OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

PH: 206-382-4886 FAX: 206-382-3495



710 9TH AVE SEATTLE, WA 98104-2017 www.seattlearchdiocese.org

March 13, 2014

Dear Pastors, Pastoral Leaders, and School Administrators,

Attached you will find a memo from Mary Santi, Chancellor, giving an update on what we know regarding the fraudulent tax return scam to which a number of our employees and volunteers have fallen victim, and what we are doing in response.

I wanted to take this opportunity to offer my prayers and empathy for everyone experiencing personal disruption, anxiety, and in some cases, serious fraud. One hears about this kind of scam but hopes it never touches us personally. Now that it has, I want you to know how sorry I am that this is happening and offer my assurances that we are doing all in our power to get to the bottom of it, with the assistance of experts and law enforcement. The security of your personal information is of great importance to us, and this serious situation causes deep concern for everyone. We will continue to investigate every possible angle with the best resources available to us.

Would you please make copies of this note and memo for whomever on your staff and in your volunteer pool you choose? I would be very grateful.

Along with our work to get to the bottom of this, I promise my sincere prayers for all, particularly for those who have been victimized by this horrible scam.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. J. Peter Sartain Archbishop of Seattle

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