**Suggested Text  
conCern for finances in light of THE SEXUAL ABUSE SCANDAL**

1. *Please edit the text to express your feelings.*
2. *Choose a recipient(s) from the list of suggestions.*
3. *Sign your name.*
4. *Send to your chosen Church leader(s).*

Salutation,

Recent findings of financial mismanagement and its concealment within several Catholic dioceses are most alarming to me. My unease is compounded because related evidence shows financial payoffs to conceal sexual misdeeds by clergy were and are part of this corruption. Such dishonesties go beyond negligence and dereliction to the fraud of misusing weekly collections intended to elevate the down-trodden of the world in the name of our faith.

A proactive response is urgently required. In taking corrective action, the Catholic church as an institution cannot afford to be seen operating any differently than any other large, opulent, responsible and risk-averse organization, be it military, corporate or service-related.

I most urgently request your personal involvement, backed by professional third-party laity, in the conduct of any periodic, standardized research and auditing to ensure our diocese is not and will not be among the transgressors. I further ask your support for the application of accountability and censure in any diocese where these transgressions *have* occurred.

Nothing will dissolve the integrity of our institutional church faster than being seen simply as a bad investment.

Sincerely and respectfully,