



Catholic Daughters of the Americas

*"With God
All Things Are Possible" - Matthew 19:26*

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Dear Catholic Daughters of the Americas,

A little more than a week ago, Japan experienced a most devastating earthquake and tsunami. Since then, many of us have born witness, with aching hearts, to the horrendous damage and loss suffered by the citizens of that nation. As the days pass, the number of reported deaths has increased, as has the levels of radiation in the air, food, and water. For many, the extent of the crisis in the Pacific is unfathomable, and perhaps even a test of faith for those who believe in a God of compassion.

We know, however, that it is a loving God who is calling upon us to be agents of Christ's compassion whenever we see brothers and sisters in need. Today, the people of Japan are in great need. The Catholic Daughters have a long history of standing in solidarity with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and supporting their humanitarian causes, which now includes disaster relief in Japan. Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York, president of the USCCB, expressed "the prayers and solidarity of the U.S. bishops and the Catholic Church for the people of Japan following the March 11 earthquake." Bishop Kicanas of Tucson, Arizona went on to state that, "Catholic Relief Services, the humanitarian agency of the U.S. bishops, is responding to the tragedy and receiving donations. These will be used for the immediate humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable and support the local Catholic Church in its on-going mission."

My request to each of you is that you contact all of your local courts and ask that they join with their sister Catholic Daughters in offering financial aid to the people of Japan through Catholic Relief Services. Of course, the State Courts are also invited to contribute as well. Please send your donation check made payable to "Catholic Daughters of the Americas" to the national office at 10 West 71st St., New York, NY 10023. In the meantime, please join our bishops in prayer for the Church and the people of Japan, through the intercession of Mary, asking her to care for all of those left in conditions of suffering because of the earthquake and its after-effects.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

In Unity and Charity,

Joanne Tomassi, National Regent

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