

Diocese of Wollongong

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PWI:lt/8155

11 June 2002

CONFIDENTIAL

His Lordship
Most Rev Daniel Jenky CSC
Bishop of Peoria
Diocesan Chancery
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PEORIA ILLINOIS USA 61655

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Dear Bishop Jenky

The Diocese of Wollongong has had correspondence (21 June 2001, copy enclosed) with your predecessor Bishop John Myers (replied 6 July 2001) about one of our priests, Fr John Nestor. I understand that John is on the staff (spiritual direction) of St John's Catholic Chapel at John Henry Newman Institute of Catholic Thought at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

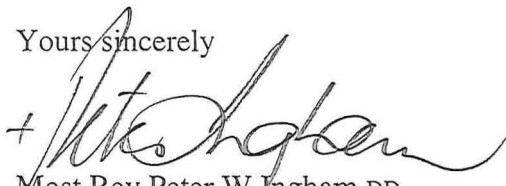
A reply from the Diocese's appeal to the Apostolic Signatura Prot N.32108/01 dated 22 April 2002 (copy attached) has now suspended the Decree of the Congregation of the Clergy (21 December 2000, Prot N.2000 1201). This means that Fr Nestor is still bound by the Diocese's decree (7 August 1998) that he must undergo a full assessment by Encompass Australasia as a pre-requisite to any further ecclesiastical appointment, the second restricting him from celebrating liturgy publicly in all places within and outside the diocese of Wollongong until the restriction is lifted by the Bishop of Wollongong.

In view of the media frenzy both in the USA and here over professional standards by clergy, but really because of the canonical reality, I have to ask you to disallow Fr Nestor from exercising ministry until he complies with the Decree of his home diocese. I cannot be responsible legally should he put himself and our Diocese at risk.

Fr John Nestor has been sent a copy of the Decree by the Apostolic Signatura. He has not ceased to receive his financial entitlements from our Diocese even though he has been living and working in the USA.

My predecessor, Archbishop Philip Wilson, is to address the US Bishops' Conference this week on sexual abuse procedures. He could give you full information on this matter.

Yours sincerely



Most Rev Peter W Ingham DD
BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG

Enc (6 pages to follow)

FAXED
11.6.02