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 (Aust) (NSW)

30 November 2007

To the Metropolitan Archbishops of Australia
 the Bishops of NSW and the ACT (2 letters perhaps?)

11 Bishops
 Maitland, Newcastle, Lismore, Armidale, Wollumbi,
 Forbes, Bathurst, Wagga, Wollangong, Broken Bay,
 Parramatta

Your Grace, My Lords,

His Eminence Cardinal Pell who is overseas has asked me to forward the enclosed confidential memorandum prepared by our legal advisers on the outcome of the case *John Andrew Ellis v The Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Archdiocese of Sydney*, and its implications.

The High Court of Australia recently refused the plaintiff's application to hear an appeal against the decision of the New South Wales Court of Appeal in favour of the Trustees. This makes the Court of Appeal's decision the final authority for such cases in New South Wales, and it may have important implications for dioceses in other states.

If you have any questions about this matter or require more information about this case and its outcome, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

version to be
 copied & sent
 to NSW bps
 & all Archbishops
 (if JU OK's).

Fr John Usher
 CHANCELLOR

(image 57637