

# DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG

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DIOCESAN CURIA

PWI:mh/815005

29 August 2008

Rev J G Nestor

**PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

REDACTED

Dear John

At our meeting of 5 July 2006 we spoke of your situation and of the appropriate way to bring the matter to resolution. At that time I was awaiting the definitive response from the Apostolic Signatura in relation to recourse taken by the Diocese. At the meeting and in your subsequent email you observed that it was important that no canonical process be undertaken concurrent with a civil process and vice-versa. I concurred with this and indicated that, should an investigation be required by the Ombudsman's Office, this would not be commenced until after the definitive response of the Apostolic Signatura had been received.

In a letter of 19 September 2006 the Ombudsman's Office advised the Diocese that the allegations against you were reportable to the Ombudsman and the Diocese was required to undertake a thorough investigation of the allegations. By this time the Diocese had received the Definitive Sentence of the Apostolic Signatura. The Diocese then initiated a process under the Ombudsman Act (1974). The Ombudsman's Office monitored the investigation from the initial phase until its recent completion.

On 27 August 2008, due to the seriousness of the allegations brought against you and in virtue of canon 1717, I decreed that a preliminary investigation of a penal process be opened and that a cautious investigation be undertaken concerning these allegations and your imputability, in accord with the norm of law. I appointed Father Greg Homeming OCD to act as auditor. Fr Homeming is fully aware that in carrying out this investigation, the good name of all involved must be respected and protected (c.220). I shall let you know when this preliminary investigation has been concluded and any further steps to be taken. I encourage you to obtain competent canonical advice.

I assure you of the continuing support of my prayer.

Yours sincerely

Most Rev Peter W Ingham DD  
 BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG