

Lambeth Palace, SE1 7JU.

7/8

000067

17th Dec 1992

My dear Michael

I was just about to write to you when your letter arrived. Thank you!

Yes, in part I know how you feel. In some ways it is as hard for you as Peter. You too feel the guilt, the pain and the sense of bewilderment and like him feel very helpless to control the process or to explain what is actually the truth. You must take some comfort, as I do, from the fact that the press coverage so far is astonishingly neutral, indeed supportive of Peter. He has, you see, much support in the Church and Society because of a proven record of love and care.

We are, of course, in the dark concerning likely processes. Off the Police do not take this to Prosecution - and I don't think they have grounds for doing so - then we could find the matter ends there and there. That is my hope and fervent prayer.

If Peter is prosecuted then we may have to brave ourselves for a very unpleasant time and the outcome, of course, cannot be predicted.

But in all this, Michael, I give to you and Peter my solid support and ongoing



affection. I have just written to Peter to assure him that he has my undiminished affection and admiration and I will work for his return to his Gloucester Ministry.

In the meantime we pray and like our Lord in his Incarnation we are obedient to the Father's will. Strange, until now I've never seen the connection between Cradle and Gethsemane - now I do. It's all about submission. Mary: 'Be it to me according to your word'.

Jesus: 'Not my will but thine'.

Dear Michael, God bless and keep you. Don't hesitate to contact me at any point. From Dec 23 - 30 we shall be at the Old Palace, Canterbury.

Your warmer

**DPA**