

So far I have not heard
from Pop. Com.
Even if this Bishop (and I!) agree
to a trial period there would still arise
at some time the matter of incardination.
However the 2-yr loan is not a bribe
to me. My experience does not favor
it, and many will agree with me
that incardination is the only
solution.

ack

CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY,
SINGLETON.

3/12/59.

MOST REV JOHN TOOHEY, O.D.,
BISHOP OF MAITLAND.

My Lord Bishop,

Some weeks ago I had a letter from Bishop
Cavallera, I.M.C., in Nyeri, Kenya, in which he said he
intended writing to you. I thought it best to explain the
circumstances that brought about this correspondence. You
had spoken frequently of the shortage of priests in the Dioc
and placed it as one of the reasons why you could not see
your way clear to release me for the Missions -- I fully
realize from my interview with you on Sept. 29th. that there
are other serious obstacles also. Well, my Lord, I had
previously written to Bishop Cavallera, thinking he may have
a priest in his diocese who was dissatisfied with missionary
life or was finding it too strenuous, and I had some hope
that an exchange might be brought about. As it turned out

the Bishop explained that all his priests belonged to Religious Orders or Congregations, and could be put to other work at home by their Superiors. He also said that he knew you very well, and would take it upon himself to write to you on my behalf. Remembering our conversation on Sept. 29th., and understanding that you felt you could not recommend me for Incardination into another Diocese, owing to previous misconduct, I can see that such a request from Bishop Cavallera might place you in a somewhat unpleasant position. None of this I had foreseen when I wrote to him, as I had not anticipated that of all the Bishops in Missionary Countries I should have chosen to write to one who was your host when he was Rector of Propaganda College in Rome. I have prayed much about the matter and felt prompted to make the following suggestion. Perhaps the Bishop might take me on loan for a few years without the recommendations necessary for Incardination, and then let him make his own decision at the end of that time. I know the idea of loan is not ideal, and that only Incardination is the recommended thing, but perhaps even this admits of exceptions. Could this be a solution for my case?

Please, my Lord, do not think that I am not aware of the needs of the Diocese, or that I do not appreciate your position as Bishop with a shortage of priests. But it seems a shame that the hundreds of thousands of people are just clamouring for the Faith in Africa and are deprived through the shortage of priests. Besides, could we not trust that God will supply our needs for more priests in this Diocese if we try to be more generous towards the Missions. In this way I feel I could still serve the Diocese.

with every good wish, and begging you blessing,

I remain, my Lord,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Signed