

DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG



DIOCESAN CURIA



The Year of St Paul

PWI:lt/21561

24 January 2009

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

My Dear Brother Priests

It is my duty to inform you that, in accordance with the instructions of the Apostolic See, I have this day notified Fr John Nestor of the Decree issued by Pope Benedict XVI.

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. Moreover, Pope Benedict XVI has dispensed John from all the obligations connected with his sacred ordination.

By virtue of Pope Benedict's Decree John has definitively returned to the status of a lay person within the Church.

I do not intend to make a public statement about this matter.

I know that you will keep John in your prayers.

Yours fraternally

Most Rev Peter W Ingham DD
 BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG