

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ARCHBISHOP'S PERSONNEL ADVISORY BOARD
HELD IN THE BOARDROOM ON WEDNESDAY, 27TH APRIL, 1994 AT 2.00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Most Rev. T.F. Little, D.D. (Chair)
Most Rev. J. O'Connell, D.D.
Most Rev. P. Connors, D.D.
Most Rev. H. Deakin, D.D.
Rev. Monsignor G. Cudmore, V.G., P.P.
Rev. Monsignor J. Murray, E.V., P.P.
Rev. J. Mullally, P.P.
Rev. J. McMahon, P.P.
Rev. P. Dalton, P.P.
Rev. P. Rogers
Rev. B. Cosgriff

APOLOGY: Most Rev. G. Pell, D.D.

Minutes of the meeting held 23rd March, 1994 were read and confirmed.
The following corrections were noted to the minutes:

Paragraph 6 - Line 8. Offer instead of other

Paragraph 17 - Bishop Connors instead of Bishop O'Connell

1. HADFIELD

The Vicar General reported on the parish of Hadfield and the decision made by Fr. G. O'Connor to finish as Parish Priest of Hadfield on the 29th May, 1994 and his readiness to accept another appointment. Fr. O'Connor is to return to the parish on the 1st May and the Vicar General will be Principal Celebrant and speak at the 3 Masses on that weekend. The meeting resolved to ask Fr. K. Burke (Administrator) to step down as Administrator and remain in the parish during the time of Fr. O'Connor's return and after he departs on the 29th May until the parish is advertised and another appointment is made.

2. SUNBURY

Applications were received for the parish of Sunbury. It was moved Bishop Deakin, seconded Monsignor J. Murray that Fr. G. Bourke be appointed Parish Priest of Sunbury. Carried. The Archbishop is to discuss with Fr. Bourke the date of appointment.

3. EAST THORNBURY

Applications were received for the parish of East Thornbury and it was moved Fr. P. Rogers and seconded Fr. P. Dalton that Fr. M. Reynolds be appointed Parish Priest of East Thornbury. Carried. This appointment is to come into effect on the 18th May, 1994.

(2)

4. HEIDELBERG

The Vicar General reported on developments so far as contained in letters received from Fr. A. Girolami on the 14th April and Fr. B. Whelan on the 20th April. Bishop Deakin reported on discussions held with Fr. Whelan, expressing a wish to remain as Parish Priest of Heidelberg. The PAB expressed concern about such a consideration and felt that a return to Heidelberg must involve hospital work. The board recommended that Fr. Whelan be granted leave for 6 months and that a decision about his return to Heidelberg would be made following resolution of legal considerations that remain unfinished. Bishop Deakin is to contact Fr. Girolami re special requirements to cover hospital and parish in the following months.

5. GLEN WAVERLEY

Bishop Deakin reported that Fr. Handley is coping well after the departure of Fr. Moody. The board noted that support was required for Fr. Moody at this time and that urgent consideration be given to finding a suitable appointment for him.

6. MOORABBIN

It was reported that Fr. O'Neill had returned to Moorabbin and that the problems concerning buildings and relationships with the school community still remain. The Vicar General to make contact with Fr. O'Neill.

7. 6-YEAR APPOINTMENTS

The board recommended that the following priests be re-appointed for a further term of 6 years:

Fr. T. Furey
Fr. T. Pidoto
Fr. P. Fulton

8. FR. W. BAKER

Bishop Connors read a report to the meeting on a visit made to Fr. Baker by himself and Fr. Cosgriff. Fr. Baker stated that he was in good health and keen to remain in his appointment at North Richmond.

9. FR. B. SAN

The Archbishop sought advice on a procedure for Fr. San's next appointment.

(3)

10. FR. A. CAMILLERI

Bishop Connors reported that Fr. Camilleri had applied to be dispensed from his religious vows. Bishop Connors also reported that Fr. Camilleri now had permanent residence in Australia and was seeking incardination. He moved that Fr. Camilleri be incardinated into the Archdiocese of Melbourne; seconded Bishop O'Connell. Carried.

11. FR. NGUYEN CONG TRU

Bishop Connors reported that Fr. Nguyen was now resident with the Redemptorist Fathers in Kew.

12. FR. A. CALLINAN

Vicar General read a letter from Dr. P. Grainger-Smith to Fr. Callinan in which he reported that he had visited him on the 14th April and in his letter of the 21st April asked for him to make an appointment for further consultation.

13. FR. B. ROBINSON

Vicar General and Fr. Cosgriff reported on Fr. Robinson's condition and on a phone call from Dr. Grainger-Smith in which he recommended that a telephone call or a visit from the Archbishop or someone representing the Archbishop would be most appropriate and therapeutic. Dr. Grainger-Smith also reported that he believed it unlikely that he would offend again if he were in a normal situation within Australia, supported by friends.

14. FR. M. MIFSUD

Vicar General reported that he had held 2 consultations with Fr. Mifsud, who had discerned over a long period that his vocation was to be a monk (Sonnyassi) - a consecrated priest directly responsible to the Bishop or to join the Pallottine Society to which he had been welcomed.

15. FR. ISIDORE VIJAYAKUMAR

The Vicar General reported on a letter received from Fr. Vijayakumar, who has made application to work in the Archdiocese of Melbourne for a few years. The Board recommended that Father be invited to do so pending the production of the required statements from his Archbishop and himself, guaranteeing his suitability and testimony that neither are aware of any circumstances that might lead to allegations of criminal behaviour.

(4)

16. FR. M. CARUANA

Some concerns were raised about Fr. Caruana and Fr. B. Cosgriff was asked to investigate.

17. DEPARTING PRIESTS/CLERGY MORALE

Fr. Rogers led discussion on incidents of low clergy morale in the face of priests leaving ministry. Several comments were made about falling mass attendances and morale of laity, especially in parishes where priests had left. The need for leadership and clergy support for each other was mentioned. Discussion also took place on the priests gathering to be held on the 28th-30th June.

18. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The meeting was informed that the Special Issues Committee of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference had been re-named "The Bishops Committee for Professional Standards". It was decided that the Special Issues Committee for the Archdiocese of Melbourne should be re-named, "Committee for Professional Standards".

19. DEACON RONALD VALENCIA

The board recommended that Ronald Valencia who will be ordained to the diaconate on the 30th April, 1994 be appointed as Deacon in the parish of Sts. Peter & Paul, East Doncaster, from the time of his ordination until the middle of November, 1994. Faculties are to be granted to Deacon Valencia.

The meeting closed at 5.00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the P.A.B. will be held on Wednesday, 18th May at 2.00 p.m.

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