

## St. Peter's Rectory

128 North State Street  
Syracuse, New York

September 24, 1953

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph D. Sweeney, Ph.D.  
Chancery Office  
1301 Delaware Avenue  
Wilmington 6, Delaware

Dear Monsignor:

In reply to your letter of September 12 regarding Francis DeLuca, I am glad to submit the following:

First of all, I must say that his dismissal from St. Bernard's Seminary was a surprise for me because I never received or heard of any complaints concerning his conduct.

From my association with him during the summer vacation, I always felt that his conduct regarding both his piety and his moral character was in accordance with the high calling of the priesthood. The summer months, for instance, were spent either as a janitor in our church or as a councilor at a summer camp for boys.

His inclination for ecclesiastical duties is clearly manifested in the interest he takes in church music, especially Gregorian Chant, in taking care of the altar, etc.

Another reason in his favor could be deducted from his insistence at this moment to enter another seminary when he could very easily pursue a different course.

Before closing I would like to add that probably his low marks in his studies were caused more because of his insufficient preparation and effort rather than mental incapability.

Hoping that you may be able to help him in any way you can, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Louis Riello, P.S.C.*  
Reverend: Louis Riello, P.S.S.C.  
Pastor