

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Fr. Flatley  
FROM: Sister Rita McCarthy  
DATE: January 23, 1995  
RE: Rev. Joseph Birmingham

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An old case is surfacing again regarding Fr. Birmingham which dates back to 1968-1972 at St. James in Salem. The case first came to our attention October 13, 1992. Sister Grace Kenney called the Chancery and spoke with Sister Catherine regarding a call she had from a "Globe" reporter. The report is attached.

Sister Grace recalls that possibly eight altar boys were involved. She recently received a call from one of the parents from St. James. Her son ( ) was on from . At that time he spoke with his cousin who revealed that he is gay and that he, too, was molested by Fr. Birmingham. He mentioned other men who make the same claim; namely, and of , and . It seems that they have all been communicating regarding this problem. Sister Grace thought we should know.

Only three people are alive who know about this: Fr. John Jennings, Dr. Arthur Cavanaugh of Salem, and Sister Grace. Sister can be reached at St. Mary's Beverly. Her telephone numbers are:

School: 508-927-3259

Home: 508-927-4649  
508-927-4819

**GT REDACTION**