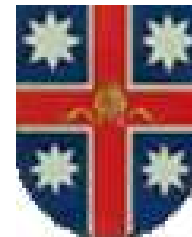




7 August, 2007.



Ad Clerum – August 2007

Dear Colleagues in Ministry

1. **Appointment:**

The Reverend John Simons has accepted my invitation to be the Rector of St. John's Cairns. We welcome John and his wife Mildred to the Diocese. We assure them of our love and prayers as they prepare to move to the North. The date of the induction is still to be set.

2. **Fr. Edward Robert Thomas (Rocky) Nai**

I forwarded an email about ten days ago informing the Diocese of the sudden death of Fr. Rocky. Fr. Rocky was a valued and passionate priest on the Torres Strait.

I ask that you remember Fr. Rocky's family, the people of Yorke Island as well as the people of the Torres Strait on Friday morning as we celebrate and give thanks to God for his faithful, caring and thoughtful life. Fr. Rocky also made a positive contribution to the life of the Torres Strait as a school teacher. The lives of many people have been shaped and formed because of Fr. Rocky's earthly life. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

3. **Revision of the timetable for the Financial Statements for 2006:**

At Synod you were informed that the submission of Financial Reports to Executive Meeting for approval and signing would take place on Thursday 9th August. The Audited Financial Statements would be mailed out to Synod Members on Friday 10th August. This timetable has proved to be too tight.

The revised timetable is as follows:

Friday 17th August – Executive Meeting and the approval and signing off of the Financial Reports.

Friday 17th August – the mailing out of the Audited Financial Statements to Synod members.

Monday 3rd September – the closing date for questions to be forwarded to the Registry.

Saturday 8th September – Diocesan Council.

Sunday 9th September onwards – moving forward in faith and thanksgiving!

I take this opportunity to thank our Accountant Ms. Ann Gledhill and the Diocesan Treasurer, Mr. Peter Towers for all their hard work and dedication.

4. **Position of General Manager:**

The position is currently being advertised. The closing date is the 31st August, 2007. If you know of anyone who you think God may be calling to this position please contact my P.A., Ms Julie Keys.

5. **Book Launch:**

During the lunch break at the Diocesan Council Meeting (08/09/07), which will commence at 1 p.m., I will be launching a book titled by "Please! No More Boring Sermons".

Attached to this email is a brochure providing information as to the contributors, the front cover along with an order form. The reason for a Townsville launch is because Bishop John Noble wrote the Foreword.

I am waiting for my copy to arrive, but I am sure this will be a helpful resource for all who preach.

Everyone is invited. As lunch will be provided please let my P.A. know if you are attending for catering purposes. I know the location limits who can attend, but I pray there will be a good turn out from the Twin Cities.

6. Change:

Travelling around the Diocese I am aware that many of our folk are unsettled. Change is not easy. Some of our people have responded with delight that their local government structure was not changed in the recent review. There are others who are very uncertain and unsettled, because for some it may lead to loss of employment and for others loss of community identity. Please pray for our sisters and brothers across the Diocese in these changing times.

7. Cursillo:

I congratulate the two Lay Directors and their Teams along with the Diocesan Secretariat for their planning and the conduct of the Women's and Men's Cursillos last month. For me as Bishop, it was a delight to be involved with both Cursillos. This coming Saturday there is a Ultreya here in Townsville and I look forward to catching up with many of you. (I know the date clashes with St. Matthew's Fete, but I will have to go to the Fete early!)

I pray there will be a growth in the Cursillo movement within the life of the Diocese.

8. Greek Orthodox.

One of our parishes asked if the Greek Orthodox community could use one of our Churches for a funeral. The answer is yes. I am of the understanding that the Anglican Church has an arrangement that where there is no Greek Orthodox Church, the Anglican Church can be used. I searched the General Synod Constitution etc. but could not find where it is in writing. I have contacted the General Synod Office and they have informed me that this is an acceptable practice of hospitality. The reasoning is quite a lengthy piece of writing and I will share it at a later stage.

9. The Registry Office:

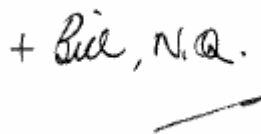
We welcome everyone to the Registry and I want to say it is always wonderful to see you. Sometimes on rare occasions we are attending to confidential information, so may we ask you to wait in reception before we enjoy the pleasure of your company. I know you understand.

10. 2008

At this stage planning is underway for 2008. There are several factors to take into account. One is the timing of the Lambeth Conference. If you have any important dates for 2008 would you please let my P.A. know.

Wishing you every blessing in your ministry.

Yours in Christ.

+ Bill, N.Q.


The Right Reverend William (Bill) Ray
Bishop of North Queensland