



# ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

*Office of the Archbishop*

April 8, 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I wanted to take an opportunity to offer my prayers and support for the employees and volunteers of the Archdiocese of Portland, parishes and schools who have been victims of a national tax identity fraud. Social security numbers have been stolen and used to file fraudulent federal tax returns for the year 2013. Similar cases of identity theft have affected the Archdiocese of Seattle.

This type of fraud has been a national problem for several years, and, unfortunately, has now come to the Pacific Northwest. The Archdiocese of Portland is working diligently with the IRS to determine the root cause of the matter and is cooperating fully with the IRS in its ongoing investigation. At this point, neither we nor the IRS know how the problem originated. There is no present indication of any security breach of the Archdiocesan computer network.

I realize that many are frustrated in waiting for public agencies to investigate and resolve this fraud. The Archdiocese will share information as we are able with both employees and volunteers. As information becomes available it will be posted on our website at [www.archdpdx.org](http://www.archdpdx.org).

We will continue every effort to determine the source of this matter and provide information to you. I am grateful to all who serve the Church of Western Oregon.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Alexander K. Sample  
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon