

## **Media Advisory related to fraud charges laid against a former employee of St. Patrick's Parish**

### **Media Advisory**

St. John's, NL Tuesday, February 25, 2014

In August of 2012, the Parish Priest of St. Patrick's Parish in St. John's, NL reported to the Archdiocesan Business Office suspicions of fraudulent activity surrounding the parish finances. These suspicions came to light because of the heightened awareness and implementation of stronger internal controls put in place by the Archdiocese of St. John's.

External forensic auditors were engaged to examine the books and records of the parish. The period under investigation spanned almost six years – from 2007 to July 2012.

In January, 2013, the Archdiocesan Business office received the results of the forensic examination and turned the matter over to the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary. Since that time, with the matter in the hands of the RNC, the Archdiocese has made no further comment. Today, the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary has announced that charges will be laid in this case.

The Archdiocese of St. John's will make no further comment, as this matter is now before the courts. Our thoughts and prayers are with people of St. Patrick's Parish.