

Archdiocese of Detroit Presbyteral Council

1234 Washington Blvd.
Detroit, Mi. 48226

April 18, 2006

Rev. Tom Lumpkin
2640 Trumbell
Detroit, MI 48216

Dr. Fr. Lumpkin,

I write to you on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Presbyteral Council to respond to your February 9, 2006 letter.

Your February letter indicated that you and Fr. Gerry Bechard wrote with the consent of the executive board of the Elephants in the Living Room. As I wrote to you in my letter dated November 7, 2005, the Presbyteral Council concerns itself with priest issues responding priest to priest, and does not respond to particular interest groups. With that said, however, the Executive Committee understands your concern.

There are two aspects of your letter that the Executive Committee thought it important to address. First, while it is true that financial discussions have taken place under executive session, the Cardinal has explained his reasoning for this practice and there is no attempt at “guardedness and secrecy”, to use your words. Secondly, the questions raised in your and Fr. Bechard’s letter of February 9th are not pertinent to the work of the Presbyteral Council.

The Executive Committee, however, dos offer the following recommendations with the hope of continuing dialogue with brother priests. First, with regard to issues of pedophilia, the Executive Committee directs the Elephants to the John Jay Study. With regard to the financial issues raised, it is recommended that questions and concerns be presented in writing directly to the Cardinal.

Respectfully yours

Bill Tindall

Rev. William H. Tindall

cc. Monsignor John Zenz, Moderator of the Curia
Monsignor Robert McClory, Chancellor
Monsignor Michael LeFevre, Office of Clergy Life
Rev. J.J. Mech
Rev. Sean Sylvester
Rev. Gerry Bechard