

25th August, 1989

Very Reverend Liam J Hoare s P
Servant General
Servants of the Paraclete
Jemez Springs
NEW MEXICO 87025

Very Reverend and Dear Father Hoare,

Thank you very much for your letter of August 17th in response to my query about the facilities offered by the Servants of the Paraclete at Jemez Springs. The information which you have provided will be very helpful to the Committee which has been established to advise the Australian Bishops and Religious Provincials on these issues. I have since discovered that Father Augustine Watson has been in touch with you about the possibility of the establishment of some such facility here in Australia.

To refer to the specific request which I made to you about the possibility of assistance being given to a Priest of this Diocese, I am very grateful to you for your suggestion that you would be able to help. The Priest concerned is a Father Gerald Ridsdale, who was ordained in 1961 and who is aged 55. He has indicated to me recently that he is perfectly willing to take whatever steps I might propose to him and accordingly it can be taken for granted that he will be willing to undergo the therapy offered at Jemez Springs. May I therefore ask you whether there would be a place available for him at the present time or, if not, when such a place might be available. I will write to him to alert him to the fact that I wish him to go to Jemez Springs. The expense is obviously a consideration, but I am certain that it will be money well spent. It may take him some little time to arrange for the immigration formalities, but it would be helpful to know when he could be accepted at Jemez Springs so that he can initiate the process as soon as possible. I will be in contact with him to have him on standby and be in touch with him again when I have some definite information to pass on.

Many thanks again for your kind assistance and be assured of my prayers for your important work.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Ronald A. Mulkearns.
Bishop of Ballarat