

CONFIDENTIAL REPORT

TO: Rev. John B. McCormack ✓  
FROM: Sr. Catherine E. Mulkerrin  
RE: Interview with [REDACTED]  
regarding Fr. Robert Meffan  
DATE: February 19, 1993

February 9, 1993 - [REDACTED] a former Sister of St. Joseph kept an appointment with CEM in order to describe her relationship with Fr. Meffan when she was a parishioner and student at Sacred Heart, Weymouth and Fr. Meffan was stationed there.

In her sophomore or junior year when she was 15-16 years old, [REDACTED] joined CYO and other clubs at Sacred Heart, because she wanted the girls there as friends. As she recalls now, of the 5 or 6 in special relationship with Fr. Meffan, there was something wrong at home. In her own case both parents were alcoholic.

Fr. Meffan's message was based on the bride and bridegroom scripture image which he claimed was "not metaphorical, but meant to be literal and for some special reason he had the vision (about that)" ahead of others.

[REDACTED] said that "he made me feel special, smart . . ." He spoke of a special relationship (of her and the others) with Christ, the soul of Christ. He did not go as far as intercourse because that was the after-life. She said that his touching (while she was on his lap) was encouragement also to masturbate mentally and if "one managed to have contractions, he could get real off". This went on for three years of high school and her postulancy. He "did anything" short of intercourse. The girls met with him in his rectory office, which [REDACTED] recalls the other priests jokingly calling "his tank"; he also had the young women at a cottage down the Cape- seeing them one at a time. Fr. Meffan monitored them, e.g. clothing - no slacks; and after the 7:00 A.M. Mass (daily) each would go into the vestry one at a time. When asked what each girl knew about the other, [REDACTED] said, "We all knew there was no intercourse" and there was some kind of competitiveness among them. At the same time lots of people had bad feelings about Fr. Meffan, including [REDACTED] mother who saw a book about the stigmata which Father Meffan had given to [REDACTED]

When [REDACTED] as a postulant told Fr. Meffan she did not wish to visit with him, his reply was, "I knew I moved too fast with you", also "you were always a cynic, a skeptic. In Framingham [REDACTED] recalled a time of feeling absolutely crazy, spacy (postulant).

As a kid she felt that Father Meffan has a very strong, personal

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kind of power. She wanted to please him, was not in love with him, but somebody was paying attention to her.

[REDACTED] says that Father Meffan continued to see others in their novitiates - Springfield, SCH's, 2 others in CSJ's - He told them, this (what he was doing) is a religious vocation.

CEM:tt