

Letters will be sent to me if posted c/- Rev L J Breslan  
 Presbytery  
 30 Calliope Street  
 Guildford 2161

24 November, 1992

Most Rev Kevin Manning,  
 Bishop of Armidale,  
 P.O. Box 93,  
 Armidale, 2350.

Dear Bishop Manning,

It would seem that the document titled  
 "Points For Discussion" <sup>was</sup> ~~were~~ not negotiable.

When presented with the document I went to see you at your office and I told you my feelings about the proposals. The impression I formed at my meeting with you was that you understood that the said points were points for discussion. Further, my impression was that I should return to the Committee with some suggestions which I discussed with you. These were

- a) That I remain in the Priesthood
- b) That I explore what avenues might be open to me.

Of these possibilities I discussed two with you:

- i) undertaking a PhD at university
- ii) undertaking studies which would give me the wherewithal to become a missionary overseas.

Before departing from Armidale I sat for an examination to complete the requirement for a Diploma in Social Science.

At the Committee meeting on the night of Thursday 12 November, the Committee made it clear that the points for discussion were not negotiable, and that I was required to give a decision. Not having gone to the meeting ready to give such a decision, I said as much to the Committee, and stated that I needed at least two weeks to make such a vital decision.

I was told that during the meeting a phone call had been made to you, and you were told that I wanted the two weeks, but you wanted a definite answer by the end of the two weeks.

The meeting ended with me giving an agreement that I would communicate my decision by Thursday, 26th November.

I reiterate that which I told you in Armidale, that it is not my wish to leave the Priesthood, and secondly, that leaving the Priesthood could prove to be the stimulus for certain people to make allegations against me.

Having said that, I have no choice, in the face of the demands made by the Committee, other than to leave the Priesthood. Accordingly, to keep faith with the agreement I made on the night of Thursday, 12th November, 1992, I hereby notify you in writing that I offer you my resignation from the Priesthood of the Roman Catholic Church.

A formal letter is being typed up for me, to be signed on Friday, the twelfth anniversary of my ordination into the Ministry. I will post the document to you as soon as it is signed.

Not having been in receipt of an income since the termination of my appointment to Merrylands, could I in charity, ask for an allowance to meet the day to day costs of living for the time being.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Farrell". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.