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September 15, 2020

Mgr. Brian Rayner,
123 Gymea Bay Rd,
Gymea 2227

Dear Brian,

Thank you for meeting with Chris and me today. Because of your uncertain health at present, it has not been possible for you to meet with the Archbishop, and so he has asked us to raise his concerns with you and to seek your assistance in finding a way forward.

As you would know from your time as Vicar General, numerous people report to the Chancery matters of concern from the around the archdiocese, and it is on the basis of information provided to the Archbishop by people both in Gymea and elsewhere, that the Archbishop now wishes to have the matters below raised with you:

1) Your health, which he understands has for some time and continues to be preventing you from carrying out your responsibilities as parish priest, including Sunday masses. The Archbishop is requesting an independent medical assessment so that, in fairness to you, he knows what ministry can reasonably be asked of you at this time and going forward.

2) The professional standards issues around repeated reports of you being dressed in shorts and a dressing gown in the church grounds and the school grounds

3) The canonical/governance issues around the purchase and installation of solar panels on parish buildings without appropriate approval from the Archbishop.

4) The Archbishop's request for an independent external audit of parish financial arrangements. The auditor will be asked to examine the following specific items, in addition to the general audit:

- a. The parish's "Collections Policy" and practice with respect to the various archdiocesan appeals and provisions for First and Second collections
- b. The possible re-allocation of tax deductible CWF donations to the Fiji mission.
- c. The promotion by yourself of *Eternity Funerals*, and whether there are any inappropriate financial links between the parish and this company.

- d. The appropriateness of the reported establishment of a charity/company using the Presbytery as its registered address.
- e. The status of an unregistered company, Australian Fumigation Services, used to provide certification for export to Fiji, and for which your mobile phone number is listed as point of contact.

Brian, as Chris and I explained today, some of the concerns above have not been verified, but because they have been brought to the Archbishop's attention, he is obliged to ensure they are investigated.

The Archbishop requests that by the end of this month, you provide him with your advice about how you can best assist to have these matters resolved.

Very Rev Dr Gerald Gleeson,

Vicar General

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