



DIOCESE OF MAITLAND-NEWCASTLE

Elizabeth
10-30 AM

CONFIDENTIAL

CHANCERY OFFICE
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Newcastle West NSW
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Australia

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Thursday, 20th June, 2002

AC
(AC's address)

Dear AC

Your Statement of Complaint against Fr McAinden has been forwarded to me from the NSW Professional Standards Office. Fr McAinden is no longer in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, however, he is still alive and living in Western Australia. As the Bishop of the Diocese I have the responsibility of responding to your complaint.

I know that it must have been very difficult for you to have taken this step. Please be assured that your complaint is being taken seriously. Dealing with a complaint takes much longer than most people expect, so please do not think that you have been forgotten or that we are deliberately holding things up.

The next step will be for me to appoint an independent assessor to investigate the matter. The assessor will want to speak with you about the events in question. I trust you are agreeable to this.

I note that you have chosen not to report this matter to the Police. While that is your decision at this point in time, you need to understand that you can report the matter to the Police at any time. I will cooperate with them in their investigation should you decide to report to them.

Now that the process has begun I trust that you will come to resolve some matters which have been, and still are, of significant concern to you.

As the present Bishop of the Diocese I deeply regret the appalling behaviour of Fr McAinden and hope, like yourself, that a just and compassionate resolution of these matters may result.

I remain,

Yours sincerely

Most Reverend Michael Malone
Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle

+MM/ed

File: Sexual Abuse\

AC

- re McAinden, Fr D (Jun 02)