

## Memorandum

Date: January 13, 2010  
To: All Pastors/Administrators  
From: Bishop Barbarito  
Re: Earthquake in Haiti

The devastating earthquake in Haiti particularly affects us with so many Haitian brothers and sisters in our Diocese. Many of them have family and friends in Haiti and are facing the difficulty of communicating with them as well as coping with personal loss. I ask that special prayers and petitions be offered daily for the victims and all those affected by this tragedy.

I also authorize a **special collection to be taken up this weekend** to provide aid and assistance to the people in Haiti. The proceeds of the special collection should be sent to the Diocesan Finance Office, clearly marked for "Earthquake in Haiti." The proceeds of the collection will go to Catholic Relief Services (CRS.) Please assure your parishioners that their previous donations to CRS have already been put to immediate use in Haiti.

For anyone preferring to donate directly to CRS – checks , clearly noting "Earthquake in Haiti", may be sent to:

Catholic Relief Services (CRS)  
Post Office Box 17090  
Baltimore, MD 21203-7090  
Phone: 1-877-(HELP CRS) 435-7277  
Online: <http://crs-blog.org/earthquake-hits-haiti/>

Non-perishable food and usable clothing is also being collected through our Haitian ministry. Father Yves Geffard is coordinating this effort. More information on drop off locations will be forthcoming as soon as it is available.

May our prayers at this time help all to cope with the magnitude of this tragedy. The expressed generosity of those who wish to assist our sisters and brothers suffering in Haiti is already a grace.