

CJH/AFT

20th January 1976

Confidential

With this letter you will see a copy of the Pope's reply to the Archbishop of Canterbury's letter to him on the question of the ordination of women. This is a very carefully nuanced letter.

At some stage someone is going to ask in General Synod what has become of the Resolution asking for ecumenical counsel. I have discussed briefly with the Archbishop as to whether he feels this letter should be made public. I think the time is not yet ripe for this, but some answer will have to be given eventually to Synod questions. I wonder if you have any views on this matter.

Michael Moore is today taking a copy of the letter to Bishop Howe and asking his views. My feeling is that Trinidad might be an appropriate time for tabling the letter.

I have also sent a copy to John Arnold with a similar letter.

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