

April 2019

Dear Parents / Carers

I am writing to you regarding Fr Philip McBrien, former Parish Priest at Corpus Christi, Clifton and Our Lady and St Patrick's in The Meadows. The Diocese of Nottingham has released the following statement:

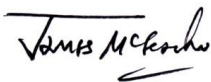
"The Diocese of Nottingham, which covers the area in which Philip McBrien has worked as a priest, acknowledges that he has pleaded guilty to various offences connected with downloading and viewing of child abuse images. We share the shock and hurt which many people will feel that someone in a position of trust has committed such offences.

Fr McBrien was immediately removed from parish ministry after his arrest. Since then, we have been working with Nottinghamshire Police and other statutory authorities throughout the preparation of this case. The abuse of children is abhorrent, by whomsoever it is perpetrated, and the viewing and downloading of child abuse images is a real crime with real victims. The Catholic Church is committed to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk in all its activities and no child or adult should ever suffer at the hands of others. We will continue to work with the police and other authorities whenever allegations of abuse arise, and will do our best to ensure that our churches and parishes are safe and welcoming for all members of the community."

None of the offences relate to pupils of Blessed Robert Widmerpool Catholic School or St Patrick's Catholic School or any other children in the parishes of Corpus Christi, Clifton or Our Lady and St Patrick's in the Meadows.

I would like to reassure you that the well-being of all of our pupils remains a priority for the school.

Yours



James McGeachie
CEO, Our Lady of Lourdes CMAT

Headteacher, St Patrick's

