

Dear Father,

I am a horrified mother. Horrified by the horrors endured by children: those of my friends and my sisters-in-Christ, my own children at the hands of priests under the shadows of monsignors, bishops, archbishops, and cardinals. Horrified at the dehumanizing assaults made on seminarians and young priests by predatory power brokers. Horrified at decades of systematic abandonment of us all.

I am an enraged mother. My sons and daughters deserve better. If any of them are called to a religious vocation, they absolutely deserve an assault-free place to discern this call. If they are serving at the altar, they deserve to learn faithful and prayerful service.

We the faithful lay women of the Church see two problems here: pedophilia and predators of power violating their vows of celibacy. Neither will not be tolerated in our Church. Both must be rooted out today.

I ask you to **speak** and acknowledge the hurt your flock is experiencing. Please address the scandal in your homily and intentions/prayers of the faithful.

I ask you to **write** to our Bishop and Pope. Please ask for accountability and real change.

I ask you to **know** I am praying hard for you. As discouraged as I am and as pained, I am not abandoning the Mass, the Holy Sacrifice given to us by Christ to feed us with His Word and His Body and Blood. I am praying through my tears. I am donning sackcloth and ashes and making reparations for the deep sin in the Mystical Body of Christ.

God bless you. Let us pray for each other.