

MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON March 31, 2010, at 2 p.m.

Present: Rev. Khanh Hoang, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] spoke first. She said that about two weeks ago during her first conversation with Father Acklin he brushed her hair out of her face. She then went on to say that this past Sunday at the potluck after Mass Father Acklin came over to the table where she was sitting and nursing her baby and started to rub on her arm. She stated that Father Acklin is too touchy and that he bothers her. [REDACTED] also mentioned that each time when she has received Holy Communion from him that he places his finger on her tongue and applies pressure. She stated that this bothers her quite a bit. At this point [REDACTED] stated that Father Acklin had done the same thing to her and another woman. [REDACTED] stated that this was addressed at the monthly board meeting of the Latin Mass Group and Father was asked to speak with either Father Keahi or Father Nakagawa for tips on distributing Holy Communion. [REDACTED] mentioned that since the board meeting Father Acklin has not touched her tongue.

[REDACTED] then went on to say that Father Acklin has violated the women's personal space and that he should know better as he is a psychotherapist working with abuse cases. [REDACTED] also stated that his violations of their personal space is not being done in a sexual manner but in a domineering manner. She mentioned that from the beginning there were problems between her and Father Acklin. [REDACTED] related how she had contacted his order in Pennsylvania after hearing that he was to be the priest for the Latin Mass Group; how she spoke with three priests of his order and one of the priest's surprise on hearing that Father Acklin was working as a parochial vicar for a parish in Honolulu; how the priests were expecting Father Acklin to return by summer; and how when she asked why Father Acklin had left the Benedictines none of the three would give her an answer. [REDACTED] did state that she did not discover anything negative about Father Acklin and that she told Father Acklin at the first board meeting that she had called his order to ask about him. [REDACTED] said that Father Acklin was very upset about her calling. He stated that we did not trust him. [REDACTED] explained to Father Acklin that we did not know him; that we were concerned as Hawaii in the past has been the dumping grounds for problem priests; and that we wanted to safeguard the members of our group especially since we have a large number of children at our Masses.

Father Hoang said that all priests have to have a letter of suitability before they can work in this diocese. Father Hoang also said that only the bishop would have known about Father Acklin's remaining in Hawaii. He also stated that the abbot has given Father Acklin permission to work here.

[REDACTED] then spoke. She said that when she first met Father Acklin she shook hands with him and noticed that he held on to her hand longer than was necessary. She dismissed the incident; however, at Sunday's potluck while she was seated at a table conversing with three other persons, Father Acklin approached her from behind and started to firmly massage her back. She attempted to move away from his hand by drawing closer to the table. However, this was ineffective. She finally looked up at him, and he then transferred his hand to the gentleman seated next to her. [REDACTED] stated that Father Acklin did not rub the gentleman's back in the same manner. She stated that she was very disturbed by this incident and called her mother when she returned home. She also said that she had decided to leave the Latin Mass.

[REDACTED] then related her situation. She said that at the Sunday potluck she asked Father Acklin if she could get a plate of food for him. Father then took her hand and said, "How are you doing?" She told him that she was doing fine. [REDACTED] said that Father Acklin would not let go of her hand. She felt that it was a control issue on his part. [REDACTED] stated that at the last board meeting she told Father Acklin that he seemed antagonistic towards her. He stated that she doesn't trust him. He also brought up the fact that she called his monastery asking about him.

[REDACTED] said that she invited her friend who attends the SSPX to our Mass. Her friend came and went to confession with Father Acklin. The friend told Father Acklin that she only attends Mass once a month at the SSPX. Father Acklin told her that the group is in schism. [REDACTED]'s friend countered with the fact that the group is not schismatic and that the Holy Father has lifted the excommunications from the bishops. At this

point Father Acklin escorted [REDACTED]'s friend from the confessional and presented her to Father Moreau saying that she didn't trust him wasn't listening to him.

After Mass on the following Saturday, [REDACTED] sat outside and was joined by Father Acklin who sat next to her and placed his arm around her shoulders. At this point [REDACTED] saw some friends of hers from the parish and got up to speak with them. After speaking with them, she sat back down, and Father once more placed his arm around her shoulders. Some other persons came by, and one of them said, "There's Father and his partner." [REDACTED] responded, "Don't say that; that's how rumors get started."

At the next board meeting Father Acklin stated that he doesn't need anything more regarding the SSPX.

[REDACTED] also brought up the fact that Father Acklin wears rubber slippers while saying Mass. She mentioned that this issue was discussed with Father at the board meeting (in a pleasant manner) and that the board offered to purchase him either dress shoes or sandals. Father Acklin stated that money was not an issue, and towards the end of the meeting he stated that he would probably continue to wear slippers since we had asked him not to do so.

[REDACTED] called [REDACTED] last Sunday evening and related the potluck incident to her. [REDACTED] then informed [REDACTED] about her sister [REDACTED]'s experience. The next day [REDACTED] contacted [REDACTED] (Father Moreau had asked [REDACTED] to obtain Father Acklin's head measurement as he wanted to purchase him a biretta) to obtain the measurement as she is a seamstress. [REDACTED] explained to [REDACTED] that she was not comfortable around Father Acklin and why that was so. [REDACTED] then related to [REDACTED] what had happened to her at the potluck. [REDACTED] then informed [REDACTED] about [REDACTED]'s experience. At this point, the four women decided that Bishop Silva needed to be informed.

[REDACTED] also stated that we (the Latin Mass Group) do not want Father Acklin as our chaplain and that we want him gone very soon.

Father Hoang told us that he has a meeting with Bishop Silva tomorrow and that he will inform him about all of this.

[REDACTED] also stated that we do not want any harassment from Father Acklin and that we do not want our names released to anyone.

Father Hoang assured us that our names would not be released.

[REDACTED] said that she has spoken with her husband, [REDACTED] currently [REDACTED], and that her husband stated that [REDACTED] one cannot touch someone as Father Acklin has done. [REDACTED] stated that there was a lack of respect given to them by Father Acklin. Father Hoang stated that even in the seminary priests are trained how to and how not to touch others.

[REDACTED] said that she spoke with a psychiatrist and was told that her situation was a control issue.

[REDACTED] said that she has children and doesn't want anything to happen to them. Father Hoang said that one has to be careful. [REDACTED] stated that we don't want to be afraid of our pastor.

[REDACTED] then mentioned that at the board meeting Father Acklin was asked about his remaining in Hawaii past June. Father Acklin said that there is a 75 percent probability that he will stay. Father Hoang then stated that he cannot answer whether Father Acklin will be here any longer.

[REDACTED] then restated that we do not want Father Acklin here anymore as he has lost our trust. She further said that all three of them ([REDACTED], [REDACTED], and herself) attend Mass without husbands. She then requested a response from Bishop Silva regarding this situation.