



Camillian Task Force - Central

Quarterly Bulletin of the Humanitarian Mission Office

CROSSOVER



Issue No. 5

Fourth Quarter Special Edition 2012

WORLD DAY OF THE VICTIMS OF DISASTERS (WDVD) - OCTOBER 13

A Note from the Father General

Rome, September 15, 2012

To All Major Superiors

Dear confreres,



It is with expectation that I am introducing the World Day (in remembrance of) the Victims of Disasters, to be celebrated this coming October 13 and, from now on, every year. October 13 is declared by the United Nations as the International Day for Disaster Reduction. The Camillian Task Force borrows the date but emphasizes the human costs involved in disasters since they affect people as well as the society which endanger their destiny and their right to life. The issue of managing a disaster is far more reaching than the measures of intervention. It involves the commitment to work for better living and ensuring conditions of a dignified life. This is what CTF is promoting and inviting each community and all members of the Order, as well as the Extended Family of St. Camillus, to remember the thousands of victims affected annually by disasters.

This Day must not be simply an occasion for remembrance and commemoration. It aims to bring to consciousness that injustice lies behind a disaster due to une-

qual sharing of goods and unsafe living conditions of over millions of human beings. As the enclosed document rightly points out that any disaster is an equation based on two factors: the strength of a natural event, on one side, and individuals' and collective vulnerability, on the other side. The latter can amplify the magnitude of a natural event so much so that the greater the vulnerability the greater the damage - destruction and death. Needless to say, often the most vulnerable are the economically poor, the marginalized and those deprived of resources and means.

Hopefully, let this Day awaken our awareness that any Disaster is an injustice, which need to be corrected through relief work, of course, but also through preventive measures and restoration of equality among human beings.

I, therefore, wish that each community, in each health care facility and pastoral ministry, in the organizations and formation centers of your Province / Delegation, the World Day (in remembrance of) of the Victims of Disasters will be celebrated, committing to greater involvement - alongside with the CTF - in this area of ministry, hence fulfilling the vision of our Founder St. Camillus.

I am convinced that you will do whatever you can to emphasize this Day so that many may get acquainted with it. I wish you all the best in all your endeavors!

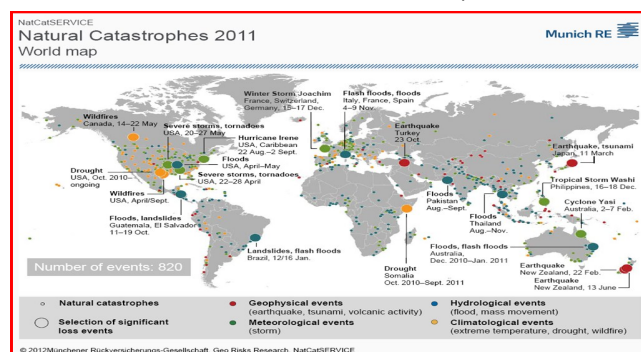
Fr. Renato Salvatore, MI
Superior General

Natural and man-made disasters are increasing every day. According to the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the economic and human impact of disasters during the last twelve (12) years rose to an unprecedented number of cases. These translate into a total of 2.7 billion people who have been affected, 1.1 million killed and \$1.3 trillion damage to properties and infrastructures. Furthermore, the countries that are highly exposed and at high risk to these calamities are countries that the Camillians are having their missions or if not, nearby, namely, Philippines, Chile, Madagascar, Tanzania, Haiti, Central Africa, Kenya, Pakistan, etc. according to the World Risk Report 2011 (UN).

It is in this context that the Ministers of the Infirm (Camillians) through its humanitarian mission office Camillian Task Force (CTF) declared October 13 as the World Day of the Victims of Disasters (WDVD). According to the letter of the Father General dated 15 September referring to this occasion, "this day must not be simply an occasion for remembrance and commemoration. It aims to bring to consciousness that injustice lies behind a disaster due to unequal sharing of goods and the unsafe living conditions of over millions of human beings." All too of-

The WDVD primarily draws its inspiration from the United Nations' International Day for Disaster Reduction and the significant experiences of the Camillians all over the world in their humanitarian missions. Though both celebrations speak of the same subject (vulnerable people) but it bring out different and complementary emphasis. The former puts emphasis on the human person as the subject of our mission or intervention while the latter emphasizes on actions to be taken. It aims to raise awareness of the Camillians, the great Camillian Family (persons or group of persons inspired by the charism of St. Camillus), personnels of the Camillian institutions and like-minded organizations to these disturbing realities that impoverished more the condition of the suffering humanity - the most vulnerable sector in the society today.

Aris Miranda, MI - CTF Central



Everybody is invited to contribute their stories, views, reflections and news in the field of humanitarian and pastoral mission.
Please send to ctf@camilliani.org.

CROSSOVER



TOWARDS A SPIRITUAL PASTORAL CARE IN SITUATION OF EMERGENCY



Last 20 October in the auditorium of Hogar S. Camillo (Lima), the Peruvian Camillians has organized a whole day event entitled "Towards a Spiritual-Pastoral Care in Situation of Emergency" as part of the activities in commemoration with the "World Day of the Victims of Disasters" every 13th of October.

The event was attended by around 150 people where most of them are representatives of the Pastoral Health of the Archdiocese of Lima who were very interested and attentive to the theme.

The event started at 9:00 in the morning. After the opening prayer, Ms. Tatiana Miluska Collas Meléndez, from the education and training department of INDECI (Institute of National Civil Defense, Peru) gave a talk on the "Culture of Disaster". This was followed by a talk of Ms. Rosario Muñoz Reyes, from INDECI also on "Mental Health Care in Natural Disasters".

After the lunch break, the activity resumed with a video projection of the Camillian Task Force prepared by the CTF Central, then followed immediately by a video conference with Fr. Pietro Magliozzi, MI from Chile on the theme of "Faith in Times of Crisis", an up to date topic in view of the Church's celebration of the "Year of Faith" and on the occasion of the World Day of the Victims of Disasters. The issues presented have aroused a lot of interest from the audience who took the opportunity to intervene during the discussion with questions and comments, as well as a sharing of some personal experiences. The discussion

has somehow resolved some doubts and confusions.

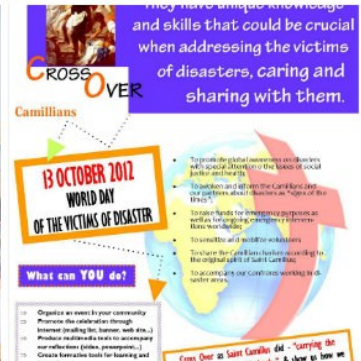
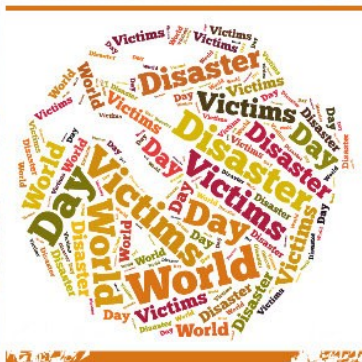
After the conference, all participants have proceeded to the church of Saint Mary of Good Death for the Eucharistic celebration in commemoration of the victims of natural disasters especially remembering and praying for all those who died in the fire of Mesa Redonda (December 28, 2001), the earthquake in Pisco (August 15, 2007), the flood of Nuevo Porvenir, Tarapoto, Northeast Peru (October 17, 2012), and all those who died in any natural disaster in Peru. The Eucharistic celebration was presided by Fr. Eduardo Morante, Vice-Provincial of Peru, who exhorted the participants to act as Good Samaritans before the misfortune and pain of those who suffer in the devastating consequences of natural disasters.

The event became then, an opportunity to promote and make the participants know what the CTF is doing in the world, and to learn more on the proper way to prepare and respond to natural disasters in Peru. It has been a way of applying and implementing some action points learned by some participants during the CTF Latin American workshop seminar held in August 2012. This event has encouraged them to organize and create a local CTF office in Perú with much hope that it will be realized soon.

Alex Spencer Ballana, MI

CTF Peru

BRAZIL - Last October 13, all the Camillian communities have celebrated masses to commemorate the "World Day of the Victims of Disasters." Each community has received a letter of invitation to participate stressing the importance of this celebration. A video concerning the disasters affecting Brazil was presented during the Eucharistic celebrations in different communities to help people be aware of the human cost of disasters.



CHILE - Last October 12, CTF Chile has celebrated two masses at the St. Camillus Parish, and a conference on the theme of "Faith and Trauma" in commemoration of the "World Day of the Victims of Disasters". Every year 300 million of people are victimized by natural disasters. It is not only about physical destruction but, also psycho-spiritual a real experience of suffering. In this sense, the Camillians worldwide deal to answer through the Camillian Task Force (CTF) activity.



ANTIPOLO - Typhoon Ondoy housing recipients of Our Lady of Annunciata Parish have celebrated the World Day of the Victims of Disaster last October 13 with a Eucharistic celebration at 6:30 AM in the parish. This was followed by a community meeting for livelihood proposal and ongoing formation activities. At present, they are considered as one Fatima group in the parish. The Fatima image is being brought in every house weekly. They prayed the rosary with the CTF intention for disaster victims. After the prayer, they conducted short meeting for follow up on common activities for livelihood and other programs. ****

Icon; Nature of Earthquake - Arlene; Multistakeholder planning for disaster relief and risk reduction - Claire & Rey.

It was attended by the SCH Calbayog employees, in this event we aimed to be one with the victims mourning and recovery on their experiences from disasters that gave so much impact to their lives.

Further, we want to instill awareness among the people that disaster could be reduced if and only engagement process has been learnt. Sometimes it is unpredictable and no enough technology to avoid its risk and causes. Faith bears miracles and an adequate knowledge and conviction could strengthen it.

By Claire S. Balibalos

CTF Visayas



Typhoon Ondoy CTF intervention program beneficiaries.



CTF Visayas' participants of an earthquake drill.

CALBAYOG CITY - October 13, 2012 marks the celebration of the World day of the victims of the disasters. In connection to this significant event the CTF-VISAYAS celebrated with them through a whole day activity at the conference hall of St. Camillus Hospital, Calbayog City, Philippines.

First, a Eucharistic celebration was celebrated for the souls of all the victims of the disaster worldwide. It was a solemn mass noting that it was the first time we commemorated it.

For public awareness, the core group of CTF-Visayas headed by Fr. James Roa, MI, MD (CTF-Visayas coordinator), co-members Claire Balibalos, Rey Demit, Icon Espanta, Orly Billate, Roger Munoz and Arlene Caber conducted a seminar-workshop integrating topics related to man-made and natural disasters. Among the topics were: Psychological Processing - Fr. James &

ILIGAN CITY - Responding to the call of the Camillian Task Force (CTF) to observe the World Day in Remembrance of the Victims of Disasters, the Rural Missionaries of the Philippines-Northern Mindanao Sub-Region (RMP-NMR) held an interfaith liturgy in honor of those whose lives were taken by TS Washi that struck Northern Mindanao on 16 -17 December of 2011.

The liturgy, officiated by Rev. Fr Jonecito Saguban, TOR (Roman Catholic), Rev. Fr. Rolando Abejo (Philippine Independent Church) and Imam Macabangkit Macarimbor (Muslim), was attended by scores of humanitarian workers from Unlad Kabayan-Christian Aid, Ecoweb, Care Nederland, and Accord, and the beneficiaries of the "Rebuilding Lives Project," a partnership initiative of RMP-NMR and CTF, funded by Chiesa Cattolica Italiana (CEI).



INTERFAITH PRAYER

"We are all affected by natural and man made calamities and faith can be a resource to mend wounds and to heal broken hearts," said Bro. Luca Perletti, General Secretary of the Ministers of the Infirm (MI), in his solidarity message read during the liturgy held at the RMP-NMR office.

Fellow humanitarian workers that attended the event thanked RMP-NMR and CTF for pioneering a faith-based remembrance of the victims of disasters.

Junaimah Mala, Project Officer of CARE Nederland and a Muslim, shared that "the memories of the victims compel us to act and call for the stoppage of destructive activities detrimental to the earth." She added, "while activities such as mining, logging and large-scale plantation generated profit for a few, the destruction it gave were very enormous and brought havoc to Mindanao's multi-ethnic and multi-faith communities."

Sr. Ma. Famita Somogod, MSM, RMP-NMR Co-ordinator emphasized that RMP-NMR, as a faith-based organization will continue to work not only for the recovery of the communities affected by TS Washi, but more importantly, for campaigns preserving the environment and upholding integrity of creation "up to the day our people will become man-made-disaster-victims no more."

by RMP-NMR

CTF Central celebrates the "World Day for the Victims of Disasters"

ITALY - CTF Central has celebrated the "World Day of the Victims of Disasters" in the wonderful Basilica of Saint Camillus, Rome. The event, that was promoted and coordinated by the CTF Central, has celebrated two important and significant programs.

The first part of the program was the Eucharistic celebration presided by Father Aris Miranda. It was graced by the presence of the members of the international Community of Casa Rebuschini, Studentato Camilliano, Community of St. John Lateran, the Generalate, Confraternity of Mercy and the parish community. The liturgy was guided by Father Luigi Secchi. The Homily of Father Paul Guarise offered a valuable reflection on the Word of God in relation to the theme of the day and the experience of the Camillian Task Force since 2001. The participants of the said event has shared the reflections of Father Paul which



Fr. Paolo delivers a homily

articulated the theme of the roots of the Camillians' involvement in the field of emergency and the call to responsibility and involvement of all men of good will. The involvement in emergency for the victims of disasters means more, that is, to think more and to raise consciousness on the denied rights of the victims and the social injustices. The first part ended with a video projection prepared by Fr. Aris and Daniela Passamonti of the CTF Central team, which touched the audience by the tale of images and numbers of disasters wherein the CTF has been attending in the past years.

The second part of the event was held in the hall of the Basilica where more than 30 people were present, and reflected on the meaning of the World Day, sharing experiences and testimonies about their experience with disasters, in view of the greater involvement of the Camillians.

The gathering commenced with a brief introduction by Fr. Aris presenting the objectives of the meeting and the projection of the CTF video.

The video presentation was supported by the testimonies of three Camillian religious who had experienced the disasters in Haiti, Thailand, Philippines and Indonesia. The testimonies were focused on three questions: the story of the disaster in which the confreres had been involved, what the Camillians did, and finally, what has been the impact of the CTF intervention to them.

The testimonies have been related with heightened emotions involving the audience in an atmosphere of particular attention and willingness to listen. The testimonies of Frs. Verna, Jimmy and Andi had expressed a unanimous sentiment — openness to the disaster's experience, accompanying the victims and serving them with the help of the CTF, have changed the communities involved.

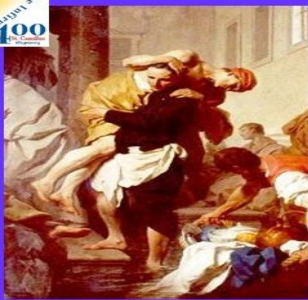
The video can relate more, but the words have expressed it more affirming that the CTF can really mean a gift of Saint Camillus in the present and for the future of the Camillians. The gathering ended with a fraternal agape graced by the words of Fr. Zambotti (who was then the Consultor when the CTF was born) thanking CTF for

the precious effort and the results of its work during the 11 years of service towards the victims of disasters.

Marco Iazzolino, CTF Central

KENYA - CTF Kenya celebrates October 16 commemoration with a "Hand Washing Day" activity at the secondary school in Wajir, knowing that most of the cases of illnesses are caused by unhygienic practices.





Camillians are powerful agents of humanization. They have unique knowledge and skills that could be crucial in addressing the needs of the victims of disasters, in caring and sharing with them.

CROSS OVER

Camillians

**OCTOBER 13
WORLD DAY OF THE
VICTIMS OF DISASTER**

What can YOU do?

- ⇒ Organize an event in your community
- ⇒ Promote the celebration through internet (mailing list, banner, web site,...)
- ⇒ Produce multimedia tools to accompany our reflections (video, powerpoint,...)
- ⇒ Create formative tools for learning and formation
- ⇒ Insert this flyer in any Camillian publications to inform and raise funds for the Camillian Task Force

- To promote global awareness on disasters with special attention to the issues of social justice and health;
- To awaken and inform the Camillians and our partners about disasters as "signs of the times";
- To raise funds for emergency purposes as well as for ongoing emergency interventions worldwide;
- To sensitize and mobilize volunteers
- To share the Camillian charism according to the original spirit of Saint Camillus;
- To accompany our Confreres working in disaster areas.

Cross Over as Saint Camillus did - "carrying the victims of disaster on his back", & show us how we can face together the new challenges.

LET US KNOW what you're doing... and SHARE your actions and ideas with us!

Casa Generalizia Ordine dei Chierici Regolari Ministri degli Infermi
Banca Prossima SpA, Sportello di Roma
IBAN IT62G0335901600100000070486
Swift Code: **BCITITMX**
Cause: Emergency Philippines

**DONATE FOR THE
VICTIMS OF
TYPHOON BOPHA
PHILIPPINES**



CAMILLIAN TASK FORCE

Camilliani
Piazza della Maddalena, 53
00186 Rome, IT
Tel.: +32 0689928174
Fax: +32 0689928175
E-mail: ctf@camilliani.org

Witnessing the merciful love of Christ to the victims of natural and human-made disasters.

