

REV R. DURHAM

Dear Reg,

I have been thinking of you constantly and with you many brother priests and religious and friends, praying constantly for your support.

As I indicated recently, because of the serious nature of the charges and the protocol I must follow, there are certain procedures I must follow:

1. I require of you a letter of resignation from your office of administration of the neerkol parish. This is a requirement that you stand aside completely until the matters are settled.
2. It will be necessary to stand aside from all public functions including masses. It does not of course, effect your celebrating mass privately. I will make provision for the pastoral care of the parish in the future.
3. While aware of your need to return to Rockhampton next week for court matters, I would like you to remain on leave or long service leave but it is essential that you no be seen to continue with former ministry.
4. As I mentioned recently, it will be necessary for you to live away from neerkol, until the whole matter is resolved. I have discussed this with the leadership team of the sisters and that is their wish, with which I concur. It would be better if you

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were to remain on leave outside of the Diocese and I am wondering whether you have priest or lay friends, with whom you could stay. Taking that, I would find a place where you could receive support and care while you are regaining your health.

I realise that you will need to stay at neerkol for several nights next week and the Sisters make it clear that the presbytery will be there for you and your possessions will remain there. I also want to stress that the Sisters resident at neerkol would have been happy for you to stay on there and, although we offer you their love and support, but they do appreciate the absence at least temporary is necessary because of the protocol we follow Reg, the seriousness of the charges makes these steps and requirements necessary. I know it is a very painful time for you, but we have no option other than to follow them.

Please feel free to phone me if there is need for clarification I would like your letter of resignation as soon as possible. I would like you to make contact when you return on Monday so that I can offer you whatever support you need. I respect totally the confidentiality between yourself and your legal representatives John Grace is on hand to offer and advice.

Give my best wishes to martin, we will continue to lay our sorrows and joys at the Lords feet.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Heena Bishop