

ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE, MANLY, N.S.W. 2095**Phone: 977-6066**

President: 977-6367
P.O. Box 412,
Manly, N.S.W. 2095

24th August 1978

Most Reverend H. J. Kennedy, D.D.
Bishop of Armidale
Bishop's House
ARMIDALE. NSW.

My Lord,

Mr. John Farrell, a student from your Diocese in Theology II, has approached me with the request that he be granted a year's leave of absence from the Seminary.

I am enclosing a copy of his letter to me together with a copy of my reply to him. He has also written to yourself and I am delivering his letter along with this letter.

I have discussed his request with the Vice-Rectors, Frs. Ryan and Willoughby. We all agreed that it could be very beneficial to him to spend a year outside the Seminary on the conditions which I indicated to him in my reply. He would have to maintain a regular contact with some priest appointed by you and would preferably spend the period, or most of it, within the Diocese.

John has caused a deal of concern here in the College because of his apparent insensitiveness and a tendency to use people. These matters have been pointed out to him, but he does not always respond--not necessarily through lack of good-will. When the same comments were made to him recently by a friend outside the Seminary and in writing, he seems to have come to a greater awareness of his failings.

The practice of spending some time outside the Seminary but as part of the overall formation for the Priesthood is not uncommon and in some cases does give some students an opportunity to grow in an ordinary life-situation. For this reason we do recommend that you agree to John's request on the conditions which I set down in my letter to him. He will be expecting an approval only on such conditions.

Hoping that this information will suffice, but if there is any further comment that you would like, I shall be happy to discuss the matter.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

R. H. Murphy

President.