

x GLOUCESTER
Name Redacted

Private and Confidential

11 January 1993

000383

Dear Mr [Name Redacted]

The Archbishop has read your letter and is most grateful for the sensitive and understanding spirit in which you wrote it. He apologises for the fact that he is not replying personally, but hopes that you will understand that he faces a horrendous pressure on his diary just at the present time. This coming week he has to be at a meeting of the House of Bishops, dealing with the results of the Synod vote to ordain women to the priesthood, and then he goes immediately to South Africa to meet the other Archbishops of the Anglican Communion until the beginning of February.

On his behalf, I am to tell you that he entirely endorses and supports your decision not to pass the information you have about [Name Redacted] to the Police (though all the information we have here suggests that the Gloucestershire Police have been conducting their investigation with impeccable care and tact). Some enquiries have been made already on behalf of the Archbishop, but in general he believes he must wait until the result of the police investigation is made known before deciding what further enquiry, if any, it might be his own duty to undertake. As you perceptively suggested, the Archbishop might then have difficult decisions to take in order to give the right pastoral support and guidance both to Bishop Peter himself as a colleague and to the diocese of Gloucester and the Church at large.

We hope we are right in surmising here that, whatever the precise nature or explanation of your son's experience at the Bishop's House in Sussex, no lasting harm or traumatic memories have resulted for him. I hope too that you are happy for the matter to be left on the understanding that the Archbishop might wish to get in touch with you at a later date if that seems necessary.

With every good wish.

Yours sincerely

Dictated by the Bishop at Lambeth
but signed on his behalf to avoid delay

Name Redacted

DPA

LAMBETH PALACE