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## 'Perv'-Priest Ax Shocks Flock

By Dan Mangan and Jana Winter  
New York Post  
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[http://www.nypost.com/seven/02122007/news/regionalnews/perv\\_priest\\_ax\\_shocks\\_flock\\_regionalnews\\_dan\\_mangan\\_and\\_jana\\_winter.htm](http://www.nypost.com/seven/02122007/news/regionalnews/perv_priest_ax_shocks_flock_regionalnews_dan_mangan_and_jana_winter.htm)

February 12, 2007 -- The pastor of a Queens church has been fired and barred from working as a Catholic priest after superiors found that he likely molested a boy decades ago, The Post has learned.

Parishioners at St. Nicholas of Tolentine in Jamaica were told of the Rev. Robert McConnin's stunning removal during weekend Masses.

"It's been like a wake in here all day," said a parishioner who would not give her name. "Everyone's shocked. It's crazy."

McConnin, 59, had been a priest for more than 30 years. Last year, someone phoned the Brooklyn Diocese claiming McConnin had engaged in "inappropriate behavior with a minor," said diocese spokesman Frank DeRosa. "It happened some two decades ago . . . but not in this . . . parish," he said.

The allegation was investigated by the diocesan review board and "it was determined that the allegation was considered credible," said DeRosa.

The Queens DA has been notified, but criminal charges are unlikely because the statute of limitations has expired.

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