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13. 6. 96

Dear AYB

Thanks you for your letter and for so honestly sharing the pain you are going through. I do try to understand the hurt you feel and effect it is having on your life each day. I think your experience must be like that of Jesus in the garden, pain and uncertainty of where his father was. I guess the hope is that through the garden agony and the cry of desolation on the cross, he endured. My prayer is that because you through your dying experience, will rejoice in a resurrection time in the near future. Please persevere with Jesus, even in the darkness.

Your letter to Bishop Robinson was excellent and came from your own experience. I am sure that he would have appreciated the openness with which you wrote and the careful analyzing of the factors and dimensions causing deep pain. I too hope that a genuine concern for addressing the real issues in sexual abuse, will come through our pastoral letter. It has been a distressing time for so many, especially as you mention the Wood Inquiry and the Law Courts Programme.

AYB

I would be most happy to see you during the holidays. Please do not hesitate to contact me. May God bless you, ease your pain. Sincerely,  
Bishop Steven