

1st.May,1981.

Rev.John Farrell,  
P.O. Box 182,  
NARRABRI. 2390.

My dear John,

Your period in Narrabri has now come to a close. I hope it has been an enjoyable and useful experience. I trust that you have had a pleasant break in Sydney.

The next phase of your programme will be in the Marriage Tribunal working with Fr.Peters. It will be from May 5th, to May 26th, both dates inclusive. During that period you will reside at the Bishop's House. For your weekend duties during that period you are asked to accompany Fr.Peters when he does the weekend Masses in Emmaville and Deepwater and the Mission Appeals. I am enclosing, for your information, a copy of the programme which Fr.Peters has been asked to provide for you.

The Marriage Tribunal is an extremely important pastoral work. It is a delicate and sensitive area where it is imperative that you be very well informed. Accordingly the reading programme Father will ask you to follow is crucial.

I hope that you are keeping up your personal prayer on a regular daily basis. The adjustments to Parish life can be fairly unsettling after the Seminary. But, as you make that transition, do not let it become an excuse to become casual in your prayer-life. Our effectiveness as good pastoral priests depends very much on our own closeness to Christ. We need to be men of deep prayer.

Begging God's Blessing on you and your apostolate.

I remain,

Yours sincerely in Our Lord,

(Most Rev.H.J.Kennedy).  
BISHOP OF ARMIDALE.