

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
November 17, 2013

Homily Next Week:
Father John D. Whitney, S.J.

Readings for November 24, 2013

FIRST READING: 2 SAMUEL 5:1-3
SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 1:12-20
GOSPEL: LUKE 23:35-43

Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday - 5 pm

Sunday - 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule
Monday - Friday - 7 am
Arrupe Room, Parish Center

Reconciliation

Saturday - 3:30-4:15 pm in the Church
or by appointment

Parish Center Hours

Monday-Thursday - 8 am - 4:30 pm
Friday - 8 am - 3:00 pm
Saturday - 9 am - 1 pm

www.stjosephparish.org

732 18th Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112

Fax: (206) 329-5698

Parish Receptionist (206) 324-2522

Parish Staff (206) 329-5981

Pastor

Rev. John D. Whitney, S.J. x107

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Glen Butterworth, S. J. x103

Deacon/Pastoral Associate

Steve Wodzanowski x106

Pastoral Staff:

Dottie Farewell, Dir. Religious Ed. x112

Rebecca Frisino, Business Mgr x108

Tina O'Brien, Development Mgr x114

Renée Leet, Admin Assistant x100

Bob McCaffery-Lent, Liturgy & Music x109

Caprice Sauter, Administration x102

Yuri Kondratyuk, Facilitites x110

John Stuntebeck, Organist/Pianist x105

St. Joseph School

700 18th Avenue East • (206) 329-3260

Main Office x210

Patrick Fennessy, Principal x218

Rick Boyle, Academic VP x215

Kris Brown, Vice Principal x216



The Month of the Dead

Altar & Book of Remembrance

In the old baptistry an altar of remembrance will be present throughout November. Please bring photos of deceased relatives and friends and light a candle in prayer. At the entrance of the church you are invited to write the names of deceased relatives who will be remembered in the monthly prayers.

(Please put contact info on the back of photo).

RCIA Sponsors Needed

We have about six people currently participating in the RCIA process who are in need of a sponsor. A sponsor is a faith companion who accompanies the RCIA participant in their journey towards full initiation in the Catholic Faith. The commitment is some Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30pm, being available to accompany RCIA participant at Sunday mass and participation in 2-3 Liturgies and being available to get together and answer questions. Sponsors begin in December and finish up in May.

This is a very rewarding way to share your faith with someone and help welcome them into the community. For more information, contact Deacon Steve at 965-1646 or stevew@stjosephparish.org



2014 Stewardship Fund

As of November 12, 2013

Amount Pledged: \$651,505.00

Goal: \$1,500,000.00

We Are St. Joseph; We Are the Philippines

By now, most of us have seen photographs of the devastation: the vast expanses of flattened buildings, the ground covered in stained and random rubble, with a body part or a child's toy poking out from under a slab or a puddle. We have heard the descriptions of reporters, struggling for words that might, somehow, communicate the smell of rot and waste, or the sensation of watching hundreds and thousands of people--catatonic with grief--struggling to find a patch of ground they recognize or a place where they might rest for just a few moments. Perhaps, like me, you heard and were stunned by the report of two women giving birth atop a pile of wreckage, stranded by circumstances and this inescapable necessity of life. In such moments, phrases like *"the triumph of the human spirit,"* seem too small and cliché, compared to the reality--a reality beyond words; beyond images; beyond, it seems, even the human imagination.

Often, as I read the reports coming out of the Philippines, or hear the stories on the radio, I try to imagine wandering through the wreckage, looking for potable water or for some marker that would tell me where I am. There, perhaps, is a wall that once was part of the old post office, or there is a sign from the gas station that once stood on this spot. What must it be like to emerge from shelter and see your entire neighborhood gone--trees, houses, neighbors? What is it to feel the oppressive heat and humidity, and wonder who of those I love is lost, never to be found; and what must I do next? Here, in the chill autumn of Seattle, it all seems beyond imagination--like a scene from a movie or an old newsreel--so far away, I cannot quite fathom it, cannot quite grasp the feelings or the fear.

Perhaps, as part of the self-preservation given us by our evolution, nature has limited our ability to enter fully into the pain of others--as though to sense all the suffering of the world would destroy us in waves of anguish and loss. We cannot bear the death of thousands, the sheer magnitude of death and devastation leaves us numb and empty--unable at some point to feel all we encounter or are told. Yet, Jesus Christ, the Son of Mary and the living God, enters into it all: weeping at the side of every mother and crying out in the voice of every father, as they dig through wreckage looking for their child. Jesus, who drank the cup of suffering and death, who knew the murder of innocents by Herod and wept at the tomb of Lazarus, aches with every human loss and enters the anguish of every shattered family--feeling in his own wounds the wounded heart of each woman and man, even while raising each fallen soul to the fullness

of life. Even when our imagination protects us from so much suffering, and our nature numbs our hearts, still our faith reminds us that Christ Jesus has rejected all such protection, and in the choice of Incarnation, has embraced every person in her particularity, every soul in his individual suffering. All the loss and pain and anguish of the men and women of this world--in the Philippines or in Syria, among refugees or villagers, with the displaced poor or grieving parents--Jesus brings to the altar of the cross and consecrates as his body and blood.

Thus, it is not merely our sympathy or charity that lead us to embrace the people of the Philippines, but so, too, does our faith. We may not be able to conceive, fully, the pain and devastation of these communities, so distant from us and different in their experiences; yet, we know that their suffering is part of the human story, and so part of the Paschal sacrifice of Christ--part of his passion and death. Thus, we know that drawing close to this suffering means salvation for us, as well. The body of Christ--thirsty and homeless, hungry and anguished with loss--is our body, and today it suffers in the women and men of the Philippines, grieves with the Filipino sisters and brothers who live in our community, and calls us to a response of unwavering love and unrelenting generosity.

As one part of our response, this coming weekend, St. Joseph Parish will offer our entire weekend collection to the Catholic Relief Services, which is already on the ground in the Philippines. I ask all of us in this community to give as we would to our own sister or brother, daughter or son, were they to be facing this disaster--for, in fact, they are. May Christ Jesus, in whom we are united to all people, bless our gift, as once he blessed the bread and fish offered him on the mountainside, and made them enough to bring life and healing to those who came to him, hungry for food and for love.



This weekend, St. Joseph will offer its entire collection to the Catholic Relief Service work in the Philippines. If you wish to donate, please make checks payable to St. Joseph Parish.

***If you wish to give directly to CRS, send donations to:
The Archdiocese of Seattle Missions Office
710 9th Ave
Seattle, WA 98104
or call 877-435-7277; or online at www.crs.org
Make checks payable to CRS (note "Haiyan typhoon")***

Thank you for your generosity.



Stewardship

We Care for St. Joseph Stewardship Update

Many, many thanks to all who have made gifts and pledges thus far. To date, we have received **258 pledges totaling \$651,505.00**. We are endlessly grateful for your care of and commitment to St. Joseph Parish!

Joe Anderton & Diane Lostrangio, Joe & Brenda Augustavo • Bob & Jeanne Barrett, Jeanine Benham & Christopher Jones, Rebecca Brown & Christine Galloway • Lee Corrigan, David & Dorothy Crean • Joan Dinkelspiel, Rupert & Dolores Dorn, Bill & Joan Duroe, Sr. Mary Annette Dworshak, SNJM • Guiseppe Fina & Debbie Justice, John & Maureen Fitzpatrick • Daniel & Liza Gildark, Pauline Guppy • Jack Hilovsky, Guy & Catherine Holliday • Neil & Carlette Ichiki • Dennis West & Margaret Kineke, Erin Kittleman • David & Monica Lafever, Mary Laya, Mary Elizabeth Layman, Teresa & Marc Mayberg, George & Eleanor McCall, Annalisa Gironi & Kevin McCarthy, Helen McDuffie, George & Cheryl Mead, Don & Lynn Murphy • Rosemary & Willard Nelson • John & Ann Patnaude, Brian & Giselle Pavlovec, Rodney & Cathy Prentice, Joseph & Sheila Prusa • Fred & Susan Raney, Katharine Ross & Scott Andrews • Bill & Lori Schwebel, Robert Sepulveda & Mary Linden, Samuel & Constance Shepherd, Joseph & Barbara Shickich, William Parks & Beth Struckhoff • Scott & Catherine Thompson • James & Mary Lou Wickwire • Laura & David Young

We ask each and every Parish family to complete a pledge envelope, whether or not you are able to make a financial gift. Your affirmation of membership and pledge of prayers is enough for us but we want to know that you join us in this gracious and holy work.

Please, if you haven't done so already, take a close look at our annual report, ask any questions you may have about our strategic plan or finances, and prayerfully consider what gift-- if any-- you may be able to pledge to our parish in the coming year. Together, we stand united, Ignited by the Eucharist to love and serve. And in doing so become what Pope Francis calls the Church to be: a home for all people, not a chapel for a selected few.

Ways to Donate

Thank you again and again for your prayerful discernment! For over a century, men and women such as you have prayed over their resources and have placed their trust in the goodness of God. Because of what their hearts told them, St. Joseph Parish has flourished as a place where young people are educated with hope, where seniors gather with joy, where women and men of varied callings and ways of life seek God in prayer & community, & then go forth to share the Eucharist they have received through family work, & service.,

Below are a few examples of the many ways our friends support our parish. For more information or assistance in making your gift, please don't hesitate to contact Tina O'Brien, Pastoral Assistant for Stewardship and Development at (206) 965.1654 or stewardship@stjosephparish.org.

Grow Your Contribution Over Time

- **Gift pledges** are formal statements of intention to make a gift. Each year, every family in our community pledges what they are able. With a pledge, you may complete your gift by making regular payments over time. Each payment on your pledge is eligible for an income-tax deduction.
- **Endowed gifts** are safely invested to generate income in perpetuity, providing you an opportunity to make a lasting impact. Gifts can be directed towards an area of service (liturgy, faith formation, social outreach, building and grounds, etc), or to greatest need. For more information or assistance in making your gift, please don't hesitate to contact Tina O'Brien, Pastoral Assistant for Stewardship and Development at (206) 965.1654 or stewardship@stjosephparish.org.
- **Company Matching Gifts** double or sometimes triple the impact of your individual gift. To find out if your employer offers a matching gift program, contact your employer's personnel office and request a matching gift form. Complete and mail to St. Joseph Parish at 731 18th Ave E, Seattle, WA 98112. Retirees may be eligible also.
- **Designate your United Way pledge** to ensure that your donations go directly to St. Joseph Parish in Seattle, tax identification number EIN# 91-0588423

Frank & DeAnne Buono

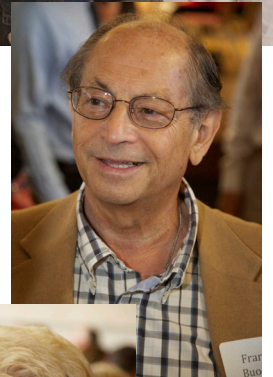
*"All Are Welcome In This Place"
This is what St. Joseph's Parish is all about.
These words are the heart & soul of
St. Joseph.*

*This is a very special place for those who
attend & participate in the Parish. There is
something inviting for everyone, all you need
to do is to reach out & there are always helping hands
reaching back. Not only will you hear & be taught the words
and wisdom of Jesus, you will also be given the opportunity to
reach out to your neighbor who may need your support &
help.*

*St. Joseph School is a huge asset that we have in this Parish. It
not only educates our children, but teaches them the moral
values of Jesus.*

*We are so fortunate to have the Society of Jesus administrating
our Parish with the help of so many of our parishioners.*

*To keep and maintain this great parish, where "all are welcomed" we
need to financially support St. Joseph. I ask everyone to contribute to
the best of their ability to maintain our wonderful parish for today
and tomorrow, for us and our children, and those who will follow.*



Frank's Father, Nick Buono, who came to St. Joseph in the 1920's, was buried from here in March.



Frank & DeAnne Buono

"We believe in family, and all at St. Joseph are family."

Frank Buono's father & grandfather joined St. Joseph's in the early 1920's. His Dad & Mom were married here in 1938. Frank has been a parishioner since his birth a year later. He graduated from the all-boys St. Joseph School, married DeAnne in the church, & raised 3 children—Frank, Valerie, & Lori—in the Parish & School, where his grandchildren now attend. A professional woodworker, who built the old altar & ambo, Frank & DeAnne have given much to St. Joseph, & continue to give it their joy, prayers, & support.



Prayer

Thanksgiving Liturgy 10 am

This year, as in the past, St. Joseph Parish celebrates Thanksgiving with prayers for each other and an opening of our hearts to the world. Let's come together and share our blessings!

Please join with the community at 10:00 am mass (there will be no early morning mass on Thanksgiving). **Please bring two items of food or drink. One, from your table to be blessed at the altar during mass; and the second item of food for Francis House, so that others might also be blessed by your generosity.**

Our collection will be donated to St. Francis House. Here is some information on the work done there.

Every Sunday St. Joseph collects food for *"our friends at St. Francis House"* but what exactly is St. Francis House? If you are new to the parish or just want to learn a little more about us, I would like to make the introductions.

Since 1967, the volunteers, staff and donors of St. Francis House have served the poor and needy by following the example of St. Francis. From our location on 12th Avenue, St. Francis House serves hundreds of people each week, Monday through Friday. No one is turned away. Everything that is donated to us is given away, free of charge, no questions asked. We are the ultimate recycling center.

At 10 AM, St. Francis House opens the doors to a line of people patiently waiting outside. Hot coffee, pastries and sandwiches are served by our volunteers until we close our doors at 2:00 PM. All of the food is donated – some of it by area hospitals and the rest by individual volunteers, school children, and families.

But we give our clients more than a hot cup of coffee and a sandwich. A volunteer assists a homeless woman who spent a wet night under the viaduct get a sleeping bag. We help a man pick out a new shirt for a job interview. A mother gets a new layette and diapers for her baby. A single parent who has nothing to cook for her children's supper gets an emergency food bag. Dishes and a bed for the family who just got an apartment. A blanket goes to a couple sleeping in their car. A bus ticket to get to a doctor appointment. Something as simple as reading glasses can bring a big smile to a client's face. At Christmas we give new toys to needy kids. Household items, towels, furniture, socks, backpacks and personal care

items. This is what St. Francis House gives away daily to less fortunate people in our community.

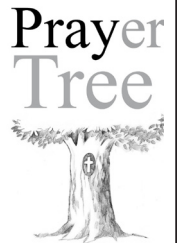
And when the donations fall short, we buy some of the most critical items our clients need. Toothpaste and brushes, backpacks, new underwear and socks. And always, sleeping bags and warm coats. Monetary donations also keep the lights on, the heat running and our old van running.

We depend completely upon private financial contributions – and every dollar you give makes a significant difference to our outreach. Only with your support and charity can we continue our mission to serve the least among us.

To learn more about Francis House including opportunities to volunteer email St.Francis@live.com or 206-621-0945

St. Joseph Community extends its prayers and hopes for the following intentions:

For the Cozzetti family in this time of sorrow. May God's love and peace strengthen their hearts. In thanksgiving for the turkeys so graciously donated for St. Marys food bank. And continue to hold CeCe Rutkay in our thoughts and prayers and all of our Seniors, who continually remind us of how important it is to live a life of living Faith.



"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

~ Thessalonians 5:18

Baptism for Older Children

If you have a child four years of age and older whom you would like to be baptized into the Catholic Faith, Our first gathering for parents and children will be **Monday December 16th 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm** in the Parish Center beginning with a potluck supper. The plan is to meet monthly (Dec-April) with family catechesis at home between sessions. For more information contact Deacon Steve Wodzanowski at stevew@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646.

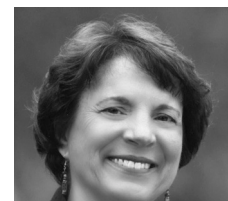
“The Singing Thing” - Weekly Reflections the music we use at Mass at St. Joseph



This week I continue to introduce the choir to you. In addition, this weekend at the 5:30 pm mass another resident choir will be joining us to bring some beautiful music into our celebration. The Seattle University Chamber Singers has been under the direction of Dr. Joy Sherman for over twenty years now and they have been singing their concerts here at Saint Joseph for many, many years. Here is their description:

The Seattle University Chamber Singers is in its 23rd year under the direction of Dr. Joy Sherman. The assistant director and accompanist is Dr. Lee Peterson. Chamber Singers is the premiere choral group for Seattle University and sings for many occasions including masses and special concerts. During the

first five weeks of fall quarter 2013, Chamber Singers performed for five events, including singing a special concert for the 39th International Conference on Social Theory, Politics and the Arts. The conference brought together performing arts professionals from across the globe. Chamber Singers received a standing ovation from that audience, and some audience members said the concert was the highlight of the conference.



I hope that you will plan come out to support the Saint Joseph Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam concert series and treat yourself to an evening of beautiful music at their upcoming concerts on Dec. 6 & 8. Visit the Saint Joseph website and click on “Concert Series” on the front page to see an entire list of all the events on the concert series.



MEMBERS OF SAINT JOSEPH CHOIR



MHB Conant St. Joe's is home to me and my family for 3 generations. My grandparents came from Montreal--my grandfather, H.B. Carbray to work at Seattle Hardware. My grandmother's one requirement: a Jesuit Parish. She had card parties a hundred years ago to raise money for the "new church" we love today. Many funny, sad, pivotal stories of family and community over the many decades--Bob Tobin and his clan feature in several. And always singing. I sing every day. I wake up singing. After teaching in South Boston, Berkeley, Seattle, then in Dublin and Seattle for the Jesuits and running a non-profit literacy agency, now my work is *Singing Them On Their Way*. I seem to have come full circle. I'm home. "How can I keep from singing?"



Anne Santee-Stoner: I have sung in the 9:00am choir for around 15 years. This puts me right about in the middle in the tenure department. I love participating in choir! As a busy person, it gives me a pause in my week to join with other singers and put our voices together make truly wondrous sounds. Some of my most intense prayer has come while singing, and it feels a little like heaven to make such beautiful music under Bob's talented direction. Shout out to John Stuntebeck, our world class pianist and organist. Who wouldn't be uplifted by being accompanied by such an accomplished musician!!



Bernadette Thomas is currently a Nephrology Fellow at the University of Washington, and music has been a passion since her childhood. She has served as either a cantor or choir member for mass since the age of 10. She currently lives in Kirkland, but has found a spiritual home in St Joseph Parish. Her career interests include global health and providing health care access to the underserved. Her free-time interests include photography, singing, reading, and travel!



Social Ministry

"Once Upon a Time in a Town Called Nazareth" –

An Advent Retreat with Betsey Beckman & Kathleen Kichline

Fri Dec 6, 5 – 9 pm, Sat. Dec 7, 9 am - 5 pm

Kathleen and Betsey are repeating the popular Advent Retreat of last year but this time offering it locally as a sleep-at-home commuter retreat, a convenient drive away at Maplewood Presbyterian, Edmonds, 19325 84th Ave. W. Enter into the Advent journey through music, word, movement, art and story. It all began in Nazareth, so let's go there once again to prepare our hearts for His coming. Cost of the retreat is \$100 and includes a soup supper on Friday night and lunch on Saturday. Women of all Christian traditions are invited to come. So bring a friend and register at Kathleen@sistersinscripture.com or Betsey@thedancingword.com or call 425-418-2452.

Advent Reflection Day with Edwina Gateley

In God's Womb: Your Soul Journey with God

Saturday December 14, 2013

9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Shoreline Conference Center

Edwina Gateley, a favorite presenter at our Convocations, will;

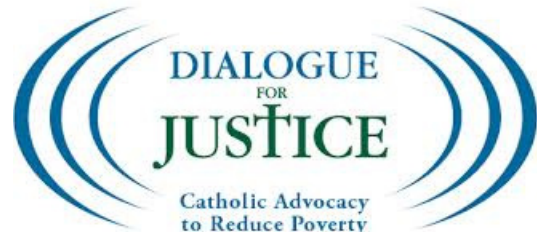
- Explore how our relationship with God changes & grows
- Be the prophetic witnesses we are called to be in our church & world

Contact the Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center: ipjc@ipjc.org/206.223.1138

Communion for the Homebound

Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring Communion to the homebound. Please contact Fr. Glen Butterworth 206-965-1643, gbutterworth@stjosephparish.org, or Deacon Steve Wodzanowski at 206-965-1646 or

steve@stjosephparish.org if you or someone you know would like to receive the Eucharist.



Dialogue for Justice

The Dialogue for Justice is an Archdiocesan-wide initiative to strengthen Catholic advocacy on behalf of the poor and vulnerable in our communities. Since 2011, Catholic Community Services, the Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center, and the Washington State Catholic Conference have coordinated with parishes and Catholic organizations to effectively advocate to reduce poverty in our communities. Our Advocacy Makes a Difference! **Our 1st organizing meeting will be Thursday November 21st 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.** All are welcome! No prior experience necessary.

- Learn more about 2014 Legislative Priority Issues impacting poverty
- Meet advocates from your area
- Create action plans with your parish/community

Together, we can urge legislators to implement programs and policies that give priority to the human dignity and rights of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. For questions, please call Deacon Steve at 206-965-1646 or steve@stjosephparish.org

Recovery Cafe Annual Thanksgiving Meal

Saturday November 23rd

Are you and your family looking for a way to make Thanksgiving really memorable for those in need? On Saturday, November 23rd we will prepare and serve a traditional Thanksgiving meal to 150 members of Recovery Cafe, but we need your help--both in the preparation, and in the delivery, serving and clean up. To that end, consider signing up for one of the following:

Food Donations-15 turkeys+gravy-Mashed Potatoes for 40 (five of these)-10 hams-Stuffing for 40 (five of these)-Sweet Potato Casserole for 40 (three of these)-Green Bean Casserole for 40 (three of these)

Please send email with your contribution to gretchenbrennan@comcast.net or contact Deacon Steve at 965-1646 . Thank You!

St. Joseph Parish's Alternative Bazaar

Sunday, November 24th

10 AM - 1 PM
732 18th Ave E - In the Social Hall



This year
St. Joseph's
Alternative Bazaar
will have beautiful
handcrafted items
from dozens of
countries, and
organizations
around the world
in order to support
disadvantaged
artisans overseas
and in the US.

Come and support our non-profit outreach partners
such as: L'Arche, Baby Corner, Chief Seattle Club,
Association of Catholic Childhood,
Sister Parish in El Salvador
and many more!

The artisans and vendors with us are
Fair Trade Certified, or a non-profit
whose sales 100% support
the organization.

For More Information: Allison Nackel-Gaffney, allisonnackel@gmail.com
or Steve Wodzanowski, 206-965-1646



Pope - ourri

Catastrophe in the Philippines

Manila, 11. It is becoming clear that the catastrophe of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines has little precedent. According to estimates, 10,000 people were killed in the city of Tacloban alone, which had a population of more than 200,000. However this estimate is incomplete because it does not take into account other regions and, according to sources from Caritas, the number is likely to drastically increase. Hundreds of thousands of people have also been displaced. It is estimated that at least four million people are facing the effects of the typhoon. Many are struggling to survive without shelter, food or drinking water. Various cases of profiteering have already been reported.

Pope Francis' sorrow for the many victims and his solidarity with the rescuers was expressed in a telegram to Benigno Aquino III, President of the Philippines. "Deeply saddened by the destruction and loss of life caused by the super typhoon", the telegram, signed by Secretary of State, Pietro Parolin, "His Holiness Pope Francis expresses his heartfelt solidarity with all those affected by this storm and its aftermath. He is especially mindful of those who mourn the loss of their loved ones and of those who have lost their homes. In praying for all the people of the Philippines, the Holy Father likewise offers encouragement to the civil authorities and emergency personnel as they assist the victims of this storm. He invokes divine blessings of strength and consolation for the Nation".

The Holy Father also recalled the tragedy in the Philippines yesterday at the Marian prayer of the Angelus when he called for prayers and material aid for those affected and assured them of his closeness. An initial contribution of \$150,000 was sent by the Pope through the Pontifical Council Cor Unum. The Episcopal Conference of Italy has allocated three million euro to the emergency and Caritas has sent another 100,000 euro.



Filippino Cardinal Tagle: Images of destruction caused by typhoon left me speechless

(Vatican Radio) The head of the Catholic church in the Philippines, Cardinal Luis Tagle says every times he sees images of the massive destruction caused by typhoon Haiyan he's left speechless. At the same time, Cardinal Tagle says he is consoled by the love and solidarity that is pouring in from all over the world in the wake of this disaster. He spoke to Susy Hodges.

Cardinal Tagle, Archbishop of Manila, talks frankly about the distress he and others experience when they see the extent of the devastation wrought by typhoon Haiyan in their homeland. *"To be honest with you, I think I'm not alone in saying every time we see images of the destruction we are left speechless."* *"We are still recovering from the emotional and psychological shock."*

At the same time, the cardinal says he draws strength *"from the love, the concern, the solidarity pouring in, not just from other parts of the Philippines but from all over world."* I'm deeply consoled when I see and hear testimonies of faith, especially from the victims who have lost loved ones. *"They turn to God, saying in God we have hope."*

Cardinal Tagle goes on to describe how the Catholic Church is coordinating relief programmes to help the victims but says they have not yet heard from some bishops and other Church leaders in the worst affected areas because *"communications are still down."*

Asked whether he fears there will be people dying because of a lack of food, water and medicines in the aftermath of this huge disaster, the cardinal acknowledges there is *"a real possibility of this"* although the Church, the government, the military and aid organisations are all doing their best to reach out to the victims. However, he says he is *"afraid that poor people living in far flung villages"* in remote areas are at special risk of hunger and thirst in these coming days.

Cardinal Tagle's voice cracks with emotion when he sums up the plight facing his stricken homeland and the wonderful outpouring of solidarity it has engendered: *"We see rubble and ruins everywhere but we see faith, hope and love and it's making us stronger people. I want to thank the Holy Father, everyone.... For remembering us and trying their best to reach out, in the name of the victims and the poor, we really thank you"*

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Thursday, November 28th, 10:00 am

Please join with the community at 10:00 am mass (there will be no early morning mass on Thanksgiving). **Please bring two items of food or drink. One, from your table to be blessed at the altar during mass; and the second item of food for Francis House, so that others might also be blessed by your generosity.**

A Thanksgiving Day Prayer

Loving God, bless all those gathered here today as we come together in friendship and fellowship.

Thank you for the blessings of our individual and collective God-given gifts.

Place in our hearts the desire to make a difference– to our families, to our community, to our country, and to the many cultures and peoples worldwide.

Give us balance in times of distraction and uncertainty.

Help us move towards our goals with determination and always with an abundant sense of humor.

Thank you for food in a world where many know only hunger; For our faith in a world where many know fear; For friends in a world where many know only loneliness.

Please bless this food we are about to share, those who prepared it, those who serve it, and those who have worked to make today the special occasion that it is.

For all of this we give you thanks. Amen

