

Mrs Jean Sanders

REDACTED

27 August 2003

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Dear Jean

Greetings and Peace.

Thank you for the contribution that you made to the Lay Liturgical Assistants Conference. I know that many who were there were helped by the careful, historical detail that you provided as well as offering practical ways in which we can continue to be watchful and alert to issues surrounding child sexual abuse as well as matters concerning sexual harassment in general.

**CKU** and Barrack

Thank you for spending time to chronologically arrange the files concerning the other sensitive matter. It certainly helps to put the matter within the perspectives of a timeline and how best the Diocese has sought to respond to the various issues raised.

I note some question marks regarding the knowledge that Examining Chaplains had concerning sexual orientation. The issue I think the church has always lived with is that sexual orientation has never been a fact debarring a person from ordination, but much rather the clear expectation placed upon ordinands that celibacy and marriage are the options available in living out that orientation.

With many thanks for your kindness and assistance in these matters.

With every blessing.

Yours sincerely

**The Right Reverend Roger Herft**  
**Bishop of Newcastle**