

**Fr. Kevin Matthews**

REDACTED

Phone: REDACTED

**Fr Kevin Matthews**

REDACTED

Phone: REDACTED

6 May 1998

Most Rev Philip Wilson D.D., J.C.L.  
 Bishop of Wollongong  
 P.O. Box 1239  
 WOLLONGONG SCMC  
 N.S.W. 2521

Dear Bishop Philip,

Sincere thanks for your carefully worded response to my recourse on behalf of Fr John Nestor. Before my letter was delivered I heard that there was finally some action which signifies that matters are drawing to a close. I'm sure the situation would have been much easier on John if he had heard these words at an earlier date.

I would be the first to admit that John has acted imprudently in the past, but I believe he has been chastened by the isolation he has suffered since this whole affair commenced. I believe that it would be appropriate for him to return to Parish work in another Diocese or undertake a Military Chaplaincy. I'm sure he understands the inappropriateness of working with youth in the future.

While fully comprehending your need for certainty in allowing his return to public ministry, may I point out that the certainty required is "moral" and not "mathematical" nor "infallible". There is always a place for conversion and change and this is where the Church has gained Saints like Paul, Mary Magdalen and Augustine.

Yours faithfully,

Father Kevin Matthews  
 Advocate for Fr John Nestor

41.

Diocese of Wollongong		
11 MAY 1998		
Bishop	Chancellor	DFA
Refer		