

5/01/02

T/C with [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Re: Father Michael Pecharich

She has filed a police report but she just wanted us to know about what happened.

20 years ago, around 1980-81. She was about 17 years old and at a High School retreat from San Antonio de Padua parish.

She and her girlfriends were helping Fr. Michael with a youth retreat. The parish was new. She and her family had moved to San Antonio from St. Norbert's. Fr. Michael asked a core group of teens to help plan the retreat. Fr. Seamus was the pastor. The planning meetings were held at the rectory. There were no problems during the planning sessions. Fr. Michael acted appropriately.

[REDACTED] reported that Fr. Michael acted inappropriately during the retreat toward her and others of the high school girls who were part of the team.

She stated that one morning, while she was at the breakfast buffet looking at the muffin assortment, Fr. Michael came up behind her, placed his hands under her arms and started massaging her, brushed her breasts and then squeezed her "behind". He made comments about her figure and told her she wouldn't be able to keep her figure if she ate the muffins. She noted her observations of this same conduct directed to other girls.

During the retreat, when all of the retreatants were seated on the floor, she observed Fr. Michael place his stockinged foot in between the legs of another high school girl and wiggle his toes. Others observed this and were shocked.

She knows other adults were present, but she couldn't remember whom. There were also members of the young adult group there.

[REDACTED] explained that this behavior bothered her but that her real problems stem from being molested by her uncle when she was 11 years old. Three years later her mother referred her to a psychologist. I asked if, at the time she reported the Pecharich incident to the police, she had reported the molestation by her uncle since the statute of limitations has

50700115

been extended. She stated she told that agency about it but it had to be reported in another jurisdiction. She hasn't reported yet although she wants to and is trying to get up the courage to do so. I told her about the Victims Witness Assistance available to her when she reported this to the police. We talked a lot about reporting and she agreed that she would do that.

[REDACTED] then described an incident that occurred about three weeks prior to our telephone conversation. One year ago the HOPE GROUP out of the Mission San Juan Capistrano parish was helping her. HOPE is a group of lay parishioners who help out struggling single moms. According to [REDACTED] San Juan parishioners [REDACTED] lead it.

At one time last year, [REDACTED] (who is gainfully employed now) was out of work and she and her child needed a place to stay. Through HOPE, [REDACTED] lived with the [REDACTED] until she could find employment and afford her own place to live.

She eventually moved out into her current home. The [REDACTED] helped her moved there. About three weeks ago on a Saturday night, [REDACTED] was home alone. She heard a pounding on the door and thought it might be her parents who were staying with her at the time. She went to the window and saw that [REDACTED] was pounding on her door. She thought it was inappropriate for him to come to visit at that time so she didn't answer the door. She said that [REDACTED] then tried the doorknob in a persistent manner. She next heard him at the window trying to open to it.

At that time, she called her brother who told her to call 911, which she did. She did not report that she knew the would be intruder. By the time law enforcement arrived, [REDACTED] had left. She met with the police but still did not tell them she knew the person trying to get into her home.

After the police left she called her sister who advised her to call the police back and report it was [REDACTED] which she did. Apparently [REDACTED] tried to call her that night as well, because she mentioned she had his telephone number on her "Caller ID".

[REDACTED] later called another couple she knew from the HOPE group and learned that [REDACTED] had been out of town that night. When [REDACTED] returned, [REDACTED] called her and told her about her husband's attempts. Apparently [REDACTED] admitted he tried to visit [REDACTED]

50700116

I asked [REDACTED] if she had met with the pastor at Mission San Juan, but she had not. I asked her what became of the police report, but she didn't know. I advised her to meet with Msgr. Martin about the [REDACTED] episode.

I asked what we could do for [REDACTED]. She said she was going to report her uncle to the police because that was her real problem at this time. I invited her to call back should she think of anything we could do for her.

50700117