

## MEMO

TO: Archbishop Flynn, Andy Eisenzimmer  
FROM: Fr. Kevin McDonough  
DATE: February 3, 2006  
RE: More Information about Father Michael Keating

I spoke on Friday morning, February 3, with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is a consecrated virgin living in (I believe) Michigan. Her phone numbers are: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I had received her name from [REDACTED] with whom she had spoken about her concerns about Father Keating over the years.

Here is an important "bottom line" to the conversation: Ms. [REDACTED] is absolutely certain that she has never heard of any young woman under the age of eighteen with whom Michael Keating, before or after ordination, committed a sexual act. Furthermore, she is fairly certain that he never engaged in romantic conversation, explicitly solicited a special or romantic relationship, or otherwise overstepped that sort of boundary with a young person. This is important to note, because there has been some question about whether [REDACTED] had information about a sexual relationship between Father Keating (before ordination) with a minor. She clearly indicated to me that that was not so.

On the other hand, she expressed a great deal of concern about a longstanding pattern of behavior that she knows to have influenced several women, including herself. I proposed to her the phrase "inattentive seductiveness" and she said that she thought that was very accurate. She believes that, for his own reasons of emotional need, Michael Keating likes to have women in his life to whom he can pay a good deal of attention and who will pay attention to him. He engages them in long conversations, provides little gifts, sends e-mails. This sort of behavior has come across to at least four or five women whom she knows as something "special" or "romantic." She confronted him about this, including providing him with a carefully reasoned letter. She is willing to provide us with a copy of the letter if that is useful. When confronted, Michael Keating tends to put the misunderstanding on the woman rather than on himself, and expresses surprise that he could be so misunderstood. She believes, by the way, that Keating does not have explicit sexual or even romantic intensions with women. Rather, he has unaddressed emotional needs that are expressed "sideways" through such relationships. By the way, the pattern also appears to be this: that once he tires of the relationship, he absolutely drops communication with the person.

It should be noted for the record that she is aware of one woman with whom Michael had some romantic contact. At the time it happened, he was in his thirties and she was well into her twenties. He had first known this young woman when he stayed with her family in Costa Rica. They continued to communicate intensely, although not romantically, for years. He went to Costa Rica for some other business years after having stayed with the



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family and called the by-then-adult woman and had dinner with her. This woman has told [REDACTED] that they held hands and kissed, on one occasion. This happened before Michael Keating was even in the seminary, and I would tend to view this tentative dating behavior. There is certainly nothing illegal about it, and it would be difficult to view it even as immoral. Nonetheless, the young woman from Costa Rica was left feeling that she had been an emotional crutch in Michael's life and nothing more. She still, many years later, carries some emotional bruising from the experience.

In an earlier memo I suggested to you that there were several possibilities, based on the information that we had up to that point. The possibilities ranged from predatorial sexual advances on women, above and below eighteen years of age, on the one hand, to a pattern of irresponsible emotional involvements which involved nothing explicitly sexual, on the other. My conversation with [REDACTED] clearly would support the latter end of that spectrum and would clearly contradict the former.

As you know, I am leaving for vacation as I am preparing this memorandum. Andy Eisenzimmer is making contact with the appropriate officials in Chisago County. They will choose to investigate or not the contact between [REDACTED] and Michael. We are also still trying to find out the identity and some contact information for a young woman from Italy. I mentioned her, I believe, in the earlier memo. My suspicion is that we will find something very much like what [REDACTED] describes. That is, the Italian young woman, [REDACTED], will prove to have been another of his emotional, but non-sexual, involvements.

If we are successful in finding contact information, then we should see what we can do to find out from [REDACTED] what she thinks of all of this. I have spoken to Father Joseph Johnson, who also speaks Italian, and asked him to assist Andy if that is necessary in communicating with her.

I have left some contact information, and if you wish to discuss this while I am on vacation, I will make some time to be in touch by telephone. Otherwise, I think you know everything that I do and I would hardly object if the two of you were to resolve this matter without my further involvement? Let me know what you need from me.