



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

18 August 2014

Mr Tony Giugni
Solicitor Assisting
Royal Commission
Email: tony.giugni@childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au

Dear Mr Giugni

I am the Vicar General of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, and I am writing in response to your letter to Father Guelen dated 14 August 2014.

Fr Guelen is a priest of the Archdiocese, currently residing in a priests retirement home at Clifton Hill in Melbourne. I wanted to advise the Commission that Fr Guelen is now 85 years of age and suffered two strokes in November 2013 and May 2014. Fr Guelen was also in a car accident within the last two weeks, and suffered injury as a result, including several broken ribs.

Fr Guelen has nevertheless been provided with a copy of the Commission's letter and the attached documents. He has read the material, and asked me to respond to this letter on his behalf.

In particular, Fr Guelen has asked me to advise the Commission that he has consistently denied the statement that he saw anyone with Fr O'Donnell in his room, as has been suggested, and that he again denies that he saw such a thing.

Fr Guelen wants to ensure that the Commission is aware of his position on this issue, although he is not well enough to attend the Commission.

A copy of a medical certificate is attached.

Yours sincerely



Monsignor Greg Bennet
VICAR GENERAL

Encl.

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