



# AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

General Secretariat

12th June, 1998.

Your Holiness,

In response to the unanimous decision of the Australian Bishops' Conference, I write humbly to request, as a matter of great urgency, a thorough review of canons 1717 ff concerning process, and canon 1362 concerning prescription in the penal procedures of the Code of Canon Law.

This request is made, in accordance with the principles of canons 223, 1, and 1341, by reason of the issues raised by accusations of sexual assault made against priests and religious.

Thanking Your Holiness for giving consideration to our petition, and with sentiments of the utmost love, loyalty, and respect, I remain,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Edward Cardinal Clancy  
Archbishop of Sydney.

President

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

His Holiness  
Pope John Paul II  
VATICAN CITY EUROPE

