

April 11, 1978

The Most Reverend  
 Ronald Mulkearns  
 Bishop of Ballarat

*Your Excellency:  
 This typewriter broke down, I'll continue on  
 another.*

April 13: I was delayed in continuing this letter because of some extraordinary work these past few days. It also gave me an opportunity to discuss at some length the letter which he mailed to you on the 12 of April. I see in Paul's letter two distinct issues. The first is confidentiality. He does not want it to be known to another bishop that he has the specific problem for which he had been sent to America. Naturally, I thought what would be the obligation of a bishop writing a letter of recommendation to another bishop to reveal the specific problem. Using the usual precautions, I discussed the matter with another professional moralist. He felt that the most you would have to admit would be that your priest was under the care of a therapist and a spiritual director. I agree with this opinion. But there is a second issue. Dr. Kinnane is of the opinion that Paul should return home after he has completed his therapy and has completed the work necessary for the M.A. He does not see the wisdom of Paul remaining at Virginia Beach for six months beyond the time when therapy and M.A. are completed. He feels that Paul could get spiritual direction in Australia. He recognizes the difficulties which Paul might have in returning now, but he feels that it is better to make reentry now. . . . If you decide to allow Paul to remain in the States for six more months after July, then I would to specify the conditions under which I would be willing to continue to be his spiritual director. I would want to see him regularly despite the distance from Virginia Beach to Washington--not really too far. If I thought at any time therapy with Dr. Kinnane should be resumed, I would ask Paul to do so. I would want to know how he was developing in his spiritual life--now that the period of therapy was over.

I believe that I have presented the two issues to you, and I feel that I should add no comment, because it is a decision which is truly yours. I will pray earnestly over the matter. I have seen Paul every week that he has in school sessions. I think that he has come a long way. I will continue to help him. Perhaps we or I will see you in the States next fall. Meanwhile I will wait to hear from you.

Sincerely in Christ,

*John F. Harvey OSB*

PS: I made a carbon of the above portion of this letter which I will show to Paul. But not this PS. I am aware of the difficulty that more people may know about Paul than he realizes and that such can create a deeper difficulty of re-entry. Dr. Kinnane also knows through me about this. He is very desirous to know what plans you may have with regard to Paul. He is afraid that if Paul remains for six more months beyond study, that could become a dangerous situation. No one really knows whether

*Paul would get rid of the past too easily. He might forget it too easily*