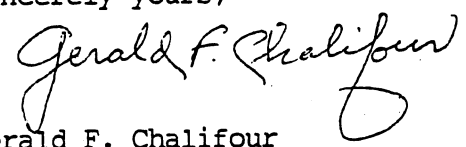
RE: Monastery Chaplaincy

Ever since I retired eight years ago, I have helped in at least half the parishes of Manchester, parishes in Nashua, Laconia, Hampstead, Sandown, 22 months in Goffstown, St. Teresa's Manor, Mt. Carmel, the Monastery, etc. My problem has always been the inability to say NO to anyone until this past month. I had to refuse a weekend at Hampton Beach and all the Masses at the Cathedral the last weekend of the month.

Even though my cancer is still in remission I have developed two problems which seem to defy all treatment. I have high blood pressure which causes dizziness and a four month old sinus infection which causes severe headaches. Because of these medical problems, I don't know what the future will bring. I would not want to take on the Precious Blood and burden the diocese and the Sisters with possible consequences. And so, because of the above, I thank you for offering me the appointment but feel that I must decline.

I will pray that you will be able to find the right person for the Sisters.

Sincerely yours,



Gerald F. Chalifour



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

MOST REVEREND LEO E. O'NEIL D.D.

January 8, 1992

Rev. Gerald F. Chalifour
293 Wayne Street
Manchester, N.H. 03102

Dear Gerry:

I have received your letter of January 1st requesting retirement effective July 1, 1992. I certainly understand the health reasons motivating your request and am pleased by your generous intentions in regard to continuing in ministry in some capacity and donating your retirement stipends to various diocesan funds of your choice.

I am certainly kindly disposed to your request but would prefer to postpone a decision until such time as the results of your discussions with Msgr. Christian are in place. I think it would be better for you to wait until your meetings with Dr. Guertin-Quellette are concluded and you make a decision in regard to his recommendations to see how that might impact the whole retirement question. I look forward to discussing the issue with you further and resolving it to your satisfaction at that time.

Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes, I am

Your friend in Christ,

Leo E. O'Neil
Bishop of Manchester

Most Rev. Leo E. O'Neil
Diocese of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop O'Neil,

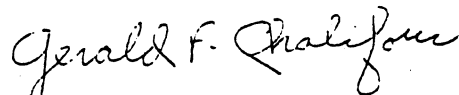
The Diocesan Retirement Policy states that a priest may retire after 40 years of ordination and with six months' notification to the Bishop. I was originally a member of the class ordained May 19, 1951 but due to a year lost in theology because of illness, I was ordained on June 7, 1952.

Accordingly, and because of life-long health problems which have been exacerbated by age, I hereby request retirement effective July 1, 1992. I shall continue to be available for ministry at St. Teresa's Manor as long as needed and thereafter, health permitting, for short term assignments in diocesan emergencies such as the death or illness of a priest and for priests unable to get a replacement for their vacation or other legitimate absences.

After reading your letter of last September detailing the financial concerns of the diocese, I would further request that my first year's monthly retirement stipend be given to the Diocesan Seminarian Fund, the second year's to the Sick Clergy Fund. Future years' recipients will be determined on a yearly basis.

I will make a note of my request for retirement on my Clergy Personnel Profile booklet when we receive it later this month.

Respectfully yours,



Gerald F. Chalifour

February 9, 1989

Reverend Gerald F. Chalifour
St. Augustine Rectory
383 Beech Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03103

Dear Father Gerald:

I received your letter of February 5th this morning and I want to thank you for expressing your feelings about our last meeting and about your request to stay at St. Augustine until such time as you feel able to undertake new and added responsibilities.

I was happy that you came to visit me on January 29th. I felt it was a good meeting where we both had a chance to share, and I thought you were well disposed in spite of the fact that I sensed a number of frustrations. But I am glad that you are dealing with those properly.

May your health continue to improve. Do count on my prayers and support.

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

383 Beech Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03103
(603) 625-5655

Friday, February 5, 1988

Dear Bishop Gendron,

I wish to thank you for the interview of last Friday. It gave the opportunity to share with you some of my 'frustrations', as you called them.

After much thought and prayer, I am requesting that I stay at St. Augustin until such time as I feel able, physically and mentally, to undertake new and added responsibilities. It's been a long time downhill and I regret to say that I am not reascending the hill as quickly as I might have hoped. As you said of another priest at our meeting, I also am presently limited as to what I can do. I will notify you when I am back to full ability.

Respectfully yours,



Rev. Gerald F. Chalifour

January 15, 1988

Rev. Gerald F. Chalifour
Saint Augustine Rectory
383 Beech Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03103

Dear Father Chalifour:

I have received your letter of January 11, expressing an interest in the Chaplain's position of St. Theresa Nursing Home. As you may have heard by this time, I have already appointed Father STan Skora as Chaplain of the Home. Father Skora had expressed his interest in such a position some time ago, and in order to insure immediate continuity in chaplain services, I appointed him to this position as soon as Monsignor McGreal had submitted his resignation.

Given the fact that the Personnel Board will soon be discussing clergy transfers for the Spring, perhaps it would be good for you to make an appointment with me to discuss what your preferences are regarding your assignment come Spring. I would suggest you call my office for such an appointment in the near future.

Looking forward to meeting with you then, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

383 Beech Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03103
(603) 625-5655

January 11, 1988

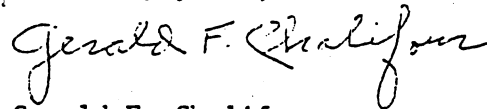
Dear Bishop Gendron,

Rumor has it that Msgr. McGreal will be leaving as chaplain of the St. Theresa Nursing Home. This is to let you know that I would be greatly interested in the position.

I feel that my years as chaplain at Catholic Medical Center have given me the experience in dealing with the sick and the elderly which could make me both effective and comfortable in such an assignment.

With thanks for your consideration of this request, I remain,

Sincerely yours,



Gerald F. Chalifour

Dear Bishop,

It is a month today, on December 8th, that I left Manchester and so I thought I would drop you a line to keep you informed.

As you probably know, Charlie Crosby drove me down and was down here two days before flying back. We did some visiting including EPCOT Center which we both found rather disappointing.

I am staying in a condominium belonging to a couple from Londonderry and which is situated on an island off the coast of Duendin just north of Clearwater. There are 400 apartments and it is strictly a 'Geritol' set which lives here. I believe that I am probably the youngest person around. The apartment is spacious and very comfortable. Outside availabilities include a swimming pool, shuffleboard and tennis courts and a recreation hall with pool tables, etc. The weather has been so cold though that the pool and the courts have not seen much business in the past few weeks. On the morning of December 26th, we hit a low of 19 degrees.

My daily schedule (or rather, non-schedule) runs thus: I have been sleeping later than I used to at home. When I get up I have breakfast, say my Office, read the morning paper and offer Mass just before lunch. In the afternoons I usually go out for a good walk, read and catch up on long overdue correspondence. After supper I do some more reading, watch some television and go to bed not too late.

As to the state of my health: I have gotten rid of the incessant coughing that came with my pneumonia of October and November although I still have some pains in my lungs but not as bad as it was in November. I am sleeping more than the two or three hours that I had been getting home every night but I still have to take something to help me sleep. All in all I still haven't climbed to the top of the hill yet but I do believe that I am headed in the right direction. The hardest thing of all has been getting used to doing ^{nothing} and taking all day to do it. The temptation is always there to throw everything in the car and head back to N. H. I pray that the Lord will help me to understand that that is not what I need.

From what I hear from the grapevine (I have had no direct contact with St. Theresa's since I left) Fr. Allard is doing real well at St. Theresa's. I am most grateful to you for naming someone as administrator in whom I can place my trust and not have to worry about what is happening back home.

May your New Year, the year of the 100th of the diocese and the 50th of St. Theresa's, be a Happy, Holy and Healthy One!

In Xto,

Gerald F. Chalifour

My periodic report as promised....

FIRST; a chronology

December 8 - I left for Florida
January 29 - I returned from Florida
January 30 - I moved into St. John the Baptist rectory
January 31 - I saw the doctor
February 1 - I saw you in your office
March 5 - I saw the doctor again
March 12 - I moved into Holy Rosary in Hooksett.

SECOND: the state of my health

When I returned from Florida I was sleeping only a couple of hours a night and was having bad chest pains. The doctor said that this was due to stress, tension and fatigue. He gave me a relaxant which seemed to work. When I returned to see him on the 5th of March, I told him that I didn't have much pep so he took me off the relaxant and gave me some pep pills. I soon returned to the sleepless nights and the chest pains and so I am back now on the relaxant.

THIRD: about my future plans

I plan to stay in Hooksett until the 15th of April when I will be leaving to spend Holy Week in Rome and attend the closing of the Holy Year. From there I will be going to Lourdes, Paris and then Lisieux, this being the 50th year of St. Theresa's. I will be returning in early May. My plans after that are still indefinite.

Union of prayers!

Respectfully yours,

Gerald F. Tholifour



IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO BE ATTACHED TO
FATHER CHALIFOUR'S LETTER

Royal Stewart Apartments
Apartment #111
5 Gateshead Drive
Dunedin, Florida 33528

Tel. (813) 733-6420

December 6, 1983

Reverend Gerald F. Chalifour
St. Theresa Rectory
140 Mitchell Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03103

Dear Father Chalifour:

Subsequent to our recent conversations and upon the request of your doctor, this letter will confirm a six-month leave of absence for reasons of health to begin on Thursday, the 8th of December, 1983.

During your absence from St. Theresa's, I will appoint as Administrator of the parish the Reverend Marcel Allard effective on the 8th of December. I have indicated to Father Allard that he is to contact me directly if any problems arise in the parish so that you may be completely free of any cares while you are on your sick leave. If your health permits, this sick leave will terminate on the date of the clergy transfers which are tentatively scheduled for the beginning to the middle of June.

In closing, may I ask you to be in touch with me on a regular basis during these next six months to let me know how you are feeling and whether or not there is any assistance that I can give to you.. I assure you of my prayers that you will return to the diocese fully enabled to continue your dedicated priestly ministry. With every good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

December 6, 1983

Reverend Gerald F. Chalifour
St. Theresa Rectory
140 Mitchell Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03103

Dear Father Chalifour:

Subsequent to our recent conversations and upon the request of your doctor, this letter will confirm a six-month leave of absence for reasons of health to begin on Thursday, the 8th of December, 1983.

During your absence from St. Theresa's, I will appoint as Administrator of the parish the Reverend Marcel Allard effective on the 8th of December. I have indicated to Father Allard that he is to contact me directly if any problems arise in the parish so that you may be completely free of any cares while you are on your sick leave. If your health permits, this sick leave will terminate on the date of the clergy transfers which are tentatively scheduled for the beginning to the middle of June.

In closing, may I ask you to be in touch with me on a regular basis during these next six months to let me know how you are feeling and whether or not there is any assistance that I can give to you.. I assure you of my prayers that you will return to the diocese fully enabled to continue your dedicated priestly ministry. With every good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

January 5, 1983

Mr. Maurice J. Parenteau
30 Hill Street
Dover, New Hampshire

Dear Mr. Parenteau:

In response to your recent letter, my office has been in touch with Father Chalifour. He indicated that before he witnessed your mother-in-law's will, he clearly heard the lawyer ask her if she understood all the provisions of the will and if this is what she wanted to do. He, in turn, questioned her to the same effect in French to make sure she understood, and also discussed with her the provisions of the will to which she agreed. He stated he had done this to make sure that, in conscience, he was witnessing the document clearly.

Father Chalifour indicates that he would be more than happy to meet with you to discuss this matter personally at greater length. I would suggest that you try to arrange such a meeting at your earliest convenience.

In closing, let me express my wish that this internal family problem can be solved quickly in the fashion which will be beneficial for all parties involved.

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

Blind Copy to Father Chalifour

Maurice J. Parenteau
30 Hill Street
Dover, New Hampshire
1 January 1983

Your Excellency,

I am writing in reference to one of your priest, who perhaps unknowingly has done an injustice.

My Mother- in- law a Mrs. Anette St. George suffered as massive stroke some five years ago which left her mentally impaired and unable to care for herself. She has not left the confines of her home in years.

A greedy daughter, Juliette St. George, persuaded her to change her will, leaving everything to her, house, money etc. This daughter engaged some off the wall lawyer and somehow got one of your priest, the pastor of St Theresa's parish who live's directly across the street from Mrs. St. George to come over to witness and testify that she is sane. This priest must of been aware of Mrs. St. Georges problem, even though at times she speaks rationally.

I personally questioned my Mother-in-law about this yesterday the 31st of December and /her total recall of the incident which occured just a few weeks prior, was and I quote "Yes some woman was with Julie and they went over and got the priest and they had me sign something " unquote..

Your Excellency, I humbly request that you persuade this priest to withdraw and nulify his name from this document since it was a totally dishonest act on the part of the daughter and I regret that one of your priest had to be part of it.

I am sure that you will take prompt action and that I will hear from you in the near future, as I do not wish to go higher in the hierarchy of the church. My sincere wishes for a happy new year.

Yours In Christ,



PROFESSION OF FAITH

I, Gerald F. Chalifour, with firm faith, believe and profess all and everything that is contained in the Symbol of Faith, that is:

I believe in one God.
 The Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
 And of all things visible and invisible.
 And I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God.
 Born of the Father before all ages.
 God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God.
 Begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father.
 By whom all things were made.
 Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven.
 And he became flesh by the Holy Spirit of the
 Virgin Mary: and was made man.
 He was also crucified for us,
 Suffered under Pontius Pilate, and was buried.
 And on the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
 He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.
 And of his kingdom there will be no end.
 And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life,
 Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
 Who together with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
 And who spoke through the prophets.
 And one holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.
 I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 And I await the resurrection of the dead.
 And the life of the world to come.

I firmly embrace and accept all and everything which has been either defined by the Church's solemn deliberation or affirmed and declared by its ordinary magisterium concerning the doctrine of faith and morals, accordingly as they are proposed by it, especially those things dealing with the mystery of the Holy Church of Christ, its sacraments and the sacrifice of the Mass, and the primacy of the Roman Pontiff.

Signed Gerald F. Chalifour

WITNESS: Francis V. Chustean

DATE: June 16, 1987

PERSONAL INTERVIEW OF BISHOP GENDRON WITH FR. GERALD CHALIFOUR, PASTORSAINT THERESA PARISHMANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIREJANUARY 23, 1982

I had a nice visit with Fr. Chalifour and commented with him about the parish visitation and especially the Parish Council Meeting last night. I declared that I was very happy with what was happening in the parish. The parish development is happening on a very good basis and going in the right direction.

I commented that I thought the spirit of the parish was wholesome and it was a family kind of an attitude, people concerned with each other. Father did indicate on the other hand that sometimes there is a problem with the people who have been here forty years and involved and the newcomers who are not willing to become involved or the older folks don't seem to let go of some of the responsibilities although Fr. Chalifour does encourage them to find new members for their committees and so forth.

I then emphasized the need to develop the committees and the leadership of the committees and to delegate the responsibilities to new members of committees. The people do not seem to have much initiative. They will attend parish council meetings but then this sort of terminates there in many instances other than when Father seems to motivate them and support and encourage them. He himself has a tremendous amount of initiative and orientation and is enthusiastic. They seem to love him and appreciate him and he had done very well in the parish. They act more on the parish council as a consultative body rather than as an active, responsible group.

Father indicated to me to motivate the people, to move them literally, in so many instances towards being the church alive. Father has really a good concept in terms of how he understands the parish and its growth and development and I commented on that matter and endorsed him and affirmed him. I did indicate the need to select one or two goals that they might work on next year.

Father then moved to another topic which was in his mind - the low morale of our priests due primarily to frustration of the priest in terms of not being able to achieve what they'd like or again not being able to get affirmation from the Bishop or the diocese in terms of what they achieve when they do well. He had some very good points in terms of priests really feeling rather disgusted at times or kind of down or being taken for granted but what he really was saying is that they need a little bit of stroking, they need some encouragement, they need to be appreciated and they need to hear about how much we appreciate what they are doing. I thought he made some good points. I think he was revealing himself, because he needs an awful lot of stroking although he said he didn't, but I presume he does from his past and so forth, I think that is true.

Personal Interview of Bishop Gendron
Father Gerald Chalifour
St. Theresa Parish
Manchester, N.H.

2973

Page Two

He indicated that although he is giving much support to say, vocations, to building, he's done extremely well in terms of administering buildings and properties he's never been asked to be on the Building Board or on the Vocation Board or for any other service for the diocese so I guess what he was kind of saying was that he was not appreciated, he's not been affirmed sufficiently for his needs. He had no suggestions to make, on the other hand he said he was not able to accept any board membership because he was always too busy here with just being alone. He did say that he himself did feel a lot of frustrations at times because there is so much to be done and he has been unable to do it all. He has good planning, good imagination, good thoughts in terms of growth and development but he lacks the help, the time and the energy to accomplish all that he wants, but he is not an idle man - he is very busy, he is dedicated, he is a little bit overly responsible in that he will not delegate sufficient responsibilities or trust other people to handle the responsibilities, he does not take his days off or vacations. He says he is a diabetic and is on the pill, most of the time he feels fairly well but then again gets very tired and has to go to bed at 6:30 sometimes.

One question he brought up was do we have in our plans to consider self-insurance in the medical field. I told him I did not know when we had looked at this but we would be happy to consider it. He feels it is very, very costly to insure someone, say a janitor with his family, the cost being \$1800.00 a year for just that one person. He feels that if we had a self-insurance for property and liability it would be helpful to the diocese and maybe we ought to look into the medical insurance coverage for ourselves. I probably think he was trying to make sure that he was not too aggressive and yet he was very honest and kind about it and yet he pointed out a lot of his frustrations which I presume he has had for a long time, but he is in good spirits and has done well and if he is going to take some time off he thinks in May he might find time at that point.

This concludes the conversation with Father Chalifour.

file - Fr. Chalifour

2074

Blind copy given to Msgr. Olkovikas

August 25, 1981

Rev. Gerald F. Chalifour
St. Theresa Rectory
140 Mitchell Street
Manchester, N. H. 03103

Dear Father Chalifour:

Thank you for your letter of August 17th, in which you discuss the pastoral problem raised by the number of collections that are required, back-to-back, when the holydays of the Assumption and the Immaculate Conception come immediately before or after a weekend.

Given the number of national collections which are required in the United States, it is often not easy to schedule them, interspersed as they are with our own parish and diocesan collections. I do realize, however, that the way the collections fall may prove awkward in some instances, and I will discuss the matter with Monsignor Olkovikas, the Vicar for Administration, to see if there are any other possibilities in this regard.

Thanking you for your concern in this matter, I am,

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

SAINT THERESA PARISH

~~110~~ ~~Orle. Road~~ 140 MITCHELL ST.

Manchester, N. H. 03103

August 17, 1981

Dear Bishop Gendron,

I wonder if you could do me and the other 126 pastors of the Diocese of Manchester a favor.

I don't know who makes out the schedule for the diocesan collections every year but evidently it is someone who is not a pastor.

Here is the problem: On Saturday, August 15th, we had the Feast of the Assumption with its attendant collection. The next day on August 16 (for those who come to the anticipated Sunday Mass, the same day) we had the regular parish Sunday collection and the special collection for Manchester Mission in South America. Three collections in two days. And the same thing will happen in December when we have both the Sunday collection and the Catholic University collection on the 6th and then the Immaculate Conception collection on the 7th and the 8th.

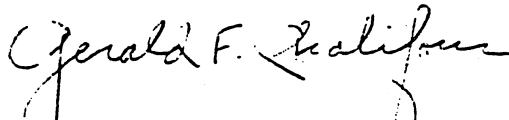
This is not just a problem that has cropped up in 1981. Every year we seem to have these two collections on the Sunday nearest the Feasts of August 15 and December 8.

I don't suppose that anyone who is not in a parish can really appreciate this problem but nonetheless I believe that it is real and could be solved very easily by moving these collections up or down one Sunday.

And believe me, my reason for bringing this to your attention is not principally the fact that my Sunday collection takes a beating on these two occasions.

Thanking you for the time spent in reading this epistle and your consideration of its contents, I remain,

Respectfully yours,



Gerald F. Chalifour

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I, Gerald F. Chalifour, with firm faith, believe and profess all and everything that is contained in the Symbol of Faith, that is:

I believe in one God.
 The Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
 And of all things visible and invisible.
 And I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God.
 Born of the Father before all ages.
 God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God.
 Begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father.
 By whom all things were made.
 Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven.
 And he became flesh by the Holy Spirit of the
 Virgin Mary: and was made man.
 He was also crucified for us,
 Suffered under Pontius Pilate, and was buried.
 And on the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
 He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.
 And of his kingdom there will be no end.
 And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life,
 Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
 Who together with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
 And who spoke through the prophets.
 And one holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.
 I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 And I await the resurrection of the dead.
 And the life of the world to come.

I firmly embrace and accept all and everything which has been either defined by the Church's solemn deliberation or affirmed and declared by its ordinary magisterium concerning the doctrine of faith and morals, accordingly as they are proposed by it, especially those things dealing with the mystery of the Holy Church of Christ, its sacraments and the sacrifice of the Mass, and the primacy of the Roman Pontiff.

Signed Gerald F. Chalifour
 St. Theresa, Manchester, N.H.

Witness:

George E. Ham
 Vice Chancellor

August 24, 1976

March 10, 1976

Sister Gabrielle
16 Bridge Street
Rochester, New Hampshire 03867

Dear Sister Gabrielle:

Just a brief note to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter and to let you know that I am giving its contents much thoughtful and prayerful consideration. I know that it was prompted by a genuine concern for the spiritual well-being of the Farmington Parish, and I am very grateful to you for taking the time to share these thoughts with me.

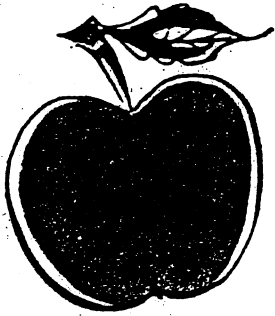
Please be assured that I will handle this situation pastorally bearing in mind the needs of the people of Saint Peter's Parish.

Many thanks for your continued prayers as I face the many responsibilities of my office, and you may be sure that you and your work are remembered in my daily Masses and prayers.

With every prayerful good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester



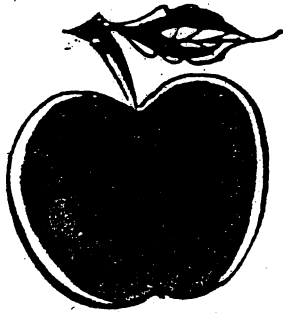
Rochester, N.Y.
March 2, 1976

Hells!

Just felt like opening my thoughts to you. I do not mean any harm, I guess this is sort of confidential.

My mom has moved to Farmington with my sister who still lives at times in [redacted] for they have a [redacted] there. My mom had to sell the house for she is not well and getting along in years. Well, my sister and brother-in-law will not go to Church there because of Father Chalifour and his lack of tact. So many of his parishioners are coming to Church here at Holy Rosary for they can't stand him. Please excuse me for speaking this way but when I see what two men of the cloth got away with in Somersworth I hurt to see other people go through the same. Many young couples including

going to Church because of Father's
 lack of tact and crude comments.
 [redacted] was expecting a child and
 Father heard of this, his comment
 to some people of the parish was: "I
 hope they don't expect me to baptize
 their baby" is this what we say
 or should he have tried to help them?
 my mother refuses to ask him to give
 her communion so we make sure at least
 once a month she comes to Mass when
 she feels well enough. This priest actually
 tells people he's behind in his
 vacations--- how many of us do not go on
 vacation for lack of money--- really,
 this is pathetic and I feel for the
 people and I am concerned because
 members of my family are being
 affected by this. I spoke to a certain
 friend of my sister's because she
 was very disturbed over the whole
 matter I spent the week there last
 week with my mom and at the week-
 end Mass he told us that like any
 little town, Farmington had a disease
 and this disease was put into an
 article to be found in the Church
 Bulletin he told us that if the
 hot fitted to put it out and on my
 way out I took a Bulletin, guess



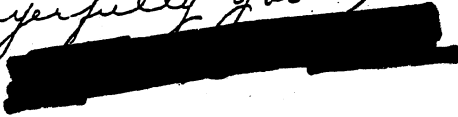
what the topic was? Gossip! I thought this was very silly for I felt I cheated God by listening to him. No wonder people are talking and also disappointed - wouldn't it have been better to give these people what they want to hear? Spiritual uplifting words! Seems he's not shy at all with his remarks therefore people do not care for him. Please do not think me insulting or critical I'm just concerned and wonder why nothing is done about this. I wanted to write quite a while ago but after seeing with my own eyes and being told about these things I just had to let you know about this.

By the way, [redacted] lost the baby and her comment was: "now we don't have to worry about the baby not being baptized." She was very upset over all the matter. Do you by any chance know how many children not baptized in Farmington???

You'd be surprised. --- also Confession for elder

children --- these people need a break
and a good priest to boost them up.
I hope I did not hurt you - I just
had to open up and tell you of these
things.

I do not forget you in my daily
prayers and thank you for all you've
done for me in the past.

Trayerfully yours,


June 25, 1975

Reverend Gerald F. Chalifour
St. Peter's Rectory
90 Central Street
Farmington, New Hampshire

Dear Father Chalifour:

I have received your letter of June 18th and am most happy that you have taken the time to honestly write me about your future desires. Let me assure you that I will take the contents of your letter into serious consideration as the need arises.

Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes for your continued fruitful ministry, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

SAINT PETER'S RECTORY
90 CENTRAL STREET
FARMINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

June 18, 1975

Dear Bishop,

Clerical scuttlebut has it that Father Montplaisir is leaving St. Peter's in Auburn. Only you know if that is true but on the assumption that it might be and in the spirit of honesty I write this letter.

Msgr. Lesmerises has told me several times that if Auburn ever opened up, he would be greatly interested. If it were to happen that he'd go to St. Peter's, I would be greatly interested in St. John the Baptist.

When we discussed the vacancy in Franklin several weeks ago, I told you that there were three things up there that would possibly prove too much for me, namely, the school, the cemetery and the hospital. St. John the Baptist has none of these. As far as I know, its biggest problem is the half million dollar parish debt. We all like to believe that we have a few strong points. I believe that one of mine is finances and would dare to believe that I have proven that in Suncook, HUDSON and Farmington.

The question necessarily comes up of my health. Since I have seen you last, there has been a marked improvement although it is not quite 100% yet. I believe that a change of scenery might not be at all harmful and with associates I would be able to take my vacations, sadly neglected in the past and part of the cause of my current medical problem. I was away for ten days last fall and nine days in February of 1973. In 1972 I didn't take any vacation at all.

My doctor is in Manchester and I would consider it a great favor if I could get closer to him.

Again, I realize that this is all based on "if's"...if Fr. Montplaisir should leave St. Peter's and if Msgr. Lesmerises should replace him, but I thought that you would like to know what is going through my head.

My sincere thanks for taking the time to read this and for your kind consideration of my request. As always, whatever you decide I will accept.

Sincerely yours,

Gerald F. Chalifoux

April 15, 1975

Rev. Gerald F. Chalifour
Saint Peter's Rectory
90 Central Street
Farmington, New Hampshire

Dear Father Chalifour:

In spite of your assurance that no reply was expected to your recent letter, I do want you to know how much I appreciate your letter and the genuine spirit of priestly cooperation which it represents.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to discuss your feelings with regard to the Franklin Parish, and I am especially grateful for the openness and sincerity which was obvious on your part.

Please continue to pray for me, and be assured of a daily remembrance in my Masses and prayers.

With every prayerful good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

SAINT PETER'S RECTORY
90 CENTRAL STREET
FARMINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

April 11, 1975

Most Rev. Odore J. Gendron
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105

Dear Bishop,

I wish to thank you most sincerely for the consideration you gave to my health in thinking of me for St. Paul's of Franklin.

I am also very grateful for the trust in my dedication and possible ability in fulfilling such a post. I can honestly say, and certainly not in the spirit of 'sour grapes', that in my 23 years of service in the diocese, this is the first time that I have actually felt that the diocesan authorities have shown their belief that I might have something special to contribute to the church.

I would still be interested at some time in going to a bigger parish, the reason why I asked for St. George's last year. But Franklin with its school, cemetery and hospital might be just a little too much. Anyway, I leave any final decision to you, respecting completely your judgment. As I told you yesterday, my 'promitto' is still very real to me.

Might I take the occasion of this short note also to apologize for my calling you 'Odore' instead of 'Bishop' a couple of times during our conversation. I have the greatest respect for you and your office, but it's very hard to break a 25 year habit when you're talking to someone with whom you feel completely at ease.

Again, rest assured of my respect for the confidentiality of our conversation of yesterday. I know that you are quite busy and so there is no need for you to take the time to answer this note.

May the good Lord grant you all the graces needed in the awesome burdens you have assumed as Bishop.

Again, my thanks! Union of prayers!

Sincerely in Christ,



Rev. Gerald F. Chalifour

Chalifour, Received
2056

November 21, 1973

Rev. Gerald F. Chalifour
Saint Peter's Rectory
90 Central Street
Farmington, N.H.

Dear Father Chalifour:

Please excuse the delay in answering your letter of November 9th but my schedule has been such of late that this has been the first opportunity I have had to get to my personal mail.

I am grateful to you for taking the time to share your thoughts with me concerning the salary of the clergy. To date I have simply approved that which has been presented to me as the wishes of the clergy concerning this matter. It is my sincere hope that you will send your letter or if you would prefer ~~it~~ I will send your letter to the appropriate committee studying the question.

I have heard of a few priests who indicated that they did not need the raise in salary and have donated the equivalent back to the church. I note in your letter the generosity which you have shown to the parish in Farmington.

As you know, this whole question of salary has received rather close attention throughout New England as well as across the country. I certainly trust that opinions such as your own will be as heavily weighed as the opinions of those who are seeking higher salaries.

With prayerful good wishes, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

SAINT PETER'S RECTORY
90 CENTRAL STREET
FARMINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

November 9, 1973

Dear Bishop Primeau,

I write because, even two weeks after your letter of October 26th dealing with new salary schedules, I am still very much upset. I have talked to a number of priests and the consensus seems to be that our previous salaries were more than adequate and that the recent raise is totally unneeded.

Diocesan priests are not monks and therefore do not have the vow of poverty, but they certainly should live the spirit of poverty. And yet we find them today, at a time when both parishes and parishioners have a hard time making ends meet, living like "les Seigneurs d'un autre siècle." They have big cars, summer cottages, boats, the absolute best in stereo equipment.....the list is almost endless of things they have that the average parishioner has to do without. Add to my new salary of \$4620 a year approximately \$600 in Mass stipends and I earn, clear, over \$5000 a year. I am housed, fed, and have my medical insurance and retirement plan paid by the parish. And then I look at my parishioners who work at Davidson Rubber at 2.55 an hour or just over \$5000 a year and who on this amount have to raise a family and I am ashamed on Sunday to get up in the pulpit to ask them to increase their already very generous contributions. When I was ordained, the salary scale was \$50 a month. Ridiculous, but we survived! A little later Bishop Brady gave us a \$300 a year raise on a Thursday and asked \$200 back on the following Monday for the Monastery of the Precious Blood. Again we survived. When discussion arose three years ago on the Christmas collection, those who opposed giving it to the pastor said it was "unprofessional" Are these the same ones who now clamored for a raise on the basis that their income should be more "professional"? Are we priests dedicated to church and people or just professional religious functionaries? For the past two months Senate meetings have been concerned with the decreasing number of church-goers. Could priests' life-style be a contributing factor to this?

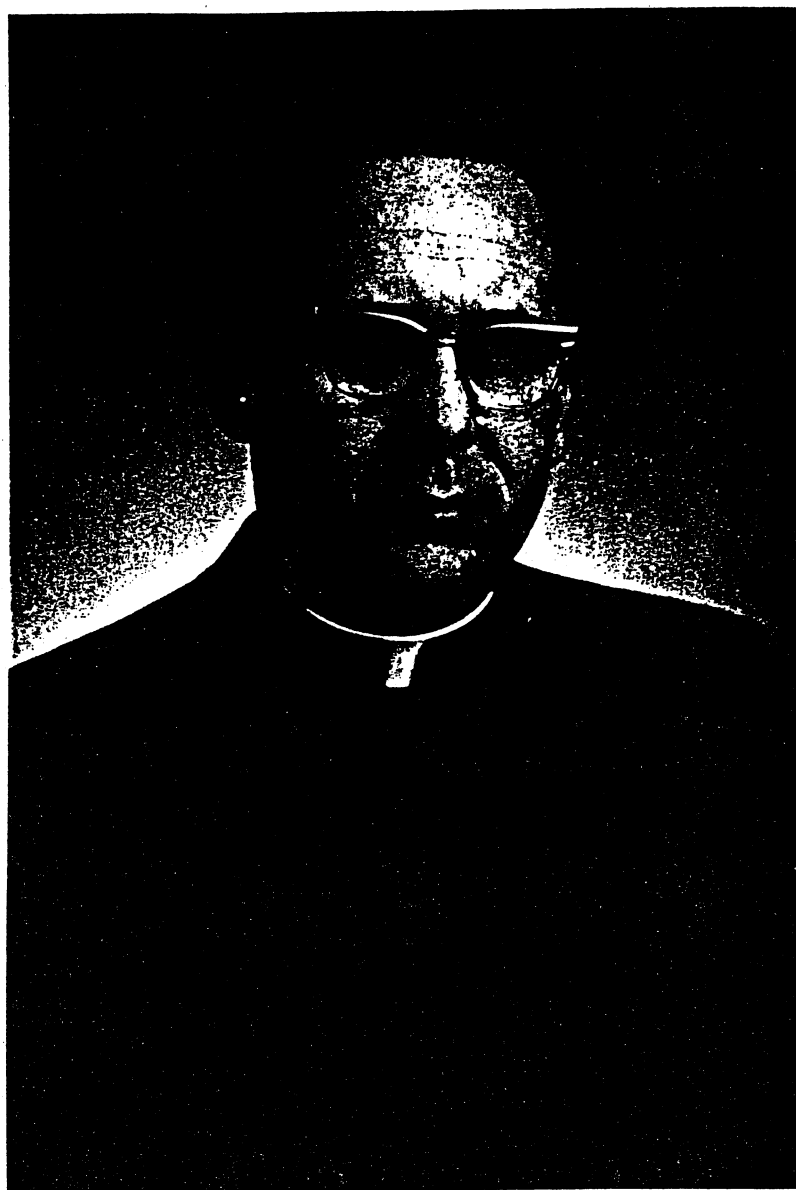
I was also disturbed by your paragraph "This approval is not meant to preclude any further ongoing study of this question etc." Do I interpret this correctly to mean that salaries could go up some more? I doubt that it means they would go down.

The easy answer that could be given me would be that I not take my whole salary. This I have been doing since I came to Farmington and further, three years ago, when the parish couldn't afford a new car for the nuns, I coughed up. But I'm afraid that I might be establishing a very bad precedent for my successor.

Again, Bishop, I write to you with all due respect. It's just that I'm quite put out by all this salary business. Please excuse any impropriety on my part in this letter.

Respectfully yours,

Gerald F. Chalifour



FULL NAME: GERALD FRANCIS CHALIFOUR
 DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: SEPTEMBER 17, 1928 - MANCHESTER, N. H.
 DATE AND PLACE OF ORDINATION: JUNE 7, 1952 - CATHEDRAL - MANCHESTER, N. H.
 NAME OF ORDAINING BISHOP: MATTHEW F. BRADY
 DATE OF INCARDINATION (IF EXTERN): _____

SCHOOLS ATTENDED:

YEARS ATTENDANCE:

Elementary:	<u>ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST - MANCHESTER</u>	<u>1934 - 1941</u>
High School:	<u>ST. JOSEPH FOR BOYS "</u>	<u>1941 - 1944</u>
College:	<u>ST. ANSELM'S "</u>	<u>1944 - 1947</u>
Seminaries:	<u>ST. MARY'S - BALTIMORE</u>	<u>1947 - 1949 1950 - 1952</u>
Postgraduate:	_____	_____

ACADEMIC DEGREES (When and Where Obtained):

B.A. - ST. ANSELM'S JUNE 12, 1947

APPOINTMENTS AS ASSISTANT (When and Where Appointed):

JUNE 14, 1952 - ST. MARTIN'S - SOMERSWORTH

DEC. 10, 1957 - ANGEL GUARDIAN - BERLIN.

CHAPLAIN: MARCH 12, 1959 - ST. CHARLES ORPHANAGE - ROCHESTER.

APPOINTMENTS AS PASTOR (When and Where Appointed):

MAY 3, 1960 - SACRED HEART - GREENVILLE.

SAINT PETER'S RECTORY
90 CENTRAL STREET
FARMINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Chalifour

2090

July 10, 1970

Dear Okie,

I have received your letter of July 8 enclosing the High Mass intentions for the soul of Genevieve Devlin. I truly am most grateful for your remembering me. In the five weeks that I have been here I have received three Mass intentions and Fr. Gagnon had left three others. There were only two deaths all last year and there have been none yet this year so Mass intentions are rather scarce.

I will be having my second meeting with the parish council this coming Wednesday and even though we are very grateful for the help that you have given us over the past few years from the Poor Mission Fund, we have every hope of being able to make the parish self-sustaining in the future. Keep us in your prayers that we might succeed.

Ever since 1968 when I first became a big pastor, I have been wanting to have you over for dinner some night but somehow it never happened. I am now renewing my invitation. If ever you can get away from your rat-race at the Chancery for a few hours, you'd be most welcome at St. Peter's. It's a nice quiet, restful place. But promise that when you get back to Manchest that you won't ask the Bishop for Farmington. In all seriousness though, I would be most pleased if ever you came.

Again, my sincere thanks for the Mass intentions.

In Xto,

Gerry Chalifour