

12 November 2013

Rev Mgr Leslie R Tomlinson DD  
Diocesan Chancery  
PO Box 201  
BENDIGO VIC 3552

Dear Bishop Tomlinson,

### **Caritas Australia's Typhoon Haiyan Appeal**

The purpose of this letter is to seek your support in assisting Caritas Australia's humanitarian response to the devastation Typhoon Haiyan has caused in the south-east Asian region, particularly in the Philippines and more than likely Vietnam. It is estimated that over 10,000 people may have died and 9.3million affected. The hardest hit families and communities have been left without homes and access to food and water.

Emergency assistance is urgently needed across the region to help with the significant immediate needs of shelter, food and water, and then with rebuilding communities and livelihoods. Significant financial resources are required during this time; reports are coming in estimating that the devastation is on the same scale as the Haiti Earthquake and the Asian Tsunami. It is because of this that I ask your support in launching an appeal in your diocese to assist the communities affected.

I acknowledge that this is an additional request from Caritas Australia for you and the Catholic people of your diocese particularly at this time of year. I am only too aware of the past generosity of your diocese supporting in times of crisis. I trust that they will be moved to support the people in the Philippines and the south-east Asian region in this time of suffering and great need.

It is essential that the Australian community respond now. To enable this, Caritas Australia will provide special appeal envelopes for the collection and information on how the monies raised will be used to assist the response in the region. The next step will be for us to contact and inform your Diocesan Director. With your approval they should be able to facilitate this appeal in your diocese.

Donations to this appeal may be made by calling our hotline 1800 024 413, visiting [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au) or by posting a cheque/money order to our office: Caritas Australia, 24-32 O'Riordan Street, Alexandria, NSW 2015

Yours sincerely in Christ,



Archbishop Philip E. Wilson  
Chairman  
Caritas Australia

c.c. Fr Rom Hayes, Diocesan Director



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The Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development