



**ARCHDIOCESE OF KINGSTON
CHANCERY OFFICE**

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June 17, 2013

Mr. Maurice Tomlinson
c/o Miss Anika Gray
2 Cane Palm Drive
Palms of Portmore
Portmore, St. Catherine

Dear Mr. Tomlinson,

I acknowledge receipt of both your e-mails. Please excuse my tardiness in responding as the Ordination of the new Bishop of Montego Bay and my annual retreat has kept me quite a bit out of the office.

As you might not be aware of the hierarchical structure of the Catholic Church, let me clarify that even though I am the Archbishop, I can only speak for the Archdiocese of Kingston as I am not the head of the Catholic Church in Jamaica. Indeed, no such position exists in our Island, each Bishop being responsible for his own Diocese.

As Chief Shepherd of the Catholics in Kingston, I do not feel that I need to make any special declaration at this time in the present debate as the position of the Catholic Church was clarified by the Holy See in March of 2011 following the declaration of 2008 which you kindly quoted. This suffices for us at this time. These documents are easily accessible on-line. I find, however, that the concluding remarks of Archbishop Tommasi in his 2011 intervention at the U.N. in Geneva very useful in the present debate,

"And finally, Mr. President, we wish to call attention to a disturbing trend in some of these social debates: People are being attacked for taking positions that do not support sexual behavior between people of the same sex. When they express their moral beliefs or beliefs about human nature, which may also be expressions of religious convictions, or state opinions about scientific claims, they are stigmatized, and worse -- they are vilified, and prosecuted. These attacks contradict the fundamental principles announced in three of the Council's resolutions of this session. The truth is, these attacks are violations of fundamental human rights, and cannot be justified under any circumstances."

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It is my wish that such attacks against persons who uphold the definition and sanctity of marriage as a union between a man and a woman never become a reality in our Island.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles H. Dufour". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Most Rev. Charles H. Dufour, DD.,CD
Archbishop of Kingston