

PRESS RELEASE

13 March 2008

Brother Kostka Chute appeared in court today for sentencing following his earlier guilty plea to acts of indecency on students at Marist College.

Our sincere regrets and apology go out to all who have suffered harm in this way. The serious wrongs of the past and the damage done to victims of sexual abuse are a cause of deep shame and sorrow for all in the Church.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those involved in the current legal proceedings. We feel also for those within the College community who are adversely affected by these matters from the past. Such matters are rarely as simple as they can be portrayed.

We hope that the legal processes produce early and just outcomes. Our first priority always will be the protection of the young men entrusted to our care.

Two key concerns at the moment are to ensure that we do get help to anyone that has been hurt as quickly as possible and that we are open to learning all we can as we move forward. We are pleased to note that a number of people involved have accepted our offering of counselling.

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