

*all of them should
go into
Peter Kanchoong's*

BISHOP'S RESIDENCE
11 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02135

October 17, 1984

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

P + C. file

*LETTERS TO KANCHOONG & wife mailed
EX THABPING 10/31/84*

I am writing to you concerning the Reverend Peter Kanchoong a priest of your diocese who has been in the Archdiocese of Boston for quite some time. In February of 1984 Bishop Daily wrote to you indicating that Father Peter had a civil suit against him regarding property he was renting. Sadly I must write to you now indicating that matters have grown much worse over the succeeding months. Father Peter now has a charge of child molestation against him. At this time the court is attempting to handle the matter in such a way as to help Father Peter and avoid scandal to the Church and the priesthood. We have arranged for a complete psychological evaluation of Father Peter at the House of Affirmation, an International Therapeutic Center, specializing in care for clergy and religious. They have indicated that Father Peter is not motivated and would be unresponsive to therapy at this time and that he should be forced to face the consequences of his actions both civilly and canonically.

Your Excellency, I write at this time to respectfully request that you immediately recall Father Peter Kanchoong to your diocese. His continued presence in the Archdiocese of Boston runs the risk of serious personal harm and grave scandal for the Church.

We have made repeated attempts to be helpful to Father all of which have been ignored, interpreted wrongly or rejected. We feel there is nothing further we can do that will truly be helpful. Moreover further attempts on our part will not be accepted and may aggravate Father Kanchoong thereby increasing his problem of impulse control.

As you can see I have written to Father Kanchoong advising him to be in touch with you and to make preparations to return to Thailand.

I truly hope that he will respond to your call to return to the diocese of Ratchaburi. At this point it may be the only way for him to cooperate in salvaging his priesthood and his reputation.

With my gratitude for your assistance in this most difficult matter, I remain,

Sincerely in Christ,

Archbishop of Boston

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