

DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG



DIOCESAN CURIA

Catholic Church Offices
Marian Centre
PO Box 1239
Wollongong NSW 2500
Australia
86-88 Market Street
Tel: +61 2 4253 0900
Fax: +61 2 4253 0977
www.dow.org.au

PWI:mh/815008

29 January 2009

His Excellency
Most Rev Giuseppe Lazzrotto
Apostolic Nuncio to Australia
PO Box 3633
MANUKA ACT 2603.

Your Excellency

I am writing to let you know that by decree of His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, Rev John Gerard Nestor, a priest of the Diocese of Wollongong, has been dismissed from the clerical state. This was communicated to John on Saturday, 24 January 2009.

By virtue of the Supreme Pontiff's Decree, which is not subject to appeal or any other recourse, John has lost the rights proper to the clerical state and is no longer bound by the obligations connected with the clerical state. He is thereby excluded from the exercise of the sacred ministry, except for those matters contained in cc. p97 and 986 § 2 of the Code of Canon Law.

It is not my intention to make a public statement about this matter.

I shall notify Archbishop Philip Wilson, Chairperson of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

With prayerful best wishes and sentiments of esteem

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter W Ingham', with a cross symbol to the left.

Most Rev Peter W Ingham DD
BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG