



Joanne email 112


Joanne McCarthy <jmccarthy@fairfaxmedia.com.au>
To: Ashleigh McNeilly <amcneilly@fairfaxmedia.com.au>

5 March 2013 14:46

Joanne McCarthy

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NEWCASTLE HERALD

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Joanne McCarthy** <jmccarthy@fairfaxmedia.com.au>
Date: 8 June 2010 16:17
Subject: more from Lucas re phone calls to McAlinden victims in 1995
To: fox1pet@police.nsw.gov.au

From: Fr Brian Lucas [mailto:gensec@catholic.org.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 4 May 2010 8:42 AM
To: Joanne McCarthy
Subject: RE: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

Dear Joanne,

As I said before I do not have a sufficiently reliable recollection from 15 years ago to be able to make any public comments on the questions you ask.

Fr Brian Lucas

General Secretary

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

G.P. Box 368 Canberra 2601

ph 02 6201.9845 f 02 6247.6083 m 0419.243.959

From: Joanne McCarthy [mailto:jmccarthy@theherald.com.au]

1336

Sent: Monday, 3 May 2010 6:25 PM
To: Fr Brian Lucas
Subject: RE: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

Dear Fr Lucas,

Further to our previous communication.

Can you confirm a meeting at Maitland in the months preceding October 1995 in which a victim of Denis McAlinden's, in the company of a Catholic nun, conveyed child sex abuse allegations about McAlinden to you?

Can you confirm phone contact with two other women in the months preceding October 1995 in which the women conveyed child sex abuse allegations involving McAlinden to you?

Regards. Joanne McCarthy.

From: Fr Brian Lucas [mailto:gensec@catholic.org.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2010 3:12 PM
To: Joanne McCarthy
Subject: RE: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

Dear Joanne,

I said that I had no recollection. I still do not have any recollection. I may have spoken with him but I do not recall what he said or what I said to Bishop Clarke.

Fr Brian Lucas

General Secretary

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

G.P.O. BOX 368

CANBERRA 2601

p 02 6201 9845

f 02 6247 6083

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From: Joanne McCarthy [mailto:jmccarthy@theherald.com.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2010 1:42 PM
To: Fr Brian Lucas
Subject: RE: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

1337

Dear Fr Lucas,

I have a document written by the late Bishop Leo Clarke to McAlinden on October 19, 1995, informing McAlinden the diocese had begun an impediment to the exercise of orders case, which says the decision was made "In the light of your admission to Fr Brian Lucas and other evidence".

Is there another Fr Brian Lucas?

I also have a letter from McAlinden to Clarke dated October 26, 1995, in which he says "Incidentally, the word 'confidential' has a very hollow ring as far as Maitland is concerned: Brian Lucas convinced me, against my better judgement, to accept that the information I gave him would be held in strict confidence by the bishop".

If there is another Fr Brian Lucas I need to put these questions to him.

I would appreciate your assistance.

Thank you. Joanne McCarthy.

From: Fr Brian Lucas [mailto:gensec@catholic.org.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2010 12:45 PM
To: Joanne McCarthy
Subject: RE: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

Dear Joanne,

After some 15 or more years I do not trust my recollection sufficiently to make any public statement. I do not have any recollection of meeting Fr McAlinden.

Fr Brian Lucas

General Secretary

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

G.P.O. BOX 368

CANBERRA 2601

p 02 6201 9845

f 02 6247 6083

From: Joanne McCarthy [mailto:jmccarthy@theherald.com.au]
Sent: Monday, 12 April 2010 6:57 PM
To: Fr Brian Lucas
Subject: from Joanne McCarthy, Newcastle Herald

1338

Dear Rev Brian Lucas,

My name is Joanne McCarthy, I am a journalist with the Newcastle Herald, and I am writing about the late priest Denis McAlinden.

I have written stories about McAlinden before in which his sexual offending was acknowledged by Catholic Church representatives.

I am preparing further stories on the church's handling of his case, including an attempt to laicize him in 1995.

Can you confirm you had contact with McAlinden?

Can you confirm information was conveyed by you to the then Maitland Newcastle Bishop Leo Clarke after a conversation or session with McAlinden?

I have already sent questions to Maitland Newcastle Bishop Michael Malone **REDACTED**
. I am required to ask for specific responses from you because your name will be included as having an involvement with the McAlinden matter.

Thank you. Joanne McCarthy.

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