



Brothers of Mercy of Montabaur
4520 Ransom Road
Clarence, NY 14031

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CF. PAGE TWO OF LETTER FOR
FOLLOW-UP BY BISHOP GROSZ

DIOCESE OF BUFFALO

October 14, 2013

Most Reverend Richard J. Malone, Th.D.
Diocese of Buffalo
795 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14203

Dear Bishop Malone:

With all of your many problems, I am sorry to bring another one to you. As you may know, we are the Brothers of Mercy which operates a Health Care Facility in Clarence.

Our problem is regarding our Chaplain, Father Art Smith, who was appointed as noted in your letter of November 20, 2012. Unfortunately I have been given two complaints concerning him during the last month. I am writing this letter because it is important that you are aware of this information.

The complaints are:

A young man (age 19), employed in one of our dietary departments, reported to the administrator that there were some inappropriate remarks and touching. However, the young man did not want the administrator to say anything to Father. He said he wanted to talk to him first.

A novice brother (age 25), asked for permission to attend Mass in the village, because of touching by Father Art. Brother took care of the sacristy after Mass and was in the sacristy with Father alone. The novice in question is not in any way unreliable or exaggerating the situation. I do not believe that the touching was sexual in nature, meaning, I do not believe that the private parts of the body were involved. The touching was only inappropriate. It is rather difficult for me to ask for details from the people involved.

Since Father John Sardina (our chaplain for many years) had to retire due to age and failing health, Monsignor LiPuma asked me if we would consider Father Art to act as our chaplain. At that time, Monsignor gave me a little of Father Art's background.