

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

A Committee of the Australian Catholic Bishops & the
Australian Leaders of Religious Institutes

ABN 35 339 924 339

17th January 2005

Ms Margaret Campbell
St. Margaret's Children & Family Care Society
274 Bath Street
Glasgow G2 4JR
SCOTLAND

Dear Margaret,

I am writing to you on the recommendation of Sr. Angela with whom I share responsibility for managing the office of the National Committee for Professional Standards here in Australia.

I tried to contact Bishop John Mone by email some months ago but it appears that my original communication must not have reached him.

We have received a complaint of sexual abuse against a priest by the name of Aidan Duggan who was born in Scotland and became a Cistercian monk, ministering in Scotland for some years before leaving the Cistercians and coming to Australia where he was incardinated into the Archdiocese of Sydney. When the allegation was made against Fr. Duggan here in Australia he was advanced in years and was suffering from dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Consequently he could not be confronted with the allegations. In the meantime, he has died.

Fr. Aidan has a surviving brother here in Australia, also a priest and a member of the Benedictine congregation. His name is Fr. Fabian Duggan. As you would appreciate, it would be inappropriate of us to acquaint Fr. Fabian of the allegation brought against his brother.

I would be grateful if you could check your records to see if there have been any allegations of improper conduct brought against Fr. Aidan Duggan while he was ministering as a priest in Scotland. Obviously, any information conveyed to us would be treated with the utmost confidentiality. A negative response or an indication that you have no knowledge of him at all would also be of assistance as we try to bring the matter to some resolution.

I thank you in anticipation for any assistance you are able to give.
Best wishes and God Bless!
Sincerely,

R. Julian McDonald cfc
Executive Officer

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