

14 May 1993

Mr D McAlinden

VR48

Dear Denis,

The Bishop is in Rome on his "ad limina" visit and will not return to mid-June, so I afford you the courtesy of a reply, in view of your situation.

If I may comment -

Because of the "protocol" being put in place when the accusations were made there was no prior discussion between the Bishop and Fr Brian regarding your placement.

The news of your suggestion of your returning to your sisters was known to those who came forward and they expressed concern that you only intended to stay a few months and then return to Australia. This is why the Bishop asked you to return to see him so that he could clarify your needs. In their expressions of concern they asked that you be offered spiritual and other help and the Bishop explained to them that this had been arranged for you and that you had agreed to see people in England, and would notify the Bishop when you had done so.

These same people have been referred by us to professional counsellors and to my knowledge are in that process at the present time.

AL did speak to me but I disagree with your assessment of the situation. But the issue now is to care for you as we are caring for them.

I have been in contact with Mgr Dan Leonard, Vicar General of Birmingham, where he has been Vicar General for 25 years. He is an Irishman and knows the situation in both England and Ireland. I have phoned him and asked him to speak to you and he has agreed to offer any support needed.

---

Denis, you indicated in your letter that you have resident status in the Republic of Ireland. When I mentioned this to Mgr Leonard he came up with a recommendation of Nazareth House,

2.

Mallow, County Cork as a retirement place that caters for not only retired priests but for the laity as well. I will write to them to see if they have any vacancies and the financial arrangements that they require.

So Denis if you could please contact Mgr Leonard and I will be in touch with you as soon as I have the necessary replies from Ireland.

With sincere best wishes,

Monsignor A J Hart, VG  
Vicar General

AJH/ED