



James Gould House
 P.O. Box 146
 East Melbourne Vic 3002
 Australia

DECREE

Having previously directed that the prior investigation of a penal process be undertaken to examine the allegations of serious offences against Church Law committed by Reverend Desmond Gannon;

and after this investigation was concluded, in accord with the provisions of *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela, art.13* the acta of the prior investigation was forwarded to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith which has instructed me to impose a penal precept;

and in light of the fact that Reverend Desmond Gannon has admitted to numerous acts of sexual abuse of minors, and has been convicted of these abuses in the civil courts of the State of Victoria;

and cognisant of the grave public scandal and damage to the faithful that these abuses have caused;

but also recognizing Reverend Desmond Gannon's advanced age and physical ailments;

therefore, I, the undersigned Most Reverend Denis Hart, DD, Archbishop of Melbourne, decree the following penal precept on Reverend Desmond Gannon:

1. that he is permanently removed from public ministry, and his priestly faculties remain suspended;
2. that he has no contact with minors (that is, persons who have not completed their eighteenth year);
3. that he will reside in accommodation approved by myself or my authorised representative, and will not move residence without prior approval by myself or my authorised representative;
4. that he will accept such measures of supervision and monitoring as are required by myself or my authorised representative;
5. that he will live a private life of prayer and penance.

A breach of any of the conditions of this precept will result in the application of penalties not excluding dismissal from the clerical state.

The Archdiocese of Melbourne will continue to provide the level of financial and lifestyle support as has been provided up to this point. Reverend Desmond Gannon will avail himself of all the available civil



pension and aged-care entitlements insofar as they are consistent with this precept.

Given this sixteenth day of December 2011.

James Gould House
228 Victoria Parade
East Melbourne 3002

+ *Denis Hart*

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Most Reverend Denis Hart, DD
Archbishop of Melbourne

+ *Alison Wilson*

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Notary