



Rome, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016

## **IMPORTANT NEWS!**

We share with you the following congregational news that happened over the past weekend.

### **ECUADOR EARTHQUAKE**

Sister Clemencia Rivera, Province Leader, shared with us the following information: Thank you very much for your concern and solidarity with our country. We are living difficult moments and experiencing much suffering in solidarity with our people who have experienced many human and material losses.

With regard to the sisters, they are fine, thanks be to God. Some communities such as: Esmeraldas, Portoviejo, Guayaquil and Santa Elena are very close to the epicenter of the earthquake. These places are the most affected. Our authorities are working hard to rescue the victims and treat the wounded. We are carefully following the official information in order to know what to do.

The whole country is united in solidarity to address this emergency which took us by surprise and has particularly affected the most vulnerable and poor families.

We will be communicating further information very soon. Once again we welcome with gratitude the prayers of the Congregation.

*We will post updates to the congregational website as we receive them.*

### **JAPAN EARTHQUAKE**

There were also two major earthquakes in the southern part of Japan these past days. Because of the location, our sisters were not affected by these events. However, they are united with the people during this time of tragedy for so many in Japan. Sister Elizabeth Takeda, Sector Leader, is grateful for our concern for the sisters and people of Japan.

### **SR. ANNE MANNING – PROVINCE OF AUSTRALIA/AOTEAROA-NZ**

On Good Shepherd Sunday, Sr. Anne Manning, former Province Leader, died peacefully. Anne had become ill towards the end of the Congregational Chapter and was hospitalized. Eventually she returned to Australia with a diagnosis of cancer and underwent chemotherapy. This past week her condition worsened rapidly. We unite in prayerful support with Monica Walsh, Acting Province Leader, and with all the sisters and mission partners as they grieve the loss of Anne and the gift she had been to the Congregation.