

1 September, 1995

Mr & Mrs   
REDACTED  
MORDIALLOC VIC 3195

Dear Mr & Mrs

I write in response to your letter of 22 August, 1995 in which you again raise the problem concerning your youngest son

The Catholic Church in Australia and the Archdiocese of Melbourne have established protocols for procedures to be followed when complaints of alleged criminal behaviour are made against a priest.

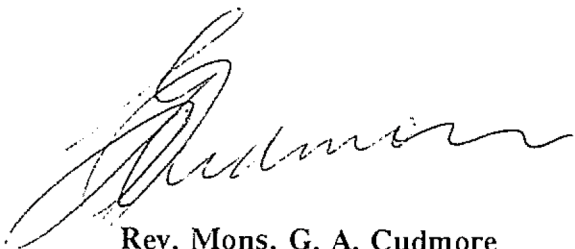
The Church is concerned for the welfare of the victim and takes allegations of this kind seriously. In cases where a priest is accused of sexual abuse the guiding principles presume compliance with applicable secular and church legislation, give priority to the protection of alleged victims, and presume an accused person's innocence until proven otherwise.

As I indicated to you before I most certainly will take action once I receive a written and detailed statement of allegation(s) against the priest concerned from your son. If he should require assistance in making the statement I shall be pleased to make arrangements for such assistance to be provided.

In your letter you mention 'a very serious problem', 'sorry mess', 'preceding offences', 'horrendous crimes' and 'awful experience'. I will take action immediately I receive specific allegations.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,



Rev. Mons. G. A. Cudmore  
Vicar General