

Statement of Fr John Walshe

In 1982 I was a sexually naïve and emotionally vulnerable young man. For a short time, as a young adult, I formed an emotional attachment to another young adult, and engaged in consensual conduct with that person.

My conduct was contrary to my religious beliefs. However, it by no means constituted any form of abuse.

I must emphasize that we were both adults and our conduct, was completely consensual.

Following those events, I underwent extensive counselling to deal with the internal conflicts I faced. My conduct since that time has been exemplary. I have worked tirelessly as parish priest and have enjoyed the complete confidence of three Archbishops over the past three decades.

I have devoted my life to the Church and I have worked tirelessly within my Parish to improve the lives of my Community. I look forward to continuing that work in the future.

Fr John Walshe

22 December 2015