
The Roman Catholic Diocese of Knoxville



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PRESS RELEASE AND MEDIA ADVISORY

For immediate release

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Catholic diocese to aid Haitian quake victims

KNOXVILLE—Bishop Richard F. Stika of the Catholic Diocese of Knoxville has asked all 47 parishes in East Tennessee to take up a special collection on Jan. 16 and 17 for Haiti and the humanitarian efforts of Catholic Relief Services in that country. He has especially asked for continued prayers for all the victims and suffering people of Haiti as well as for aid workers.

The Diocese of Knoxville has had a long history of direct aid to churches in Haiti through numerous “parish twinning” programs. This assistance has included visits from local medical professionals and those skilled in construction and logistics. Bishop Stika has asked those parishes with a twin parish in Haiti to find ways to respond effectively to the crisis.

Bishop Stika has also asked all priests of the diocese to offer Sunday Masses using prayers especially tailored to the earthquake victims rather than those prayers typically used on a Sunday in ordinary time.