



ASIA/JAPAN - Earthquakes and Tsunamis are "a challenge to witness to love" for Catholics

Saitama (Agenzia Fides) - "The Church in Japan will respond to the tragedy of the earthquake and tsunami that struck northern Japan, with prayer and solidarity," said Bishop Marcellinus Daiji Tani to Fides from the Diocese of Saitama, one of the dioceses most affected by the earthquake. "The greatest damage was reported in Sendai," notes the Bishop, "but my own Diocese of Saitama, a little to the south was also affected, fortunately without human losses. Of particular concern to us is the situation of the nuclear power plant in Fukushima. But we must take courage, with the help of the Holy Spirit. Tomorrow, at Sunday Masses throughout the Country, we will remember the victims, the wounded and the displaced. As a Christian community, we are ready with prayer and solidarity." The Bishop remarks: "This sad event reminds us that life is in the hands of God and that life is a gift from God. It will be a challenge for all of us to practice and witness to the commandment of love and brotherly love, in this time of Lent." (PA) (Agenzia Fides 12/3/2011)