



Our reference: C/2006/7161
Your reference: mh/815005
Contact: Dylan Thompsett
Telephone: (02) 9286 1068

Level 24 580 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone 02 9286 1000
Fax 02 9283 2911
Tollfree 1800 451 524
TTY 02 9264 8050
Web www.ombo.nsw.gov.au
ABN 76 325 886 267

17 November 2006

Very Reverend Bryan Jones
Vicar General (Catholic Diocese of Wollongong)
Diocese of Wollongong
PO Box 1239
Wollongong NSW 2500

Dear Very Rev Jones

Ombudsman notification concerning John Gerard Nestor (Assistant Priest, Parish of Fairy Meadow) and numerous alleged victims

Thank you for your notification in relation to the above matter, which we received on the 18 October 2006. As per my recent conversation with Sister Moya Hanlen, I apologise for the delay in responding to your notification.

Based on the information you have provided, we have decided to monitor the investigation of this matter by the Diocese of Wollongong (the Diocese) under Section 25E of the *Ombudsman Act 1974* (the Act). The purpose of our monitoring role is to work more closely with you and to provide input to your investigation in a timely manner.

I understand that the Diocese will be engaging a private assessor to conduct the investigation. I also understand that you have written to Father Nestor, advising him that reportable allegations have been made against him, and of the process that will now be followed.

From my review of the material that you have provided, I note that, based on your risk assessment, Father Nestor has been suspended with pay and that he is to refrain from all public ministry.

Under Section 25E(3) of the Act, I require that you provide me with the following information:

1. The name and details of the assessor who will conduct the investigation
2. A copy of the investigation plan for this matter



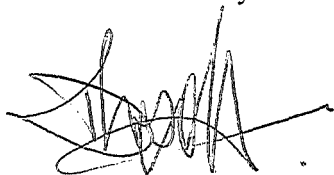
3. A copy of any updated risk assessment conducted by the Diocese
4. A copy of the letter sent to Father Nestor, advising him that reportable allegations against him were to be investigated
5. A copy of any requests for information made by the Diocese to relevant authorities, including the NSW Police Service and the NSW Department of Community Services in relation to this matter
6. A copy of any information received in response to requests outlined in point 5 above.
7. Any other relevant information/documentation obtained to date.

Please provide the information requested by 15 December 2006.

If the information cannot be provided by that date, please provide me with an explanation for this, the date by which the information will be provided to us and a status update on this matter at that time.

If you have any about this matter, please contact me on **(02) 9286 1068**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dylan Thompsett', written in a cursive style.

Dylan Thompsett
Senior Investigation Officer
for the Ombudsman