



ARCHDIOCESE
OF PORTLAND
IN OREGON

Office of the Chancellor

Memorandum

To: Pastors and Administrators
From: Mary Jo Tully
Re: Wireless Handheld Devices and Pornography
Date: December 5, 2005

The Religious Alliance against Pornography, co-chaired by Cardinal William H. Keeler is asking your assistance in alerting parents to new methods of delivering pornography via wireless handheld devices such as video cell phones, PDAs and iPods. Many parents may be planning to give these instruments as Christmas gifts and are not aware that there are no filtering devices currently available to prevent delivery of pornography. Please put the following notice in your bulletins.

Parents are now making decisions about Christmas gifts for children and young people. Many are planning to give video cell phones, PDAs and iPods. This technology itself is not dangerous but at this time there are no safeguards or regulations in place to protect children and teens from being exposed to unwanted, explicit pornographic content that is downloadable. Since there are no filtering or monitoring devices now available, children and teens can access pornographic material with total anonymity.