



18th September 2026

DECLARATION

Our Congregation continues to respond to people who are coming forward in connection with their experiences of childhood sexual abuse in our schools.

We may be contacted through our Designated Liaison Person at safeguarding@spiritan.ie. Alternatively, you may wish to contact Mr Tim Chapman, restorative practitioner (timchapman@rjteam.net), who is available to hear your account and to facilitate a restorative meeting and other measures, as may be identified.

An earlier text of this Declaration of Apology was published by the Canadian Province of our Congregation in fulfilment of a commitment made to a person who came forward in connection with his childhood experience in Blackrock College.

I wish to declare, for the importance of public record and the upcoming Commission of Inquiry into child sexual abuse in secondary schools in Ireland, that the Spiritans have issued a written apology to a former pupil at Blackrock College for the sexual abuse carried out by Fr Edward (Ted) Colleton in his role as Spiritual Director & Counsellor at Blackrock College.

The complaint against Fr Colleton was also reported, at the time the complaint was made, to the statutory authorities in Ireland – *An Garda Síochána* (Ireland's National Police Service) and *Túsla* (Child & Family Agency, Ireland), and to the NBSCCCI (the Catholic Church body in Ireland for Child Safeguarding).

I wish to reiterate the apology made to the former pupil of Blackrock College and invite anyone, whether in Ireland or in Canada, who suffered childhood, or any, abuse by Ted Colleton to contact the Spiritan Safeguarding Office in Dublin at safeguarding@spiritan.ie.


Brendan Carr C.S.Sp.
Spiritan Provincial, Ireland.