



Office of the Bishop

Diocesan Chancery

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| Diocese of Wollongong | | |
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| Bishop | Chancellor | DFA |
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April 5, 2001

Very Reverend Brian Jones
 Diocesan Administrator
 Diocese of Wollongong
 P. O. Box 1239
 Wollongong, NSW 2521
 Australia

Dear Father Jones:

I write with reference to Father John G. Nestor, a priest of the Diocese of Wollongong. Father has known some priests in our diocese since his years of study at the Pope John Paul Institute for Study of Marriage and Family in Washington, D.C. He has been in contact with some of our priests.

Father Nestor has approached me about the possibility of being assigned as a priest in the Diocese of Peoria because of the publicity which has surrounded him so much in recent years. I have examined the materials which he provided which are quite extensive. I have visited with him at length. He continues absolutely to deny any immoral or untoward activities.

I understand that this presents a difficulty for the diocese, especially in view of the process of evaluation which the Australian Bishops have established.

At this time I am simply wondering if there is any kind of evaluation of Father Nestor which would lead you or a new Bishop in Wollongong to give permission for him to be assigned to priestly work in this diocese. If there were such an evaluation, what expectations would you have for it and about any reporting to yourself? If the evaluation were undertaken and there were a positive recommendation about his return to active priestly assignment, would you be inclined to accept that recommendation?

I believe that Father Nestor is willing to undergo evaluation by a competent psychologist or psychiatrist nominated by Professor Paul Vitz, who is Professor of Psychology at New York University as well as teaching at the Pontifical John Paul Institute for Studies in Marriage and Family in Washington, D.C. He also teaches at the new Institute of Pastoral Psychology in Alexandria, Virginia. It would be important for Father Nestor to know what kind of specific

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information you might require to establish the objectivity and thoroughness of the evaluation.

I will be very happy to learn of your thoughts in this matter.

Wishing you a blessed Holy Week and Easter Season, I am

Sincerely in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Myers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

✠Most Reverend John J. Myers
BISHOP OF PEORIA

cc: Rev. Monsignor Steven P. Rohlfs