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January 5th, 2001

Fr P A Comensoli, Chancellor  
 Diocese of Wollongong  
 PO Box 1239  
 Wollongong SCMC NSW 2521

Dear Fr Comensoli,

Thank you for your letter of January 2nd, 2001.

I was sorry to hear of the Diocesan Administrator's unwellness and heartened to hear that there is no significant health problem.

I note in our conversation today, your delay in receiving the original Decree from the Congregation for Clergy. I expect that by the time you receive this letter, that original will have arrived; however, should this not be the case, please call me and I will bring my original (obviously identical), received several days ago, so that you can satisfy yourself of its watermark and seal. If necessary, I will arrange to be accompanied by a notary so that you can in all good conscience, attest that you have received and examined the original.

I note that you signal that the Diocesan Administrator may petition the Congregation for Clergy, to have the Decree amended or revoked, within ten days of its receipt. If this is done, the Congregation, as noted in canons 1734 following, has the option of suspending execution of the Decree. Your letter clearly, and incorrectly, states that a suspension is already in effect, apparently granted to himself by the Diocesan Administrator.

I believe that as clerics in the Catholic Church, it is incumbent on all of us to take seriously, the Decree of a Roman Congregation. A Decree has been lawfully notified; I am bound by that Decree and propose to act in accordance with it, unless and until I receive any notification from the Congregation for Clergy, of its suspension (in the original, of course).

Therefore, I request that you arrange with the Diocesan Administrator, for my appointment to a pastoral position in the Diocese, which was decreed by the Congregation for Clergy to occur immediately, now some two weeks ago.

Yours sincerely in Our Lord,



Father J G Nestor.

cc: Most Rev P Wilson DD JCL  
 Diocesan Administrator  
 PO Box 1239  
 Wollongong SCMC NSW 2521

