



P.O. Box 121,
BALLARAT, VIC. 3350.
(5 Lyons St. South)
Telephone: (053) 377 121.

June 30th, 1988.

Rev. Fr. Gerald Ridsdale.
c/o St. Patrick's Cathedral,
Ballarat, 3350.

Dear Father Ridsdale,

In the light of our recent discussions and given the circumstances under which these discussions arose and your own present state of anxiety, I confirm the action on which we agreed and hereby withdraw your priestly faculties connected with the public celebration of the Eucharist, of the Sacraments and of preaching the Word of God.

This suspension of your priestly faculties is for a period of twelve months, after which we can discuss the future position in the light of developments in that time.

The suspension of your public activities as a priest does not preclude your celebration of the Eucharist privately nor, of course, the exercise of the sacramental ministry in cases where this is necessary to take care of the faithful who may be in danger of death.

Should the particular situation which you mentioned - namely, the death of a close member of your family - arise, then you should refer the matter to me or to the Vicar General and expect sympathetic consideration to be given to a request for the temporary lifting of the restrictions on your public celebration.

Be assured of my prayers and my desire to be of assistance in any way possible.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Ballarat.

*Noted and
willingly accepted.*

G Ridsdale

2-7-88