

Saint Brendan Parish

384 Hartford Avenue

Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019

Tel. 508-966-0260; Fax. 508-966-4404

Personal and Confidential to the Archbishop

September 29, 2003

Most Rev. Sean O'Malley, OFM Cap.
Archdiocese of Boston
2101 Commonwealth Avenue
Brighton, Massachusetts 02135

Your Excellency,

I am most distressed that you have decided to imposed the evil TAT program on the parishes of the Archdiocese. We have learned nothing from the clergy abuse crisis: pastors are still ignored, parents' rights are ignored, the innocence of children is tossed aside, and arrogant chancery officials are still convinced that by shuffling a few papers and giving a few orders all will be well. And of course, we refuse to think like Catholics. Over three months ago I wrote a letter to Bishop Lennon, with copies to all the other auxiliaries, regarding the various objections I have to this program. It was not even acknowledged. I have included a copy of this letter for your eyes.

You have a moral responsibility to protect the people of this Archdiocese from the crudities and the a-morality of TAT. You must stand in the door of the sheepfold and not let the wolves in. That will truly be protecting God's children.

As a priest and pastor I am a spiritual father to the people in this parish and I will not betray them by allowing into this parish something that more properly belongs in the local Unitarian Church. Nor will I scar the psyches and emotions of little children. Nor will I rebel against the prescriptions given by the various dicasteries of the Holy See regarding parental rights and the need to respect the latency period of children. Nor will I throw common sense aside and devote precious catechetical time to a "safety" program. This parish will have nothing to do with the TAT program.

Saint Brendan Parish

“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea.” (Mark IX:42)

Obediently yours,

Rev. David J. Mullen

Pastor

*cc: Most Rev. Richard G. Lennon
Most Rev. Walter J. Edyvean
Most Rev. Francis X. Irwin
Most Rev. John P. Boles
Most Rev. Emilio S. Allue
Most Rev. Richard J. Malone
Rev. Msgr. Francis V. Strahan
Rev. Mr. Anthony Rizzuto*