



DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

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CONFIDENTIAL

9 October 1996

Brother Michael Hill fms
 Provincial
 PO Box 138
 DRUMMOYNE NSW 2047

Dear Brother Michael,

It is with thanks that I acknowledge receipt of your August letter confirming your commitment to this Diocese and the appointment of Brother Anthony Robinson as Principal of St Francis Xavier's College late 1997.

I am sorry to have been the bearer of questionable news, but I am happy with the outcome and very pleased with your prompt attention to the matter. I understand that any potential difficulties have been solved by your prompt action.

I don't want to add to your worries but feel compelled to inform you of knowledge which has come to me about two other Brothers. I received a phone call in late August from a gentleman who claimed inappropriate actions while he was a student at Marist Brothers, Hamilton in 1972-73.

He alleged that Brother Patrick and Brother Romuald were guilty of touching some of the pupils. It was "*common knowledge among the kids*" that both Brothers acted inappropriately. He claimed his performance at school suffered and when he informed his father he was taken out of school.

It seems unlikely that criminal activity took place. This report is from one person only. He declared that he did not want to take action but was only responding to my newspaper report urging victims of sexual abuse to come forward.

This is probably a letter you didn't need right now but I thought it necessary to inform you.

With many thanks for your continue commitment to us.

I remain,

Yours sincerely

Most Reverend M Malone
 Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle

+MM/ed