

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

P.O. Box 48
Bungara 2404
22 July 1984

Most Rev H. J. Kennedy DD
Bishop of Armidale.

My lord,

I am writing to put before you my deep and serious disquiet at Fr John Farrell's appointment to the present staff of St Nicholas' Parish Tamworth.

The ground for that disquiet arises out of the sustained hostility of each of the present staff to John. Fr. Stanna has always been very vocal and highly critical of John. Gerry's handling of the Inverell and Tamworth Motor Mission situations in the past, suggests that his many flairs do not include the negotiation of ongoing conflict. Fr. Knepp is openly hostile and rude to John. Peter's conflict with firstly Fr O'Brien and then Fr Barry, illustrates his strategy of being firm when conflict emerges. Fr Willis and John have clashed from early seminary days.

I am convinced from my close knowledge of John, and also of the recent events, that John must have a monastery environment which is gentle, yet quite firm, endlessly patient and tremendously supportive. In an hostile and non-supportive household the earlier incidents are very likely to re-occur.

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In brief, my reading of the situation is that John's St Nicholas' appointment needs to be very closely monitored as it has in it the seeds of a major disaster. Accordingly I would like to enter a respectful, yet very strong plea, that you keep the closest possible eye on the situation.

I am, my Lord,

Yours sincerely

Bernard Flood