

## Fraud Alert

Parishioners have received fraudulent text, email messages, or phone calls stating they are from Fr. Duc or parish staff asking for gift cards, transfer money, and other things. If you receive such a message, disregard and do NOT under any circumstance comply. The Archdiocese has been notified. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.

**IRS FRAUD** Every year, as we go in to tax season, we see a rise in phone calls and email messages claiming to be from the IRS. A common request indicates that the IRS is unable to confirm your information, and provides a way to update this information (providing it to the caller, going to a website and inputting the information, etc.). At best, this is an attempt to obtain your personal information. When the request is via email, there may also be an attempt to load malicious software on to your computer. If you have provided any information in response to this type of a request, please contact your banks and credit card companies immediately. You should also contact the IRS.

The IRS does not demand immediate payment, nor will they threaten to bring in local police, immigration, etc. They cannot revoke state issued identification (such as driver's licenses) or business licenses. The IRS provides information on their website regarding how to confirm that contact is truly from them: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/how-to-know-its-really-the-irs-calling-or-knocking-on-your-door>. They also have a listing of current scams: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-scams-consumer-alerts>. If you're ever in doubt, call the IRS directly using their published number, and ask for confirmation.