

COMMUNITY LIFE COMMUNIQUE #2 November, 2017

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE:

Development and Peace is one of the most important development organizations in Canada. The Canadian Catholic Bishops developed it in 1967. It was to inspire Canadians to act in solidarity in the Global South suffering from injustice of poverty. In the last 50 years Development and Peace invested \$600 million in more than 1500 projects in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

On May 29, 2017 Development and Peace launched a Famine Relief Fund to respond to the severe food crises in northeast Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Yemen and other affected countries in Africa. This crisis stems from a number of events including armed conflicts and severe drought. Many have fled from their homes and land to escape violence as this makes access to food difficult.

Development and Peace call upon Canadian Catholics and all Canadian citizens to support the millions of men, women and children by praying, giving and speaking out about the situation.

FIRES, HURRICANES AND EARTHQUAKES;

We must continue to pray and support all the people suffering from forest fires throughout British Columbia, and lately in California. Many have lost their entire belongings to this disaster.

Our prayers also should go to the many people from Mexico suffering from the recent earth quakes. More than 400 people have died in Mexico City, 22 bodies were found in the debris of a school. There were two major quakes and many after shocks. The first one on Sept 8, 2017, magnitude of 8.1 killed approximately 286 people, and another one on Sept. 19, 2017, magnitude of 7.1 killed approximately 90 people. Many are still missing. Recent reports are that more than 400 people were killed in the four states hardest hit, Mexico City, Puebla, Guerrero, Marcelo and Oaxaca states. Approximately 2000 people have been injured and dozens of children are still missing, 2000 homes were seriously damaged beyond repair.

Then the hurricane season struck. A disastrous one directly hit the British Virgin Islands almost devastating Puerto Rico. Again many lost their homes and all their belongings plus ways of making a living, virtually everything of value to them.

We must pray and give what help we can to these people as it will be a long recovery period.

THIS CONCLUDES MY REPORT