

Prelate

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money it was from his own personal funds. He said the archdiocese "in charity" had paid some medical bills for Long, but it gave no money directly to her, and no archdiocesan funds were used to support her or her child in any other way.

As the nation's first black archbishop, Archbishop Marino was widely recognized as the top leader of U.S. black Catholics and was frequently a featured speaker at regional and national meetings of black Catholics.

Several of the other 12 black bishops in the country expressed shock and sadness upon learning the archbishop had resigned because of an affair.

"I guess I'm running through a whole gamut of emotions — shock, embarrassment, disappointment, a little bit of anger," said Auxiliary Bishop J. Terry Steib of St. Louis.

"It comes as a total shock to everyone, certainly to me," said Auxiliary Bishop John Ricard of Baltimore.

Los Angeles Auxiliary Bishop Carl A. Fisher said he was "really saddened," but he reminded a reporter that "the Bible and the world are filled with people who have used their failures as building blocks for a better future."

Bishop Lyke, who is also black, told Catholic News Service that the archbishop's resignation from his Atlanta post does not mean an end to his priestly ministry.

He acknowledged, however, that it was too early to say what form that ministry may take in the future.

Bishop Lyke praised Archbishop Marino's "compassion and his love," and asked people to view the revelation of his affair within a larger context of the good done by him and the church.

"Instances such as this misdemeanor are quite infinitesimal compared with the good work of the church" or with "the previous 25 years of the archbishop's life," Bishop Lyke said.

News that Father Woods admitted an affair with Long was given to his parishioners at Saturday evening Mass Aug. 4 by Father Peter A. Dora, archdiocesan communications director.

He read parishioners a letter from Father Woods acknowledging the relationship.

In the letter, Father Woods said he had previously "denied any such involvement" when questioned by church officials, but "this morning, for the first time, I informed ... Bishop James Lyke, apostolic administrator, of the facts."

Father Woods said he was not the father of Long's child and would take a blood test to prove it.

Before he was made pastor of St. Jude the Apostle Parish in June 1989, Father Woods had been at St. John the Evangelist Parish in the Atlanta suburb of Hapeville, where Long was a parishioner and eucharistic minister. The parish has announced that she will no longer function as a eucharistic minister.

Father Donald Keohane, the Savannah diocesan priest against whom Long filed a paternity suit in 1987, has denied the claim and reportedly proved with a blood test that he was not the child's father.

Long has pending lawsuits, however, against Father Keohane and the Savannah diocese.

AFL-CIO

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neutrality would appeal to women and minorities, two groups the AFL-CIO needs to court to boost its membership, currently at 14.2 million.

The National Right to Life Committee and Cardinal John J. O'Connor of New York had threatened a campaign to persuade union members who oppose abortion to withhold part of their union dues if the AFL-CIO were to adopt an abortion-rights stance.

The abortion question was raised last fall

when delegates from all 90 AFL-CIO member unions met. Six unions had submitted abortion-rights resolutions, but delegates referred the resolutions to the Executive Council.

When the Executive Council met in February, AFL-CIO president Lane Kirkland appointed the panel to study the issue and prepare a recommendation to the full council.

The panel had no deadline, and met in April and June. During the June meeting, it heard from Monsignor Higgins and Faye Wattleton, president of Planned Parenthood, before delivering its recommendation July 30.

Fr. Ritter

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later identified as Kevin Lee Kite, 25, that Father Ritter established a sexual relationship with him and used Covenant House funds to support him.

Similar charges came from other young men, and further controversy arose concerning a secret trust fund Father Ritter had established, and loans he had made from that fund to board members and staff.

When the allegations of sexual misconduct surfaced, Father Ritter denied any impropriety. He has not made any public statements since leaving Covenant House Feb. 27.

The McGuire report said that Father Ritter refused to be interviewed by investigators.

It also said his superior, Father Conall McHugh of Immaculate Conception Province in Union City, N.J., declined to discuss anything except his own service as a Covenant House board member.

Father McHugh announced March 29 that the order had concluded its own investigation of Father Ritter. He did not say whether Father Ritter was found innocent or guilty, but said he had been directed to "return to daily living with the Franciscan community."

Father McHugh's chief deputy, Father Juniper Alwell, told Catholic News Service Aug. 3 that Father Ritter was still under that direction but had not yet complied.

Father Alwell said the order was in touch with Father Ritter, but declined to say anything about his activity or plans. Regarding reports in *The New York Times* that Father Ritter was thinking of leaving the Franciscans, he said, "We don't know where that's coming from."

In May, Cardinal John J. O'Connor said that rumors Father Ritter might be leaving the priesthood were false, and that it was "conceivable" the priest might be given a post in the New York archdiocese.

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