

Response to Allegations Against Father Allen Tarlton

Our promise in all cases is to work with victims and their attorneys to evaluate credible claims involving members of our community. We will thoroughly research and review the allegations presented today against Father Allen Tarlton. Father Tarlton was removed from all duties at Saint John's Prep School more than two decades ago. He lives in a restricted environment, under close supervision and has no contact with the students of Saint John's Prep or Saint John's University.

We recognize and hope that others concede the difficult challenge of determining the facts of incidents alleged to have occurred in 1977, nearly four decades ago. As Mr. Anderson's client himself acknowledged in today's news conference, his own memory of the facts is incomplete. In spite of these shared challenges, our commitment is to be guided by compassion and our pastoral responsibilities.

In the past, we have worked in good faith with Mr. Anderson and other attorneys. We have been forthcoming and acknowledged the occasions when members of our community harmed others. The agreements we have made with Mr. Anderson, other attorneys and their clients have been faithfully fulfilled. Mr. Anderson is incorrect in suggesting otherwise. We hope that as this case moves forward, Mr. Anderson will be guided only by the best interests and eventual healing of his client.