



October 30, 2002 - Public Statement of Reverend Monsignor Michael Smith Foster upon Reinstatement

This ordeal began over two months ago. I stated at that time, the allegations were false.

The Archdiocese has completed a very thorough and, I believe, unprecedented investigation. Upon the positive recommendation of the Cardinal's Delegate and the Review Board, His Eminence has reinstated me to full ministry. I look forward to celebrating Mass publicly and resuming my duties as Judicial Vicar of the Archdiocese.

These months have been difficult for me. I am keenly aware that this painful experience has been shared by my family, brother priests, friends, parishioners and so many others. I am grateful for the prayer, love and support that I have received.

I do not want my ordeal to overshadow the immense pain that so many children and youth have suffered from abuse. Please remember that they are the ultimate victims of this crisis.

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