

30 January 2007

Dear Paul,


In accordance with current church requirements, I have informed the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith that you have been convicted of several charges of indecent assault against a minor.

The Secretary of the Congregation has asked me to visit you to discuss whether you would be willing to petition Pope Benedict XVI for the grace of a dispensation from the obligations of the priesthood.

I expect that my letter does not bring you much joy and I regret that I have not been able to meet with you since I came to the Diocese in July 1997.

Thank you for giving consideration to my request,

Yours sincerely in Christ,


BISHOP OF BALLARAT