

Brian Brock

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Council of Priests  
C/- The Chairman Fr W. Burston  
Catholic Presbytery  
58 Church St.,  
Mayfield NSW 2304

Dear all,

I write to raise a number of disparate issues that I feel need to be addressed. Whether the forum of the Council of Priests is the appropriate forum for each of the issues may well be debateable. However, you will know better than me, to which body the issues should be addressed. I acknowledge too that perhaps some of these issues may well have been addressed while I was outside the Diocese – if that is the case, I am sorry to have caused any inconvenience and simply request that the information be forwarded to me on those particular subjects.

**Vincent Ryan**

In the Newcastle Herald dated Friday February 28 it was stated that the "Catholic Diocese of Maitland- Newcastle plans to place Ryan into its "Encompass" counselling program for sexual abusers, upon his release."

Is this true? Who made this statement? How was it arrived at? Was there consultation with appropriate bodies concerning this determination of support for Ryan upon his release. Where will the funds be derived for the cost of this program?

If this is the case, what other arrangements, financial or otherwise, are anticipated at the time of Ryan's release? Will he be given financial support, accommodation etc.? What will be Ryan's status or relationship with the Diocese upon his release?

What is the cost to Diocesan funds of Ryan's conviction to this point? From where have these funds been drawn?

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03 MAR 2003  
CHANCERY

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**Accountability**

I request that the Council of Priests seek full disclosure of the use of funds (above and beyond a just stipend, living expenses and expense account for Bishop Michael, determined by Bishop Michael) of that which we know as the Cathedraicum (pardon me if the spelling is incorrect!). We have no way of explaining the use of these significant funds to our communities. The long standing tradition of these funds not being accounted for, seems to have outlived its usefulness, if indeed it ever served any useful purpose.

Thank you for your consideration of the above.

*Suan Brock*

cc. To all members of the Council of Priests

*+ why not celebrate anniversary of first love?*