



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE

media release

Date: 1 March 2013

Statement by Archbishop Denis Hart responding to Brother Barry Coldrey, CFC.

While I respect the processes of the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into the handling of child abuse by religious and other non-government organisations and the right of victims to speak freely, I must respond to a false allegation made by Christian Brother, Barry Coldrey before the Inquiry on Friday, 1 March.

I emphatically reject his allegation that I have been involved in a cover up of a suspected paedophile at Mannix College, Monash University or that there was any cover up. These untrue claims unfairly malign all the hard working staff at Mannix College.

Brother Coldrey was a part-time volunteer at Mannix College for a number of years. His role ceased at the end of 2010. While he was volunteering at Mannix College, Brother Coldrey alleged that there may have been a paedophile working at the College. The allegation was shown to have no substance.

All staff at Mannix College hold a current Working With Children Check.

I look forward to my opportunity to appear before the Inquiry.

End

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