

Ss. Peter & Paul Roman Catholic Mission

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March 25, 2015
+Feast of the Annunciation

Cardinal Beniamino Stella
Prefect Congregation for the Clergy
Palazzo delle Congregazioni, 00193
Roma, Piazza Pio XII, 3, ITALY

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Dear Cardinal Stella,

- 1) I have been informed by a publication in the diocesan paper of Harrisburg, PA that I have been "*Laicized*" through the office of Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia.
- 2) I am currently functioning as a priest and I have not abandoned the clerical state. If Archbishop Chaput has claimed that I have abandoned the clerical state and that I have not functioned as a priest for the last five years, he is lying. My letters exchanges with Archbishop Chaput and the diocese of Philadelphia are posted on the Mission web page:
http://www.saintspeterandpaulrcm.com/open_letters_WATERS_SULLIVAN_CHAPUT.htm
- 3) I am and have always, as a priest, lived a celibate life. If Archbishop Chaput has claimed that I have not lived a celibate life, he is lying.
- 4) If Archbishop Chaput claims that with regard to me he has the necessary **"moral certainty regarding the irreversible abandonment from ministry on the part of the cleric,"** he is lying. It is impossible to have written such letter to Archbishop Chaput and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and to have embraced an **"irreversible abandonment from ministry."**
- 5) I notified Archbishop Chaput in a certified letter of my appeal to the Holy Father through the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith to address specific matters that I hold to be necessary attributes of the Faith. I told Archbishop Chaput that I did not want and would oppose any effort on his part to impose against my will a state of *Laicization*.
- 6) I have committed no notorious sin or given any public scandal whatsoever with regard to the Roman Catholic priesthood unless wearing a cassock is considered a "scandal" by Archbishop Chaput. On the contrary I have always tried my best in obedience first and foremost to the Catholic Faith to represent the dignity of the clerical state and set a public example of virtue in all my relationships.
- 7) Canon law affirms that I have a right to a definitive judgment from the Holy Father on questions that pertain to the Faith. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has refused to address these questions of Faith or help facilitate an appeal to Rome for a definitive judgment. Archbishop Chaput has refused

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to wait for a definitive judgment before proceeding with a non-judicial bureaucratic process of *Laicization* denying my canonical rights as a Catholic priest.

8) I have been offered no canonical due process in this procedure. **None whatsoever!** Homosexual priests in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia guilty of pederasty whose scandalous criminal behavior have cost the diocese millions of dollars are afforded canonical due process while Archbishop Chaput, in contempt for the virtue of Justice, has denied this basic right to me.

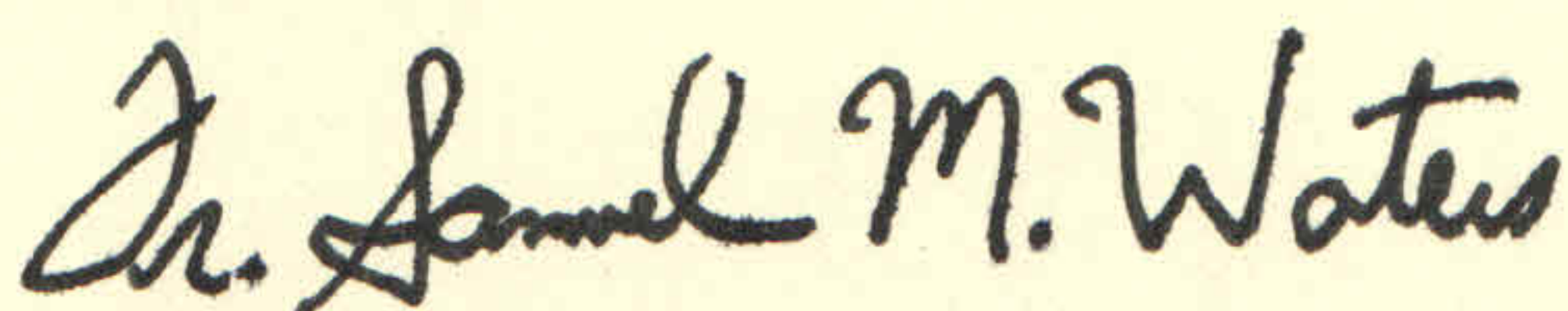
9) I am being punished by Archbishop Chaput because I profess and practice the Catholic faith integrally and I offend him because he does not. A letter from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia specifically says that my offering of the "received and approved" immemorial rite of Mass is considered a sign of "schism" and therefore a reason given by Archbishop Chaput to request non-canonical *Laicization*. St. Pius V said in *Quo Primum* that "...this missal is hereafter to be followed absolutely, without any scruple of conscience or fear of incurring any penalty, judgment or censure, and may freely and lawfully be used." *Laicization* is a punitive measure employed by Chaput against the clear and irrevocable right recognized by St. Pius V.

In this matter Archbishop Chaput has behaved in an unjust and cowardly manner. He is clearly afraid of me and he is afraid to address the questions that I have asked. This is nothing more than an underhanded act to publicly call into question the validity of my Novus Ordo ordination which increasingly regards the priesthood as a job rather than a vocation.

I respectfully demand that my canonical rights that I have been denied by Archbishop Chaput be recognized. I demand that I be granted a full canonical hearing before a state of *Laicization* is imposed against my will. I further demand that this canonical hearing take place after, and only after, the Holy Father through the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has rendered a definitive judgment on the questions of Faith that I have presented to him.

Archbishop Chaput is an effeminate cleric who is unable to directly and manfully address legitimate concerns of conscience regarding matters of the Catholic faith that I hold to be necessary attributes of the faith. Every Catholic has a right to a definitive answer to questions of faith but especially a Catholic priest. But what should be expected from a prelate like Archbishop Chaput who balances the books of a bankrupt diocese on the backs of the dead and dying by selling Catholics cemeteries and nursing homes to for-profit corporations.

Respectfully,



Rev. Samuel Waters

Pastor

Ss. Peter & Paul Roman Catholic Mission

cc: Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller , Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Archbishop Charles Chaput