

Archdiocese of Vancouver ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

On April 25, a devastating earthquake struck Nepal, killing more than 6,000 people. Thousands more are unaccounted for, and countless villages throughout the country have been destroyed. Up to 90 per cent of clinics and schools in some areas have been rendered unusable, and the country is appealing for help from the rest of the world.

Pope Francis himself has sent financial support and prayed that the Nepal earthquake victims may be "sustained by fraternal solidarity."

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace are launching an emergency humanitarian campaign.

This Sunday, May 10, at all Masses in the Archdiocese there will be a special second collection for Nepal relief. Development and Peace will direct all funds raised to its international partner, Caritas Internationalis, and Caritas members in the region, including Caritas Nepal. The most immediate needs are shelter, water, food, sanitary facilities and hygiene items for the earthquake victims.

Donations made to Development and Peace for relief efforts are eligible for the matching fund program announced by the Canadian government. Donations will be matched until May 25, 2015.

The faithful of the Archdiocese of Vancouver are well known for their compassion in responding to humanitarian appeals. I urge you to be as generous as possible in this moment of need for the people of Nepal.

With gratitude for your generosity toward those suffering and with my prayers for you and your family, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ J. Michael Miller CSB.

Michael Miller, CSB Archbishop of Vancouver

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