

## Diocese of Wollongong

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### F A X M E S S A G E

*To:* FR THOMAS BRUNDAGE  
Metropolitan Tribunal  
Archdiocese of Milwaukee WI USA

*Fax No:* 0015 1 414 769 3408

*From:* Most Rev Philip Wilson DD JCL – Bishop of Wollongong

*Date:* 28 April 2000

*Total Pages:* 16

Dear Tom

I have a big problem and would like your advice. One of the priests of the diocese got off a charge of child sexual assault on appeal to the Superior Court. The case was analysed by our ecclesial professional standards group and they gave me the formal advice: no ministry without an assessment. He refused and has tested his strength against my decree concerning public worship. However, I was able to prevail.

In time he took recourse against the decision to the Congregation for the Clergy. I was recently in Rome and made representations concerning the case. However, the Secretary said that the law was their concern and explained that circumstances didn't count. The message was that the recourse was going to be upheld. I attach my decree and a *secret* paper given by Pompedda at our meeting in early April.

The Congregation seems to be fixated on the need to deal with this only by a penal process. Nothing else is legitimate. So I would appreciate your advice:

- 1) On my decree
- 2) On what other approaches I might try to deal with this if my recourse to the Signatura fails
- 3) How do you appeal to the Signatura?
- 4) Anything else you would consider helpful

Tom, perhaps we should talk about this – please call me *collect*.

Thanks for your last e-mail. I will be in Rome and Europe in early October on pilgrimage; maybe we could meet there. Prayers and best wishes to you and all your family. Regards to Cudahy!!

Yours sincerely

*Phil.*

Most Rev P Wilson DD JCL  
BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG