

16. 9. 10

COPY

Dear Archbishop Hickey,

3/17/1996

Some years ago

I came to see you about my two sons,

[redacted] and [redacted] who had
 been sexually, physically & emotionally
 abused over many years at Linstead &
 Linstead during the 1960's.

You referred me
 on to of all people, the Christian
 Brothers.

I feel sad &
 disappointed that neither you nor
 the Brothers have ever contacted
 the Boys to see how they are coping.

We are
 constantly traumatised by what
 happened, every day of our lives.
 It just never goes away, & it has
 affected our lives so very much.

My granddaughter
 is being married in the Catholic
 Church in Cleveland. I have to tell
 her that I am unable to attend
 as the thought of going into a
 Catholic Church again is unimaginable.
 I know I would not be able to handle
 it.

To say no is one of the most
difficult things I have had to
do, as my Grand-daughter was
so looking forward to me being
there on her special day.

I have a book about fear.
It says in it "Face the fear & then
do it anyway." However, this is a
case where that is not possible
for me.

Yours Faithfully,

VK