



Diocese of Pembroke

Chancery Office

January 25, 2016

My dear Brothers,

Please find enclosed a Notification from the Holy See regarding the dismissal from the clerical state of Robert Borne. This decision will be made public on Tuesday, January 26, 2016. My letter today is intended for your own reflection at this immediate time and in the months before us. I leave to the discretion of each pastor the decision to publish the Notification in the parish bulletin at any time.

This is a very sad document that I am sending to you. Especially in this Jubilee Year of Mercy, the full impact of this decision is sobering while, at the same time, just and proper.

The dismissal of Robert Borne has been executed through a decree of a canonical process. This decree was upheld by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and there is no appeal. As sobering as this decision is, it is good for us to recognize the fact that, when required, the Church has the will to exercise the powers which have been granted to her by Christ in order to impose a just penalty for the good of the community.

With this action, the Church has not denied Robert Borne something that is his right or that he deserves. On the contrary, by this decision, Robert Borne will no longer be able to exercise a great gift which had been given to him by Christ through the Church. This gift was intended for the service of God and his people. The exercise of this gift has been taken away from him for the remainder of his life. Nor does this act in any way jeopardize his ability to receive the graces of the sacraments of the Church for his own salvation. The penalty imposed is the loss of a faculty to exercise a precious gift.

I pray that you keep these ideas in mind and heart as you reflect on this decision. And I pray that it will be an opportunity for each of us to appreciate ever more profoundly the unique and unrepeatable nature of our own call and the precious priestly ministry that we are blessed to exercise day after day.

My dear brothers, with all my heart, I thank you for your willingness to reflect and speak together about these matters in the past months and I anticipate an opportunity to do the same in the future.

In Christ,

+ Michael Mulhall
Bishop of Pembroke



Diocese of Pembroke

Chancery Office

NOTIFICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF PEMBROKE

On January 6, 2016, the Diocese of Pembroke received from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith a decree dated December 4, 2015 conveying and executing the decision of the Holy See, in which Robert Borne of the Diocese of Pembroke has been dismissed from the clerical state and dispensed from all priestly obligations. The decree indicated that there is no appeal of this decision.

This Notification is being issued so that the faithful may have clarity regarding the canonical status of Robert Borne. With the publication of this sad and necessary decision, it is asked that the Holy Father and all concerned be remembered in prayer.

January 26, 2016

AVIS AU DIOCÈSE DE PEMBROKE

Le 6 janvier 2016, le Diocèse de Pembroke a reçu de la Congrégation pour la Doctrine de la Foi un décret en date du 4 décembre 2015 exprimant et mettant en vigueur la décision du Saint Siège, à l'effet que Robert Borne du Diocèse de Pembroke a été destitué de l'état clérical et est dispensé de toutes obligations sacerdotales. Le décret indique qu'il n'y a aucun appel de cette décision.

La publication de cet avis veut mettre au clair le statut canonique de Robert Borne. En publiant cette décision triste et nécessaire, on demande que, dans vos prières, vous vous souveniez du Saint Père et de toutes personnes impliquées.

Le 26 janvier 2016