

DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG



DIOCESAN CURIA

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The Year of St Paul

PWI:mh/215005

28 January 2009

Most Rev Philip Wilson DD JCL

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Chairperson: Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

GPO Box 368

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Philip

I wish to inform you that by decree of His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, Fr John 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. 976 and 986 § 2 of the Code of Canon Law.

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

I know that you will keep John in your prayers.

With kind regards

Yours fraternally

Most Rev Peter W Ingham DD
 BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG