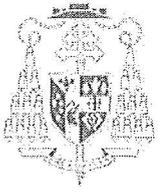


ARCHBISHOP OF PERTH

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL
21 VICTORIA SQUARE, PERTH WA 6000
PO BOX 3311, PERTH ADELAIDE TERRACE, WA 6832

30 September 2010

VK

REDACTED

Dear VK

I am sorry to hear of what has transpired since you came to me some years ago about your sons VJ and VI

Since your letter I have spoken to Brother Peter Negus, the Brothers' representative in matters of abuse. He informs me that the boys engaged Slater and Gordon in a class action which led to a small compensation amount and a later payment for medical and psychiatric bills. It is probably due to the class action that there was no follow up, but there should have been. *-2x0006*

Brother Negus expressed his sincere regret to me that the boys did not receive pastoral care. He is sorry it did not happen, but thinks that it was because of the legal process that kept the parties at a distance from each other.

Is it too late to do something now? I hope not. Once the complaint went to the Brothers, I left the matter in their hands.

We have learned a lot since those days about the huge life-shattering effects of abuse, especially by Church people. I know the Brothers now make an effort to contact people personally and invite them to talk about their experiences, resulting often in some healing of hurts.

Brother Negus is willing to do that now if it is not too late. So am I.

Unfortunately I will be on pilgrimage for the next three weeks, but I would love to see you and the boys if they wish, when I return.

If you feel you can accept this invitation, please write to me and my secretary will make sure it happens.

Again, my regrets and apologies that we have not done what we so obviously should have done.

Yours sincerely in Jesus Christ

Most Rev B J Hickey
Archbishop of Perth

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