

MARIST CENTRE



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21/3/99

Dear Mick,

I am writing this on Sunday afternoon and have decided after much soul searching that I cannot go through with the legal process.

The swiftness with which events occurred leaves me devastated and to be treated like a criminal is more than I can bear. Maybe I am a criminal but I cannot face the consequences.

Dragging the Marist Brother name through the mud and causing the Brothers more anxiety again is more than I can cope with.

Things would probably have exploded in the press around the same time as Marcellin Champagnat was being canonised and this would have caused me greater distress taking the shine off the wonderful event. Hopefully by that time things will have died down.

I apologise to all the Brothers for any concern my action will bring but I would prefer to place myself in the hands of Jesus, Mary, Joseph and St Marcellin than in the hands of the Law.

For the very first time in my life I had job satisfaction and loved my work even though it was long and enduring hours. I built it up from nothing and had great dreams of doing even better things in the months ahead but all this has suddenly evaporated and could never be the same again.

I hope I have left things in order for my successor.

Please let the Brothers know that I am deeply sorry for this and ask that they remember me in their prayers and pray for the repose of my soul.

Please keep my funeral low keyed just a simple Mass with **no Eulogy** and may I be buried amongst the Brothers in the Brothers' cemetery here in Mittagong.

I bear no ill will against the person who had me charged as he had every right to do so and I ask his forgiveness if he would be so kind.

May God forgive me for my actions then and now.

Yours faithfully Mick and the Brothers
Again my sincere and deep apologies

Ray Foster