

From the Abbot of Downside
Dom Richard Yeo OSB.

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Dear [RC-F77]

I am afraid you will have found the meeting with [RC-A82] a painful experience, and I hope that your holiday has been a refreshing time for you.

There are a number of issues which I need to mention to you, and I thought that it would be easier to do it in writing.

In the first place, it has become increasingly clear that [RC-A82] is out to get compensation, and so the solicitor who is looking after the case for the insurance company needs to see you. He is coming to Downside on Monday 21 July, and I need to ask you to see him. The best time would be at 2.00 p.m., and I shall make the Praelatura available to him

Secondly, I think we need to announce fairly soon that you will be stepping down as parish priest of [DPA]. The Bishop is happy that you should come off at the end of September, and so I suggest that I announce it to the community this week, with the announcement to the parish on the following Sunday -- 27 July. Since this will mark the amalgamation of [DPA] parish with [DPA] parish, there will inevitably be a certain amount of concern, so I will plan to write a letter to the parishioners, announcing the change, which can be read out to them.

Fr Aidan mentioned to me that you had spoken some time ago about being away in September. I do not think that would be helpful, as I think that it is quite important that you give a good deal of attention to [DPA] over the next two months.