



## DOMANDE ALL'ARCIVESCOVO DI COLOMBO - V

### *What does the Church ask?*

Since the Catholic communities depend so much on their community church for their spiritual nourishment and sustenance the repairing of these buildings at the earliest would also help them in their recovery from the traumatic frame of mind in which they are presently in. The Church has also provided counsellors to help those in traumatic conditions. This is a serious concern especially with the little children who have faced the trauma of the tsunami and/or lost their parents and dear ones. These persons need a lot of counselling and consoling to overcome their trauma. Due to the dearth of trained counsellors some of our priests are conducting rapid training courses for counsellors – e.g. Subodhi.

### *Transparency*

The people of the country and the funding agencies, as well as the donor countries, are alert as to how the funds are going to be used by the government. This keeps the government in check and we hope the funds will be used well.

As for the Archbishop's Relief Fund there is a team of priests already appointed to administer the fund and two accountants have been appointed to present audit reports. Therefore the possibility of any misappropriation is minimal.

The Catholic Bishops' Conference also appointed a further two Bishops to assist the Bishop Chairman of Caritas/Sri Lanka Raymond Peiris in handling the operations of tsunami relief. These two Bishops Harold Perera and Kingsley Swampillai will comprise a team with two accountant-consultants in the persons of Gamini Wijesinghe and Nivard Cabraal.

We strongly recommend that all funds sent from abroad be given either to the "Archbishop's Tidal Wave Relief Fund" or to the National Caritas through the Caritas agencies in the respective countries.

### *Collaboration*

There has been excellent collaboration between the Tamils and the Sinhala people during this disaster. It was so even between the Sri Lankan armed forces and the Tamils. This was clearly evident and acknowledged by the Tamil people immediately after the tsunami lashed. Several lives were saved because of this collaboration.

However, some problems arose between the LTTE and the other groups when it came to the later distribution of food and other essential items. On the whole there is a strong feeling among the people that there should be peace in the country and that this *tsunami* is a providential call to it. They believe that the natural disaster has proved that all men are equal. In this sense it is a good sign and a hope for the future.

### **800.086808**

E' il numero verde dell'unità di crisi al quale devono rivolgersi i parenti di coloro che inizialmente erano stati segnalati fra i dispersi e che invece successivamente hanno dato notizie certe di sé.

### **286.000 MORTI**

Sono già state censite 286.000 vittime, tra le quali 54 italiani. I nostri connazionali ancora irrimediabilmente ammontano a 53. La gestione della lista dei dispersi è di competenza del Viminale.

### **PARTECIPATE ALLA SOTTOSCRIZIONE**

**A FAVORE DELLE VITTIME**  
c.c.p. n.n. 12071411, abi 07601, cab 12900, intestato "Association Internazionale Reine Helene", causale: "terremoto in Asia".