

July 13, 2022

The Most Reverend Timothy L. Doherty
Bishop, Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana
P.O. Box 260
Lafayette, IN 47902-0260

Your Excellency,

I received your voicemail yesterday, commenting on the “Support Fr. DeOreo” video we posted on the Corpus Christi for Unity and Peace YouTube channel.

Thank you for pointing out that “Fr. DeOreo has been on full salary and full insurance since the day he was suspended.” I made a note of this for viewers.

Fr. DeOreo has now been suspended for nearly four months from priestly ministry. Perhaps you can shed some light on whether you and the Diocese of Lafayette, IN investigated the allegations for which Fr. DeOreo was suspended. I am aware you investigated the initial claim made by the claimant and found no support for it and dismissed it. So, what investigation and facts were uncovered to justify Fr. DeOreo’s suspension? Do you have any actual evidence of any wrongdoing by your priest, Fr. DeOreo?

Perhaps you can also help clarify my understanding on why the claimant did not complain until:

After he was rejected from the seminary?

Only after issuing a letter complimenting Fr. DeOreo?

After turning 18 years of age?

AND after receiving the suggestion from his therapist?

I understand this is a very challenging time for you with the family taking the matter outside of the Church. I am sure you have already reasoned in your prudence, your Excellency, returning Fr. DeOreo to active ministry will convey to Catholics and non-Catholics alike that the public domain and civil courts do not dictate ecclesiastical policy. We pray for your strength in making such a decision expediently.

The Church benefits the most from returning Fr. DeOreo to his priestly ministry. Countless souls will be brought closer to Christ as a result.

I await your response.

Praying and hoping,

Vicki Yamasaki
Founder & Chair,
Corpus Christi for Unity and Peace