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27 August, 1992

Rev. Father J. Farrell

Dear John,

I again express my concern about your suitability for an appointment at this time.

The reasons are the same as those I enumerated for you in our conversation here in Armidale on 9 October, 1992.

The matters of the alleged incidents with the boys in Moree together with the widespread knowledge and scandal have never been satisfactorily resolved.

The withdrawal by Bishop Heather of your mandate to exercise ministry in the Diocese of Parramatta gives rise for further concern to me about your suitability for an appointment.

I understand that your consultations with Professor Brazinski did not come to any satisfactory conclusion.

I am therefore referring you to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Special Issues Resource Group. It is the task of this committee to evaluate the situation and to advise on ways of proceeding. For a preliminary meeting with a representative of this Resource Group an appointment has been made for you to meet with Father Brian Lucas in Sydney on the evening of 3 September next. Please contact Father Lucas at the Sydney Archdiocesan Chancery, 13th Floor, Polding House, Sydney, to arrange a suitable time and place to meet on that evening.

Since the Special Issues Resource Group will be acting on my behalf and the behalf of the Diocese of Armidale, I am requesting Father Wayne Peters of our Diocese to be at that preliminary meeting as an observer and representative of the Diocese of Armidale.

Rev. Father J. Farrell

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In my letter to you of 1 July last, I withdrew your faculties until you met with me on your return from vacation. I now renew that withdrawal of your faculties. That means you may not celebrate public ministry anywhere. I shall of course review this decision when I have received advice from the Special Issues Resource Group.

I encourage you to give your full support and co-operation to the Special Issues Resource Group in the hope that some satisfactory resolution to these matters can be achieved. Without your full co-operation, it is difficult to see a solution to the concerns I have for an appointment for you anywhere.

Yours sincerely in Christ,



BISHOP KEVIN MANNING