

30th September 2010

Rev. Fr. Edward Dougherty, MM, Superior General, Maryknoll Fathers, Maryknoll, NY, 10545-0303

Dear Fr.,

RE: COURT CASE INITIATED BY FR. WLLIAM CHARLES FRYDA AGAINST THE ASSUMPTION SISTERS OF NAIROBI

Receive greetings and cordial regards from the Archdiocese of Nairobi.

I wish to communicate to you my deep concern. It has come to my notice that there is a court case pending in Nakuru, Kenya initiated by Rev. Fr. William Charles Fryda MM, against the Assumption Sisters of Nairobi. This is Civil Suit, No. 224 of 2010 in the High Court of Kenya at Nakuru.

As you may recall and appreciate, we have held several meetings with Fr. Fryda and discussed the issues related to this case. We have held further meetings between myself, yourself and Fr. Fryda with his team. We have held meetings between ourselves and the Assumption Sisters of Nairobi and finally between myself, the Bishop of Nakuru and Fr. Fryda.

In all those meetings and especially the final one with Bishop, it was our strong recommendation that the matters regarding ownership and related properties in this case be resolved within the internal procedures of the Catholic Church. This would take care of both parties considering that there is no outsider among them.

I feel so surprised and disappointed that despite all these meetings and the advice, Fr. Fryda has unilaterally proceeded to a Public court and instituted a case against the Assumption Sisters of Nairobi.

It is important to appreciate that while this approach may seem normal, it will affect not only the Assumption Sisters of Nairobi but will send the wrong signal about the Archdiocese of Nairobi, the Catholic Church in Kenya and the Maryknoll Missionaries in the Archdiocese of Nairobi and in the country. The case and the process will have adverse effects on the pastoral mission of the Catholic Church in Nairobi and the country at large.

I therefore, through you urge Fr. Fryda to desist from having this approach through a public court and to quickly undertake the process expected of a Catholic priest within the context of the Canonical Procedures of the Church.

I wish to further inform you that consequent to our meetings, I as the Archbishop of Nairobi am going to form a Commission within the provisions of Canon Law to undertake due process on this matter. Be informed therefore, that the urgent action by Fr. Fryda in withdrawing this court case and surrendering to the canonical process will be in the interest of the Catholic Church and its fundamental mission in furtherance of the gospel, using every means to this end, including the hospitals in question.

I look forward to your urgent and considered action, and avail myself this opportunity to renew to you my assurance of highest esteem and prayerful best wishes.

Yours sincerely

+John Cardinal Njue

ARCHBISHOP OF NAIROBI

CC: His Excellency Archbishop Alain Paul Lebeaupin
Apostolic Nuncio in Kenva

Rt. Rev. Maurice Muhatia Makumba Bishop of Nakuru

Rev. Fr. Lance Nadeau, MM Regional Superior/Provincial P.O Box 43058-00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Rev. Sr. Christine Kagunye Superior General -Assumption Sisters of Nairobi

Rev. Fr. William Charles Fryda, MM