

PHILLY PROSECUTOR IS MALICIOUS

The Philadelphia Archdiocese was recently named an “unindicted co-conspirator” by prosecutors in a case involving clergy sexual abuse. At the pretrial hearing, Assistant District Attorney Mark Cipolletti made accusations against a defrocked priest, Edward Avery, and the archdiocese. Cipolletti said “the archdiocese was supplying him [Avery] with an endless amount of victims.” Msgr. William Lynn will also face trial in March. He is charged with covering up incidents of sexual abuse for the archdiocese.

Attorney Thomas Bergstrom, who is representing Msgr. William Lynn, called Assistant District Attorney Mark Cipolletti’s remarks “nutty.” He also cited the fact that all but one of the seven allegations made against Edward Avery were made after Lynn had left his post in the archdiocese where he was responsible for dealing with these cases. Bergstrom also noted that the prosecutors are conceding this issue—they know that Lynn wasn’t aware of these cases—yet they continue to hammer away.

It was too kind to simply call Cipolletti “nutty.” What Cipoletti did was malicious. Just think about what he said. We were expected to believe that the archdiocese was “*supplying* [Avery] with an endless amount of victims” [our italic]. This statement simply boggles the mind. Was the Archdiocese of Philadelphia operating a human conveyor belt—lining the boys up single file before feeding them to predators? Or did archdiocesan officials follow the advice of therapists and allow for treated abusers to return to ministry, *just the way every other institution, religious and secular, did up until recently?*

In other words, was evil at work or bad judgment? Cipolletti

says it's the former. Let him prove it.