

St. Patrick's Cathedral

Melbourne Vic 3002

30th May, 1993.

The Parish of Gardenvale,
Fax No.: 596.8493

My dear Friends,

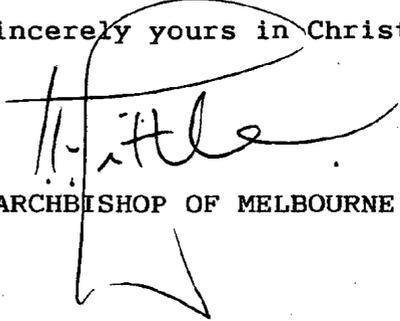
I have heard highly commendable reports of the function held this afternoon to offer your farewell to Father Ronald Pickering. Father Briglia has advised me of the responsible way in which you have faced the unanticipated departure of Father Pickering. I am most grateful. Any change makes its own demands, but for many there will be a deep grieving process for the loss of a pastor of such a rare calibre.

Given that it is asking more than should be anticipated from any people of good will who assume some responsibility for continuing the administration of the parish, I write to advise you that I have given directions to have the appropriate documentation prepared to relieve Father Ronald Pickering of his administrative responsibilities and to appoint Father James Briglia as Administrator of the parish of Gardenvale from Monday, 31st May. I believe that this action will ensure that those presently helping to maintain the parish in an appropriate way will no longer be in such a vulnerable position as they have known to the present. I express my warm gratitude to all those who have rallied to ensure the continuance of services within the parish. I have also authorised Mr. E. Exell, the Diocesan Business Manager, to make arrangements with the Manager(s) of the Bank(s) in which parish monies are held to cancel the signature of Father Pickering for any accounts held for the parish and to arrange for the signature of Father James Briglia to be authorised. I would be grateful for your kind assistance in any advice sought from you by the Business Manager.

Father Briglia will also continue in his appointment as parish priest of Bulleen. However, he will be pleased to work with you to ensure a smooth path in parish affairs prior to his taking up residence at the Gardenvale presbytery. It is presumed that the supply arrangements made by Father Pickering will continue.

With warm thanks for your anticipated kind co-operation and with cordial greetings, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,



ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE.