

**From:** James O'Farrell  
**Sent:** 13 Apr 2011 12:31:12 +1000  
**To:** howea@heraldsun.com.au  
**Subject:** RE: Questions from Alan Howe  
**Attachments:** Alan Howe April 2011.doc

Dear Alan

Please find attached responses to your questions.

Any statements drawn from the responses (attached) are to be attributed to Archbishop Denis Hart.

regards

**James O'Farrell**  
Director Catholic Communications  
**CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE**  
PO Box 146, East Melbourne 8002  
Phone: (03) 9926 5771 Fax: (03) 9926 5749  
Mobile 0412 213 692  
Email: [james.o'farrell@cam.org.au](mailto:james.o'farrell@cam.org.au)  
Web: [www.cam.org.au](http://www.cam.org.au)

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From: Howe, Alan [mailto:HoweA@heraldsun.com.au]  
Sent: Thursday, 7 April 2011 9:46 AM  
To: James O'Farrell  
Subject: Questions from Alan Howe

James

Good to speak to you last night.

Here are the questions I would like answered.

I suspect they can wait until next week, but I'll know that more clearly in an hour or so.

Has Archbishop Denis Hart ever made a personal verbal or written apology to Mrs Chrissie Foster of Mr Anthony Foster for what happened to their family following the rape of two of their daughters by Father Kevin O'Donnell?

Why did the Catholic Church deny the attacks on the Foster girls had taken place?

Will the Catholic Church co-operate fully with any independent inquiry instigated by the Victorian Parliament, calls for which were made on Tuesday?

Does the Archbishop believe such an inquiry is warranted?

Is the Archbishop aware of how many Victorian priests have been convicted of sexual abuse of children?

Of those who have been charged and convicted, how many have been defrocked?

Have any been defrocked?

I not, why not?

Did the Catholic Church consider defrocking Father Kevin O'Donnell when he admitted to forced sex with young children?

If not why not?

Did the Catholic Church, knowing Father Kevin O'Donnell's crimes dated back to the 1940s, investigate his history in schools around the state to discover what other other victims he may have attacked?

How many times has the Catholic Church alerted the Victoria Police to serious allegations of the sexual abuse by its clergy?

That's all.

Thanks, James, and best wishes

Howe

**Alan Howe** | Executive Editor

The Herald & Weekly Times Pty Limited  
HWT Tower | 40 City Road | Southbank VIC 3006 Australia  
T: +61 3 9292 2969 | F: 00 | M: +61 412 786 714  
E: [howea@heraldsun.com.au](mailto:howea@heraldsun.com.au) W: [www.heraldsun.com.au](http://www.heraldsun.com.au)

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