



The Immaculate Conception Parish

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Telephone: (042) 71 1068

27 January 2004

Most Rev Peter Ingham, DD
Bishop of Wollongong
PO Box 1239
Wollongong NSW 2521

Dear Bishop,

From time to time I receive an email from Fr John Nestor. It is now nearly eight years since he was able to exercise a public ministry in the Diocese of Wollongong, or in any other diocese, so he often expresses in the emails his frustration at the various obstacles placed in his way by various people in the church, and his most recent email was no exception in this regard.

It most surely cannot be long now until the Apostolic Signatura makes a decision in John's favour. The previous decision by the Congregation for Clergy was comprehensively in his favour.

Until such time as another diocese usefully employs John, he remains the financial responsibility of the Diocese of Wollongong. He recently expressed to me his disappointment and frustration at being asked to detail that he has no other source of income. No other priest has to give these details. If an individual priest has a private income from, say, rent, royalties, family sources or of any other origin, he would not have to reveal this to any other cleric. I have no idea if John has a source of income. I have never asked him, just as I have never asked any other priest. He recently advised me that he is no longer included in the car scheme of the diocese, and that he neither receives medical insurance or accommodation. This situation is very disappointing. Despite my occasional contact with him, I did not realise that the diocese and the Clergy Remuneration Fund were failing to adequately support John. Of course, John is most keen to commence a worthwhile ministry in another diocese. But until that occurs, he most certainly is the responsibility of Diocese of Wollongong and the Clergy Remuneration Fund. At a convenient time, I would like to discuss this further with you.

Yours sincerely in Our Lord,

Rev. Mark O'Keefe PP

Ack?
Appt?
Phone call?
Letter?

Notes
you may want to
take up with

Diocese of Wollongong		
28 JAN 2004		
Bishop	Chancellor	DFA
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File	Reply	