3761 Oliver St. NW
Washington, DC 20015
February 1, 2000

OFFICE OF ZONING
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
'00 FEB -3 P3:51

Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street NW—Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Sirs:

I appreciate the opportunity to respond to the application of the Archdiocese of Washington/ Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament for an addition to the private school at 5831 Chevy Chase Parkway NW (application # 16561).

We have lived one block away from the school for the past thirty years. During that time we have had no reason to complain about the school.

My concern has to do with what a sizable increase in the numbers of students will do to traffic on Chevy Chase Parkway. While at present some of the students arrive by city bus, many are picked up and dropped off directly on Chevy Chase Parkway. At such times this results in double parking with students crossing the street in the middle of the block to get to and from family cars. This unfortunately coincides with rush hour traffic to and from Chevy Chase Circle. The situation is exacerbated by the fact that there is a pre-school and after school program directly across the street. These children also get picked up and dropped off at overlapping times with the same double parking and street crossing. At present the congestion is manageable if caution is used. If 600 more students are contemplated, surely a certain percentage of those will also be dropped off by busy family members. A further complication is that near the school's entry way Chevy Chase Parkway splits off so that there are actually three traffic flows in a "Y" formation. Drivers seem to have an inordinate amount of trouble figuring out whether they can go ahead on what actually is Patterson or need to stop for incoming Parkway traffic. The stop signs are there but they don't seem to register. All in all, I think the workablity of the present situation arises from the fact that the area is largely residential and the numbers at present are manageable.

As I said earlier, up to now the school has not been a problem for us. Perhaps the school's plan includes some way to address the additional traffic congestion that will surely develop from an increase in student population. I don't think just counting on people's good sense will solve the problem.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Very truly yours,

Lillie B. Rubin

BZA
Case No. 16561
Exhibit No. 22

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16561
EXHIBIT NO.22