

Method of running the Home.

The overriding philosophy of the Home is that it should provide security, stability and build up a spirit of trust and the members of staff are committed to fostering these qualities. Rules are kept to a minimum but those that exist are for the well-being and protection of the children and these are discussed with them when they come into care. Where any infringements occur, sanctions relevant to the misdemeanour are imposed. At all times the children are encouraged to be responsible and great stress is given to helping them to develop a healthy respect for themselves and for others both within the residential setting and in the wider community.

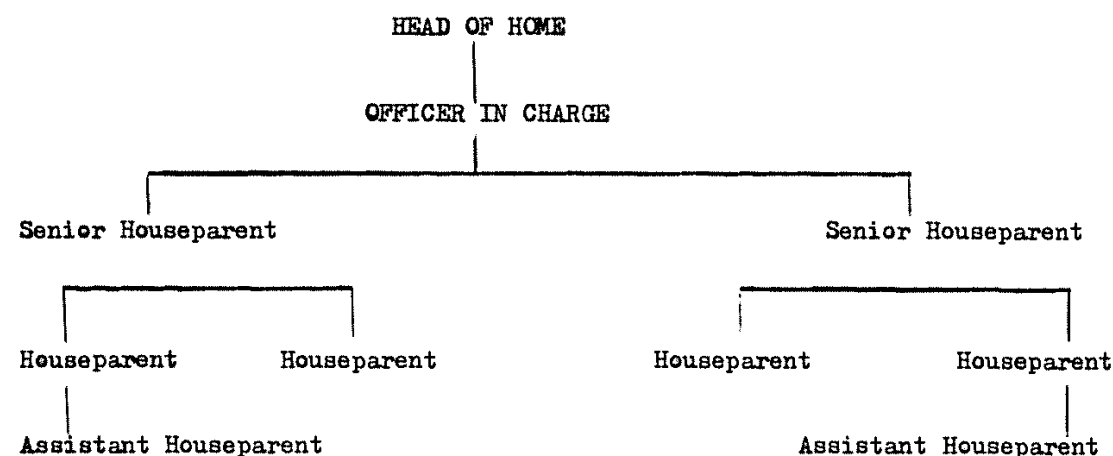
3. Description of facilities.

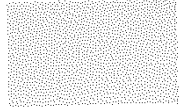
There are two units, each comprising a living room, dining room, single and double rooms, visitors room, bathrooms. All the rooms are tastefully decorated, the walls papered and carpeted throughout. There is a large playground available for the children, together with a playing field and an all - weather pitch. The Home is also situated within easy distance of the town-centre and other local facilities such as swimming baths and the leisure centre.

## 4. a) Head of Home:

SR 1

D. O. B.

b) STAFFING STRUCTURE:-CARING STAFF



## ***Details of Sisters who worked with Children in St Joseph's Termonbacca, Derry***

**Religious Name:**

SR 3

**Birth Name:**

SR 3

**Contact:**

Nazareth House, Dublin Malahide Rd., Dublin 3.

---

**Religious Name:**

SR 2

**Birth Name:**

SR 2

**Contact:**

Currently living in the Nursing Section of Nazareth  
Care Village, Belfast

---

**Religious Name:**

SR 1

**Birth Name:**

SR 1

**Contact:**

Deceased

Died in Plymouth

---

105

1961

Yermombacca

SR 13

Superior Farm Chapel

SR 11

Councillor Childrens

SR 16

Invalid

SR 94

Linen Room

SR 38

BussarNursery

SR 8

Kitchen

SR 3

Boys

8

SR 95

Nursery

SR 1

BussarChildren

1970

TERMONBACCA

SR 1

SR 2

SR 8

SR 3

Superior

L. B. Group of Boys

Laundry Group of Boys

Bursar Caterer's Farm

Nursery

102

1983

Derry

14

1

SR 1

*Superior*

2

*1st L.B. Residents*

3

SR 59

*2nd L.B. School Principal*

4

*Lincoln Room*

5

CD 127

*Parlours*

6

*Retired*

7

*Retired*

8

*Retired*

9

*Convalescent*

10

*Book*

11

*Collecting*

12

*Collecting*

13

*Caterer, Bursar*

14

SR 18

*School*

15

*Residents*

16

SR 19

*School*

1 160

1984

Derry

SR 1

Superior

2

1st b. Ben

3

SR 59

2nd b. School Principal

4

Linen Room

5

CD 127

Parlours

6

Retired

7

"

8

"

9

Bark

10

collecting

11

"

12

baterer

13

SR 18

School. Bursar

14

Residents

15

SR 19

School



HIA REF:

Witness Name: [REDACTED] SR 2

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF [REDACTED] SR 2

1. I am preparing the statement on the request of the Inquiry and in response to a number of allegations which have been made against me.
2. I was born [REDACTED] Glenerough, Co.Limerick on [REDACTED] am the middle child of five and had three brothers and one sister. My mother died when I was very young and my father was left with five children. My grandmother had a large country house where my aunt who was married and had three children lived there with my grandmother. My grandmother invited my father and the five children to her home. My father continued to care for us with the help of my aunt. My aunt was like a mother figure to us all and helped my father take care of us along with her own three children.
3. I was professed in 1957 and I took the name of [REDACTED] SR 2 /hen I was first professed I went to Manchester where I worked with a group of boys and then I spent some time in Birmingham and Southsea.
4. I came to Termonbacca in October 1962 as an assistant house parent. I stayed there until 1978 when I was sent to Birmingham. Here I worked with a group of young boys who had particular needs. I came back to Northern Ireland and spent time in both Nazareth House Ormeau Road and Nazareth Lodge on the Ravenhill Road. In Nazareth Lodge on the Ravenhill Road I came there to work with mainly teenage boys and girls, some of whom were sexually abused and had been addicted to drugs and or solvent abuse. With my past training I was in a better position to deal with these young people to help them open up and tell their story.
5. As a result I was approached by a senior Social Worker to open a unit for sexually abused children and young people. I did not think this was a good idea as I felt that this would stigmatise the children and young people further. They needed individual help in a specialised unit. Looking back now my experience at this time could have helped me in my earlier work in Termonbacca to diagnose and help those young boys to express themselves and open up and tell their story which could prevented much damage that they now expressing.
6. I then went to Liverpool where I undertook a certificate in Social Work and then returned to Derry where I worked in Bishop Street from 1988-1999. During my time in Bishop Street, I was approached the Department to provide funding for social work qualifications and also it was at this period too that Social services upgraded funding for the children's income support for their needs and also proper wages for our staff.

Yermontacca. 1962

Superior Parlours

1st L.C.

Nursery

Invalid

SR 16

R. J. P.

SR 94

Church, Linen Room

looks after Invalid Sisters

SR 1

Bursar

Boys

SR 8

Boys Workrooms, Laundry

Kitchen

SR 2

Boys, Laundry



1978

Termonbacca

SR 2

SR 27

SR 14

Superior

Ch. Pauline L.C.

Children, Bussan

laterer

IN SERVICE STUDY SCHEME

at

LONDONDERRY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

September 1977 \*\*\*\* to \*\*\*\* June 1978

HISTORY OF ST. JOSEPH'S HOME, TERMONBACCA

BY

SND 194

and

SR 52

May - June, 1978.



# Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work

The Mother Superior  
Nazareth House  
Bishop Street  
LONDONDERRY  
Northern Ireland

9 South St. David Street, Edinburgh EH2 2BY  
Telephone 031 556 2953 *✓ 27*

Ref E 5333/1 Date 28/10/76

*Please quote reference number in all correspondence*

Dear Mother Superior

## RE IN-SERVICE STUDY SCHEME FOR RESIDENTIAL & DAY CARE STAFF

I am writing to you in connection with plans to develop an In-Service Study Scheme for Residential and Day Care Staff from voluntary organisations and statutory agencies, to take place at the Londonderry College of Technology.

Details of the scheme are given in the enclosed pamphlet and you will see that it takes the form of day release, combined with supervision in the agencies in which staff are employed.

I understand that Nazareth House, St Joseph's Home, and the Convent of the Good Shepherd, make very significant contributions to the provision of residential care for children and the aged, and we would be delighted if it were possible for members of the Orders and staff that might be employed, to participate in the scheme.

I am writing to enquire whether it would be possible for me to call and see you, firstly, to discuss the scheme with you in order to amplify information contained in the pamphlet and to answer any queries you may have, and secondly, to learn from you of the degree of support you would be able to give the scheme. It may be of interest to you to know that Nazareth House at Lasswade, and the Convent of the Good Shepherd (including Lady Mary School), Edinburgh, have for a number of years supported the in-service study scheme based in the Moray House College of Education in Edinburgh.

If it were possible for me to call and see you, Mr Fitzpatrick, an Adviser in the Department of Health and Social Services in Northern Ireland, will also accompany me, and I wonder whether it will be convenient for us to call and see you on Wednesday 24th November 1976.

I will ask my secretary, [REDACTED] to telephone you to enquire whether this date is convenient, and if so, to arrange a suitable time.

It/

It might be of interest for you to know that [REDACTED] Principal Social Work Education Adviser in this office has arranged a meeting in the County Hall, Ballymena, with the voluntary organisations in Northern Ireland on Thursday afternoon, 18th November 1976. The meeting will also be attended by [REDACTED] an Assistant Director with the Council, and it is hoped that, in addition to exchanging views about the training needs of staff in Northern Ireland, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] will explain the Council's plans for the development of training provision, including the scheme for an alternative form of training, namely, the scheme for the Certificate in Social Service. Mrs Walker has asked me to say that she will be delighted if you will be able to attend, and perhaps you could let me know.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Social Work Education Adviser

Enc: Paper 2

HIA REF:

Witness Name: [REDACTED] SR 2

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF [REDACTED] SR 2

1. I am preparing the statement on the request of the Inquiry and in response to a number of allegations which have been made against me.
2. I was born [REDACTED] Glenerough, Co.Limerick on [REDACTED] am the middle child of five and had three brothers and one sister. My mother died when I was very young and my father was left with five children. My grandmother had a large country house where my aunt who was married and had three children lived there with my grandmother. My grandmother invited my father and the five children to her home. My father continued to care for us with the help of my aunt. My aunt was like a mother figure to us all and helped my father take care of us along with her own three children.
3. I was professed in 1957 and I took the name of [REDACTED] SR 2 /hen I was first professed I went to Manchester where I worked with a group of boys and then I spent some time in Birmingham and Southsea.
4. I came to Termonbacca in October 1962 as an assistant house parent. I stayed there until 1978 when I was sent to Birmingham. Here I worked with a group of young boys who had particular needs. I came back to Northern Ireland and spent time in both Nazareth House Ormeau Road and Nazareth Lodge on the Ravenhill Road. In Nazareth Lodge on the Ravenhill Road I came there to work with mainly teenage boys and girls, some of whom were sexually abused and had been addicted to drugs and or solvent abuse. With my past training I was in a better position to deal with these young people to help them open up and tell their story.
5. As a result I was approached by a senior Social Worker to open a unit for sexually abused children and young people. I did not think this was a good idea as I felt that this would stigmatise the children and young people further. They needed individual help in a specialised unit. Looking back now my experience at this time could have helped me in my earlier work in Termonbacca to diagnose and help those young boys to express themselves and open up and tell their story which could prevented much damage that they now expressing.
6. I then went to Liverpool where I undertook a certificate in Social Work and then returned to Derry where I worked in Bishop Street from 1988-1999. During my time in Bishop Street, I was approached the Department to provide funding for social work qualifications and also it was at this period too that Social services upgraded funding for the children's income support for their needs and also proper wages for our staff.

7. It was here that I continued to do further courses including receiving a certificate in counselling from the University of Ulster and other training. This helped me further gain an insight into the needs of children. When our children's Home in Derry Bishop Street closed the Superior General asked me would I go South Africa. I spent six years in Johannesburg in a Nazareth House, Webb Street. It was in South Africa that I opened a home for caring for AIDS babies, which was a very painful and stressful period in my life.
8. I recall Termonbacca very fondly. I do think of my time there a lot and I would say that it was an emotional time for me. When I first arrived in Termonbacca I had only recently taken my final vows and the day after I had taken those vows I was told that my father was in fact dying of cancer. This was just before I came to Termonbacca and therefore my arrival was one which was shrouded in competing emotions. I recall arriving one evening at around 7.00pm or 7.30pm and recall a corridor which was leading through the house. I remember going into the junior dormitory where the junior boys were all in their beds. I do recall being met by SND 24 and SND 65 SND 65 they gave me a bunch of flowers which were a bit dishevelled but the gift itself was very emotional for me.
9. I then went down to visit the older boys who were in their living room area which was a large spacious hall with a large table and only a few benches around the television area.
10. My first impression of them was happy open faces and very welcoming. I do remember the boys being quite big and some of them would have been aged up to seventeen years or so.
11. I know some of the boys would have left earlier than that, but when the boys finished school at that time there were no jobs so some of them would have stayed on in the house until they could find accommodation or a job. Some of them would have helped out around the farm or the house and would have remained on maybe for a bit longer.
12. I do recall sometimes that parents simply could not afford to keep the children at home and would have left them in the home until they were older. I recall one incident when a mother came to collect her son but when she found out that he was still in school she decided to leave him with us. The times were not good and people simply could not afford to feed everyone in their family. If a boy was old enough to work and could contribute to the family then the parents may well have brought them back into their home to try to boost the family. I do not say this in any negative way and I fully understand the difficulties faced by these parents.
13. I will try to deal with the various statements which have been provided to me by the Inquiry. I have looked at the various statements and there are certain themes which are repeated in some of the statements and I will deal with these as best I can. If I have made a point I will not necessarily repeat it on every occasion.

where the children would be getting up from bed in an emergency situation. He advised the Committee that such drills were carried out in Board Homes.

In relation to Paragraph 8.4 of the Report, [REDACTED] endorsed the recommendation for professional supervision of the heads of both Flats. He said this was especially relevant in situations where the Sisters were dealing with difficult children. He said that at present there was back-up support from Social Services by telephone but he felt that more direct support was essential. He felt that this requirement was obvious and he was not surprised that [REDACTED] had highlighted it.

[REDACTED] suggested that as the Committee had not sufficient time to read and digest the Report that it should be put on the agenda for the next meeting for more thorough discussion.

The meeting then passed on to consider the Reports from [REDACTED] SR 21 and [REDACTED] SR 2. The first report came from [REDACTED] SR 21 and she advised that she presently had eleven children in her unit. One of these children was to be discharged home the following day. One of the boys in her care was in the process of being introduced to foster parents each week-end and it was hoped that if this proved successful he would go out to them on a full time basis in August. One of the children had been Confirmed and another child was to make its First Communion at a Mass in the Irish Language. She also advised the meeting that one boy in her care had been suspended from School. She also advised the meeting that one of the girls in her care was causing serious problems in the Primary School which she was attending and that if she had been attending a Secondary School, her behaviour would not have been tolerated and would certainly have warranted either suspension or expulsion. In relation to staff, [REDACTED] SR 21 informed the meeting that [REDACTED] SR 21 and [REDACTED] SR 38 had almost completed their Open University Course and that she herself had almost finished a course on Sexual Abuse. A new member of staff was being taken on to cover for [REDACTED] SR 38 who had been accepted for C.S.S. A number of the rooms in her Unit were being altered and the work was progressing well. The children were excited about the prospect of having their own individual rooms.

[REDACTED] SR 2 then gave her report to the meeting. She advised that four of her staff had been absent on sick leave since Christmas but that [REDACTED] SR 21 had now returned to work. There had been an increase in the staff wages and this had gone down very well. The Social Services Department had asked [REDACTED] SR 2 to take on a student from May to August and she was quite happy to do so. In relation to the children in her care she advised the following :-

[REDACTED] she was preparing for 'O' level examinations and she had applied to several hospitals to train for nursing. As she was now 18 years of age, she would have to find a temporary job or register for Unemployment Benefit.

[REDACTED] she had undergone successful eye operation and was anxious to remain at School.

[REDACTED] he had been absent from the Home since the last meeting. He had gone to stay with his sister in Belfast and the Social Worker had agreed to let him stay there for two nights. [REDACTED] SR 2 was not happy with this situation. He continued to make good progress at School.

[REDACTED] she had struck [REDACTED] SR 2 since the last meeting. [REDACTED] SR 2



49

1995

FAHAN

SR 31

Superior

Residents / L.C.

Bursar

Arch

Kory / Collecting

ching

ching

Residents

Bursar / Bursar

Superior / Accounts

Bursar / L.C.

Bursar / Bursar

Arch / Comm. Rm.

ired

Collecting

Bursar

Residents / R.G.N.

DERRY

SR 1

Superior

Residents / L.C.

Bursar / Bursar

ired

d jobs

Children

cher

Children

Children

Superior

Residents / L.C.

Bursar / Principal / Public

Bursar / Bursar

A/c / Pensions

Arch / Collecting

Children

ching

Residents

ching

Nurse

SR 90

SR 2

HIA REF:

Witness Name: SR 3

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

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WITNESS STATEMENT OF SR 3

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1. I, SR 3, will say as follows –
2. This statement is provided by me in response to a request from the Inquiry and in response to the various complaints and allegations set out with that request.

**Personal Background**

3. I was born SR 3 in 1939 in Limerick. I was the second eldest of seven siblings although two twin brothers died very young and my eldest sister died in her early twenties.
4. I was professed in 1958 and took the name SR 3. I went to Termonbacca for two years, between 1958 and 1960. I then went to Bristol where I did my NNEB qualification as a nursery nurse and returned to Termonbacca about 1963..

**Time in Derry Generally**

5. I spent two periods in Termonbacca working with the older boys in the first period and then in the nursery unit in the second period.
6. The older boys unit was basically split into two groups. The juniors were aged about 7-11 and the seniors were about 12-16. The ages are approximate as I cannot remember exactly the age of the boys. In the time I spent with the older boys I remember there being two sisters in the older boys group. I was there for two years and remember Sr SR 37 (was only there for a very short time), SR 11 and SR 1. They have all died.

SND-5768

*Vermontacca 1958*

SR 13

*Harm*

SR 16

*Reflecting*

SR 11

*Children*

SR 94

*Linen room*

SR 10

*Children's  
work room*

SR 38

*Nursery*

SR 8

*Kitchen*

SR 3

*to the children*

3 37

*Yermombacca, 1960.*

SR 13

*Superior**Farm*

SR 11

*1st LC.**Boys*

SR 16

*Invalid*

SR 94

*Linen Room  
in Hospital*

SR 38

*Bursar**Nursery*

SR 8

*Kitchen*

SR 3

*Boys.**2*

105

1961

Yermombacca

SR 13

Superior Farm Chapel

SR 11

Councillor Childrens

SR 16

Invalid

SR 94

Linen Room

SR 38

BussarNursery

SR 8

Kitchen

SR 3

Boys

8

SR 95

Nursery

SR 1

BussarChildren

FEBRUARY 1965

4

1965

WEEK 7  
(41-324)

TERMONIBACCA

WEDNESDAY

10

1	SR 93	Superior	
2	SR 1	1st L.C.	Boys.
3	SR 94		linen room Church.
4			Invalid
5			Infirmary
6	SR 2		Work room Laundry.
7	SR 8	Bussar	Kitchen
8	SR 3		Nursery

MARCH | Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun | Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun | Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun | Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun | Mon Tue Wed

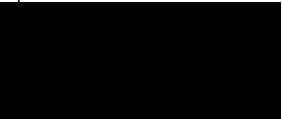
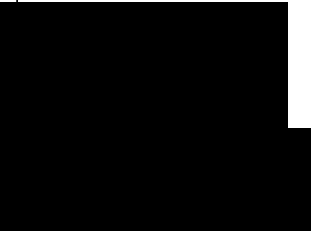
7. My recollection is that there were about 60 boys in total between the senior and junior sections. I do not recall there being any lay staff to help us at that time. There were two sisters for the 60 boys. I remember an elderly sister who did sewing and made and repaired clothes (I think her name was **SR 94** **SR 8** who worked in the kitchen) and **SR 13** the superior).
8. My second period in Termonbacca followed my training as a nursery nurse and I returned around 1963/1964. I am not sure exactly when I returned. In the nursery I looked after boys from newborn to about 5/6 years. Again I do not recall lay staff at the early part of my time there.
9. I was almost always with boys as Termonbacca did not take girls until the very latter years. We started taking family groups of boys and then took full families including girls at a later stage.
10. I do not have any memory of a child being abused in any way. Children may have been shouted at or deprived of some treat like tv if they were misbehaving but I do not recall any physical punishment at all. Boys being boys had their fights and rows and did misbehave. We did not resort to physical punishment and the removal of privileges was usually a severe enough punishment.
11. My own memories of Termonbacca are all of a happy time. I truly loved my time there and was heartbroken when I eventually left. I remember an incident when we had two twin girls left with us. I could not figure out how I would remember how to tell them apart the next day and so wrote their names on a piece of sticking plaster and stuck it to their wrists. They were adopted very soon after they came to us as newborns.

**HIA 7**

12. I have seen the statement from this lady. I do not remember her or her sister **HIA 8** (who has also provided a statement) at all. I have looked at the names of the other siblings and they do not bring back any memories for me of this girl or her family at all.
13. As far as her statement goes I did work in the younger end of the home and I did work with a lady called **SND 59** I am still in touch with her and we exchange Christmas cards every year.
14. I do not recall there being rugs or mats around. I definitely do not recall the children having to collect and beat them..
15. I do not know why **HIA 7** would say that I took money or anything else off her. I do not recall ever removing sweets, toys, clothes or money from a child. It is possible a child may have had sweets refused to them on an occasion as a punishment for misbehaviour as we used removal of privileges as a punishment. However the picture of habitually removing gifts when a child returned from a visit to a local family is not



NAZARETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOME, BISHOP STREET, DERRY.CLAIM FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAINING COSTSCLAIM FOR MONTH OF MARCH 1995

Name of Staff Member on Dip in Social Work Course	Replacement Staff Salary Costs	Annual Book Allowance	Typing	Other Expenses	TOTAL
	March - College Wages 466.85 Emp NI 48.55			Subsistence 18.00  Mileage 8.42	541.82
	March - College Wages 439.84 Emp NI 44.86	11.50			496.20
	March - College Wages 439.84 Emp NI 44.86	11.50		Subsistence 26.00	522.20
				OVERALL TOTAL	£1560.22 ✓ =====

Signed

**SR 2**

Officer-In-Charge

NAZARETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOME, BISHOP STREET, DERRY.

CLAIM FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAINING COSTS

CLAIM FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1995

Name of Staff Member on Dip in Social Work Course	Replacement Staff Salary Costs	Annual Book Allowance	Typing	Other Expenses	TOTAL
[REDACTED]	College - February Wages 988.25 Emp NI 100.80		75.00	Subsistence 18.00  Mileage 8.42	1190.47
SND 243	College - February Wages 473.04 Emp NI 48.25	13.99	126.00	Subsistence 10.00	671.28
SND 342	College - February Wages 439.84 Emp NI 44.86		100.00	Subsistence 10.00	594.70
[REDACTED]	College - February Wages 439.84 Emp NI 44.86			Subsistence 20.00	504.70
[REDACTED]	College - February Wages 439.84 Emp NI 44.86			Subsistence 20.00	504.70
				OVERALL TOTAL	£3465.85 ✓ =====

Signed

SR 2

Officer-In-Charge

19 SEP 2013

JONES & COMPANY  
Solicitors

Our Ref: FJC/KC/PLIT/5241

19<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Mr. Patrick Butler,  
HIAI  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Microfocus House,  
2-14 East Bridge Street  
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4th Floor,  
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T: +44 (0) 28 9024 5471

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E: info@joneslawni.com

www.joneslawni.com

Dear Sir,

**Our clients: Poor Sisters of Nazareth**

We refer to the above matter and enclose herewith the extracted copies of the Sisters' registers for those Sisters previously identified.

We are requesting the same extracts for all of the Sisters who have been named in each of the statements made and have been supplied to us and again further copies of those registers will be supplied.

We also enclose all personal documentation held by our clients in regard to the following –

- |            |        |
|------------|--------|
| 1. Sister  | SR 24  |
| 2. Sister  | SR 9   |
| 3. Sister  | SR 111 |
| 4. Sister  | SR 60  |
| 5. Sister  | SR 61  |
| 6. Sister  | SR 1   |
| 7. Sister  | SR 5   |
| 8. Sister  | SR 11  |
| 9. Sister  | SR 95  |
| 10. Sister | SR 6   |

Our clients have conducted a full review of their archives and can find no personal documentation, correspondence or papers in regard to –

Sister	SR 59
Sister	SR 2
Sister	SR 18
Sister	SR 3

We will be speaking with the individual Sisters identified, by the allegations and statements provided, and will be asking them for their comments and response in regard to each of the allegations made and to review their own personal records to see if they have any information which would be of assistance.

**Partners:**

Fintan Canavan, Advocate  
Richard McLaughlin