

Birmingham
Revised - cont.
12/17/93

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Fr. John McCormack
FROM: Fr. Kevin Deeley
RE: Fr. Joseph Birmingham
DATE: December 9, 1993

A forty-one year old man called today to inform us that he had been sexually abused by Fr. Joseph Birmingham. This abuse that he describes occurred while he was in the 7th and 8th grade at St. James School in Salem. He describes this abuse as happening in the Rectory, his own home, Fr. Birmingham's parents home, and an attempt on a group trip in Montreal. At one point, he alleges that Fr. Birmingham forced oral sex on him and then wanted the boy to do the same for him. It was at that point that the boy refused and never went near him again. He describes Fr. Birmingham as pursuing him during his high school years but he never responded.

The man has held this in and never told anyone until he shared it with a friend about three years ago. He recently told his wife. He is not sure what effect this has had on him.

He describes himself as a successful professional who is involved also as a civic leader.

He called in response to the article and invitation in the Globe today. He is not sure if he wishes to pursue this.

I offered him the opportunity to meet with him and suggested that we would be willing to assist him with counseling.

KJD:tt