

## Haiti Special Church Collection A Great Success

(St. John's, NL – February 2, 2010)  
Archbishop Martin Currie, Archbishop of St. John's and Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Falls, NL reported today that parishioners from Roman Catholic parishes in the archdiocese of St. John's and Diocese of Grand Falls were very generous in their response to a special collection taken up for victims of the earthquake in Haiti.



Roman Catholic churches across Canada on the weekend of January 23 – 24 held a special collection to benefit the relief efforts in Haiti.

A total of **\$171,000** was raised thus far in the Archdiocese of St John's. A number of parishes have yet to report.

In the Diocese of Grand Falls **\$60,000** has been raised.

In the Diocese of Corner Brook – Labrador **\$56,000** has been realised with only half of the parishes reporting.

Archbishop Currie formally presented a cheque from the monies raised in the Archdiocese of St. John's from the special collection to Mr. Pat Hogan, President of the Canadian Catholic Organization Development and Peace. (D and P)

Pat Hogan of St. John's is the President of Development and Peace's National Council. The organization has already sent \$50,000 to Caritas Haiti, which runs 200 medical clinics in the country but is in dire need of financial resources to respond to the growing humanitarian needs of this population in crisis.

Development and Peace has been involved in Haiti for almost 30 years.

Last year, Development and Peace spent a total of \$600,000 on four separate relief efforts in Haiti. D and P has been involved in several community development projects lead by 7 local partners, most of which are in the worst affected parts of the country.

As a member of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, Archbishop Currie has served on the National Council for Development and Peace, founded by the Bishops of Canada 40 years ago as their agency for international development and solidarity.

Archbishop Currie said that the response has been very generous and that each dollar raised in the parishes before **February 12** will be matched by the federal government.

The amount raised from the special parish collection **\$294,000** with the matching funds from the federal government represents **\$588,000**.

Archbishop Currie also commended all Newfoundlanders and Labradorians for their generosity in organizing and supporting the many organizations that held events throughout the province over the past two weeks in support of Haiti.

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