

VHS

January 14, 1978
 4206 S 36 St.
 Arlington, Va. 22206

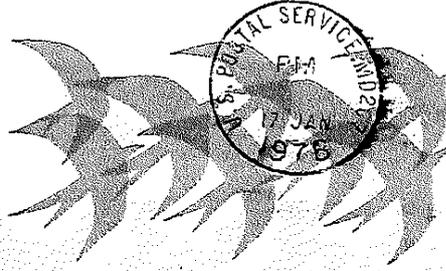
The Most Reverend Ronald Mulkearns

Dear Bishop:

Thank you for your letter of December 29. I can understand how the press of business can keep one from writing. Yes, I have been seeing Paul about once a week during the fall. At Xmas he went off to ministry at Virginia Beach, and he will not return until tomorrow night--the 15 of Jan. As for the retreats, things are going slowly indeed. I had to cancel the first retreat from 2 to 13 of Jan^uary because no one had signed up for it. For the next retreat--Feb. 20 to March 3 I have two priests interested. Pray, please, that mor² will have the courage to seek help. Now to Paul. Yes, I did read in his presence "the very long epistle." I had mixed feelings about his writing that kind of letter. On the one hand, it seemed to indicate that he had great trust in you by taking you into his confidence; but on the other hand, it could be a means of binding you in the internal forum in a kind of father-son relationship, thereby restricting your freedom as the bishop of the diocese. But I felt the good outweighed the bad, and that the confidence he had shown in Dr. Kinnane, you and me was a good thing for his improvement.

I think your telling Brian the situation with Paul was wise, and I feel that Paul's fears in this regard are groundless. Actually, from my conversations with Paul during the fall Brian was not even mentioned after the initial report of his coming. And for a good reason. During November and December Paul has had some intensive therapy with Dr. Kinnane, and saw him more frequently, because he would be away during the Xmas holidays. He was deep inside himself, and at our last meeting still was. Concerning what the clergy of Ballarat think of Paul, I was interested to read your observations. I am puzzled, as you are, that no one said anything to proper authorities about these incidents before ordination. As you say, they have begun to surface now and do raise the question whether Paul will be able to function effectively as a priest there when he returns. As you say, we can talk about it when you pass through the States next fall. I expect to be here. There is a possibility of my going over to Sydney during 1979 to teach at the Marist Seminary Union. . . . I agree with you that it is best to keep off the subject of his being able to operate in Ballarat until he is further down the road of therapy and direction. In spiritual direction I have followed Kinnane's psychological approach, but there is much work to be done.

JF Harvey
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② Second fold

Additional message area

I informed Dr. Kinnane about your letter, and in the light of his work with Paul he was not surprised that these things had turned up. I intend to inform Paul that I have heard from you, but I shall not disclose the details mentioned in your letter lest his spirit be crushed. But eventually he must be told. Meanwhile I will keep in touch with you and continue to see Paul. Thank you for your prayers. Be assured of mine.

Sincerely in Christ,

John F. Harvey
OSB