

### **Communion responds as Anglicans, Episcopalians seek to give to Japan**

In response to a growing desire to donate as well as pray for the beleaguered nation of Japan, agencies and Churches of the Communion have been setting up avenues for giving.

In Japan itself, the Primate and Provincial officials have set up the 'Tohoku Earthquake Anglican Church Control HQ' within the Provincial Office. The lead is the person responsible is the Provincial Secretary, Revd John Makito Aizawa (email address [general-sec.po@nsskk.org](mailto:general-sec.po@nsskk.org)) This office has set up a bank account for anyone wishing to donate to their emergency fund:

Name of Bank and Branch:	Mitsubishi UFJ Bank, Iidabashi Branch
Account Number:	4515547
Name of Account:	Nippon Sei Ko Kai

The Diocese of Tohoku has also set up a Relief and Rehabilitation Centre headed up by the Bishop of Tohoku, the Rt Revd John Hiromichi Kato ([bishop.tohoku@nsskk.org](mailto:bishop.tohoku@nsskk.org)).

In the Diocese of West Malaysia, Bishop Moon Hing has appealed in a letter for people to contribute what they can to support anyone affected by this disaster.

"I am appealing for donations for this disaster..." he said, "Please announce it in your churches and make collections for this cause. Since the destruction is not only confined to Japan, the Pacific Islands as well as Philippines and Taiwan are affected, I wish to called it 'Japan & Pacific Tsunami Relief'.

Please send in the donation to the Diocesan office and make cheque payable to 'DIOCESE OF WEST MALAYSIA' and at the back of the cheque designate it to 'Japan & Pacific Tsunami Relief'. You may send in the cheque to:

Diocese of West Malaysia  
16, Jalan Pudu Lama  
50200 Kuala Lumpur, West Malaysia

or bank into the diocesan account: Standard Chartered Bank Account No. **312-100883131** and send in the bank-in slip stating the purpose.

Thank you. Be imitators of Christ. Shalom.  
+Moon Hing"

In the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui the Primate, the Most Reverend Paul Kwong, has also launched an appeal.

In Canada, the Primates' World Relief and Development Fund has announced that it is taking donations designated for disaster relief in Japan. "Donations for relief work will be forwarded to the Anglican Church of Japan and partner organizations such as Church World Service," its website says.

The US's Episcopal Relief and Development agency has set up its Japan Earthquake Response Fund to "collect donations for emergency relief provided through local partners in Japan and other areas affected by the disaster."

Already churches in both countries are pointing their members to these agencies as places they can donate.

In England, alongside agencies such as Christian Aid and World Vision, USPG is appealing to its supporters for help for Japan.

Its website states: "NSKK is recruiting volunteers and setting up a process for providing emergency relief. Donations made to USPG's Rapid Response Fund will help to support this relief work – as well as other emergency aid given when disasters strike."

Much of this giving and receiving for Japan will soon be discussed by Anglican agencies and Churches on a phone conference arranged by the Anglican Communion's new [Anglican Alliance for development, relief and advocacy](#). The call, early next week, will give those involved in trying to raise funds and other support an opportunity to consider together how to best to maximise all their efforts.

Sally Keeble, Anglican Alliance Director, said: "At present international governments and some agencies have provided specific support. However, the Government of Japan has not requested help from the international humanitarian community, and so the DEC and others have not issued appeals.

"In bringing together Anglican aid agencies and looking at the assessments of the church in Japan, I hope we can ensure that the Anglican Communion can provide effective long term support for our brothers and sisters in Japan.

"People understandably want to help when they see the devastation in Japan: by ensuring that we listen to the views of the Church in Japan, and co-ordinate our support, we can make sure our help is effective."