

The Catholic Parish of Cleve

(Incorporating Cleve, Cowell, Kimba & Lock)

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24 July 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,

I write in response to your letter of June 25 asking for a final conclusion to your totally unnecessary procrastination in the case of Father John Nestor.

Fr Nestor has shown heroic patience considering the way you have played with his life as a priest. He has been submitted to two civil trials and been acquitted despite your lack of support and alleged interference. Following the trials his case was again submitted to further interminable assessment. That assessment was then further assessed and now you are assessing the assessment of the assessment. To add insult to injury in your own words you are now planning to admit the assessment of the assessed assessment to further assessment: "Once I receive the written recommendation of the NSW PSRG, I shall consult about, pray over and ponder the advice."

As a Canon Lawyer you must well realise that in canonical judgements a judge has no other option but to vote "NON CONSTAT" when all he is left with is doubts. No one can be justly convicted on suspicion or doubts alone. If you believe that by your procrastination Fr Nestor will finally buckle and seek a dispensation from priesthood, you have no idea of the man's determination to clear his name and serve as a priest.

You have had more than ample time to reach a just and equitable decision in this case. So it is that if a decision has not been reached by August 10, 1998, Fr Nestor will have no option but to have recourse to the Congregation for Clergy immediately following that date.

Yours faithfully,

Diocese of Wollongong		
20 JUL 1998		
Office	Chancellor	PFA
Date:		
File	File	

Kevin Matthews
Father Kevin Matthews
Advocate for Fr John Nestor