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January 6, 2012

It is with a heavy heart that I write to inform you that our dear friend and colleague Pat Sursely returned home to the Lord this morning. As you may know, Pat has been struggling with cancer over the last several months. He experienced complications from the treatment last month and was admitted to Overlake Hospital last week. He was surrounded by his family's love and his passing was peaceful.

I visited Pat in the hospital this week and as usual found Pat to be fully aware of God's loving presence. Pat has been a profound part of the life of the Archdiocese for almost forty years beginning with his teaching experience at Blanchet High School. He was instrumental in the foundation of Channel, one of the first lay ministry formation programs in the country. During his 35 years at the Chancery, Pat has led almost every department at one time or another.

I ask you to join with me in praying for Pat, his wife Loretta, his children and all of his family at this time.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. J. Peter Sartain Archbishop of Seattle

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