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Divis Residents Association

Secretary:

Mr Francis Mc Cann

Ms Marie Osborne.

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22 ST. PETER'S ROW,
BELFAST BT12 4RR.

Telephone..232608.....

*Answered
16 April 1985*

His Lordship, Bishop Cathal Daly,
Somerton Road,
Belfast Bt14.

10th April 1985.

Dear Bishop Daly,

We in the Divis Residents Association were most heartened by your public denunciation of conditions here in the Divis Flats complex and your concern for the social and physical welfare of its inhabitants. We are very encouraged by your call for demolition and would like to thank you for using your influence for our benefit.

We have felt for a very long time that public figures such as yourself are in a much better position to command attention to our plight, despite the years of work and struggle in which we ourselves have been engaged in order to have our voices and opinions heard.

Our residents committee is comprised of ordinary tenants from the flats and despite varying political beliefs among individuals we are solidly united in our determination to have Divis Flats demolished and our community provided with decent housing and living conditions which are our basic right.

We would very much like to meet with your Lordship to explain the work in which we are involved and the many obstacles which we have yet to tackle, and feel that such a meeting would be mutually beneficial to both parties as a morale boost to our members and our work; and for you, as a further enlightenment on the feelings and needs of our community so that you can remain informed on the situation if you wish to continue your interest either privately or publicly.

We very much hope that you will consent to our request as previous invitations to attend public functions hosted by us have met with no response and your schedule when recently visiting St Peters Parish was unknown to us. We will of course be prepared to meet at your convenience and hope that your Lordship will also feel that a meeting would be of value. We would be happy to have a local priest from the parish present if you would like to invite a representative from the presbytery.

Once again, thank you for the much needed support which your sermon provided and we look forward to a continued interest from Your Lordship and a mutually beneficial relationship between us both.

Yours faithfully,

Frank Gillen
Mr Frank Gillen.
(Chairman).