06/02/2025

Message of His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia on the floods in northern Queensland



Dearly beloved,

It is with sadness of heart that we see thousands of our fellow persons facing dire situations, and some who have lost their lives because of the recent devasting floods that have affected Northern Queensland, especially the regions of Townsville, Ingham, Hinchinbrook, Innisfail and Cairns. Unfortunately, such ordeals which are occurring frequently all around our nation leaving in danger both households and infrastructure, and moreover, human life.

In these most crucial and challenging times our heartfelt thoughts and fervent prayers are with our fellow brothers and sisters who have been affected by the disastrous aftermath of the floods. I wish to affirm the unconditional support of our Holy Archdiocese of Australia, and myself personally, for the officials and staff of the relevant state emergency services and urge everyone to abide and follow the directions and instructions which have been issued.

I wish to express my sincere paternal prayers and well-wishes to His Grace Bishop Bartholomew of Brisbane, the reverend clergy, the faithful of our local Church in

Queensland, and to our brethren who are at the centre of this ordeal, assuring them that our Holy Archdiocese remains by their side, assisting them in their efforts to recovery from the current disaster. I fervently ask that they remain steadfast in their faith in God, certain that “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1). Finally, I ask that everyone pray for our brothers and sisters to God who is all-compassionate and all-merciful so that He may protect and strengthen them.

I convey my paternal blessings to everyone and pray that our Lord Jesus Christ, through the intercessions of our Panagia, His holy Mother, safeguards and comforts all those who are going through these difficult times of trial.