



Most Rev Peter William Ingham DD
Bishop of Wollongong

DECREE

PWI:mh/815005

Given at Wollongong

On this twenty-seventh day of August in the year 2008

I have received information which appears to indicate that serious offences against Church law may have been committed by Rev John Gerard Nestor, a priest of the Diocese of Wollongong.

As the alleged offences are also offences under civil law, I have been required under the *NSW Ombudsman Act 1974* to have the alleged offences thoroughly investigated by a body independent of the Diocese, Kamira Stacey Consulting. On the basis of the information and the investigation, it appears that Father John Nestor has been accused of the sexual assault of two boys under the age of sixteen years and of sexual misconduct in relation to a number of boys, also under the age of eighteen years.

Due to the seriousness of this information and in virtue of canon 1717, I hereby decree that the preliminary investigation of a penal process be opened and that a cautious investigation be undertaken concerning these allegations and Father John Nestor's imputability to determine whether it is necessary to take further action.

I further decree that the *Report of the Investigation of Allegation of Reportable Conduct*, carried out by Kamira Stacey Consulting, and all accompanying documentation be admitted into the Acts of the case.

In addition, I hereby appoint Very Rev Greg Homeming OCD to serve as auditor; and I direct him to conduct on my behalf an appropriate investigation of the facts and circumstances of this matter and the related question of Fr John Nestor's imputability in accord with the norm of law.

Most Rev Peter W Ingham DD
 BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG

Rev Ron Peters DEAN
 NOTARY