For Immediate Release

January 27, 2005

Archbishop acknowledges response to his relief request

Local Catholic churches, schools exceed $1 million mark for tsunami victims

(Seattle) Archbishop Alex J. Brunett today gratefully acknowledged the generosity of Catholics and other people of goodwill in the Archdiocese of Seattle for donating more than $1.2 million in response to his request for tsunami relief in South Asia. The donations were made by local parish communities, organizations and individuals and forwarded to Catholic Relief Services, the official overseas relief agency of the U.S. Catholic Church.

“This is truly an unprecedented outpouring of generosity by our local Catholic community,” Archbishop Brunett said. “Because of the response to my request and the request of other bishops across the nation, Catholic Relief Services has formally committed $50 million to emergency relief services and future development efforts in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and India.”

Donations to Catholic Relief Services are providing emergency relief such as food, clean water, shelter, basic supplies and healthcare to victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami. To meet long-term needs, Catholic Relief Services is coordinating with its local partners in the region to provide trauma counseling for survivors and address future water and sanitation requirements, deliver materials and offer technical assistance to rebuild homes.

Individuals can make donations locally to Catholic Relief Services by sending checks to

CRS/Tsunami Emergency
Missions Office
910 Marion Street
Seattle WA 98104

Individuals can make credit card donations by calling the Missions Office at 206.382.4580 or CRS at 1.877.435.7277. Donations also can be made online at www.seattlearch.org.

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