



1012 NORTH MESA STREET  
EL PASO, TEXAS

September 20, 1977

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend  
Stephen A. Laven  
Bishop of San Angelo  
P. O. Box 1829  
San Angelo, Texas 76901

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Dear Bishop Laven:

My reply to your letter of August 22nd, 1977 concerning Father David Holley was delayed by illness and major surgery for removal of a troublesome gall bladder. Thank you for your prayers and I can happily report that I am well on the way to recovery. However I haven't yet fully recovered my strength and the doctor has ruled out my attendance at the General Assembly of our Texas Catholic Conference because he thinks it is too soon after surgery. I deeply regret this because I had definitely planned to attend the General Assembly and it is always a pleasure to join our Texas bishops together at these meetings. But the diocese of El Paso will have a representation and from what they have told me I believe they will represent the diocese very well.

Your very Christianlike concern for Father Holley is most edifying and I pray and hope for Father's own happiness. He belongs to the diocese of Worcester and came to El Paso via Via Coeli. We tried to help him but the situation became simply untenable. I personally have no objection if you wish to give Father Holley an appointment in the Diocese of San Angelo, all the more since you have sent him to Canada for treatment.

The personal opinion of Father A. Dixon Hartford, Chancellor of the Diocese of El Paso, is that Father Holley could be well off in his own Diocese of Worcester at the "House of Affirmation". I am under the impression that Father Holley does not intend to return to his own diocese. But I repeat that I see great merit in the action you have taken. You and I also know from our experience with such unfortunate matters that such cases are always a calculated risk.

AR\_DH

His Excellency  
The Most Reverend

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Enclosed is our check for \$162.00  
to reimburse the Diocese of San Angelo for Father Holley's medical  
insurance for the next six months.

When you meet the bishops of Texas  
in San Antonio, be sure to greet them for me.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

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Bishop of El Paso

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Enclosure

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