



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

The Pope sends a 'sorry' e-mail



The Pope at his laptop!!

Pope John Paul II has sent an apology by e-mail for a string of injustices, including sexual abuse, committed by Roman Catholic clergy in the Pacific nations. The 81-year-old pontiff transmitted the message, his first virtual apology, in a recent string of statements of contrition, from a laptop in the Vatican's frescoed Clementine Hall on Wednesday.

In certain parts of Oceania, as in many other parts of the world, including here in Northern Ireland, sexual abuse by some clergy has caused great suffering and spiritual harm to the victims. It has also cost the Vatican coffers £illions as courts have awarded victims substantial damages for the abuse that they suffered at the hands of priests and nuns.