



Salesian Missions
AUSTRALIA

The Australian Salesian Mission Overseas Aid Fund
Salesians of Don Bosco

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Appeal for Volcano Victims in the Congo

Salesian Missions Australia has launched an appeal for victims of the Mount Nyiragongo volcano in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), that erupted on May 22. The eruption was close to the city of Goma, population about 2 million.

The fast-moving lava from the volcano flattened more than 500 homes and the current death toll now exceeding 30. Volcanic ash is a major health concern causing inflammation and irritation of the respiratory system, skin irritation, eye problems and when inhaled, lung damage.

Fr Aurelien Mukangwa, the Salesian priest in charge of the two Don Bosco Schools and Centres in Goma says that living conditions for people in the aftermath of the volcano, are very difficult. Large numbers are in need of shelter, food and water that is free of volcanic ash. Furthermore, he adds, there are many children unable to locate their parents.

“The Schools in Goma and Shasha (40km from the city) have been established as emergency relief centres. They are supporting families and young people that are displaced. The Salesian Sisters and Salvatorian Sisters who are running orphanages that care for children are also being assisted.

“Our first priority is to cater for basic needs: food, water, milk, mattresses, blankets, mosquito nets, medicines, games to occupy the children etc, however we have limited supplies.” says Fr Aurelien..

OUR URGENT NEED is to assist Fr Aurelien and the Salesians in Goma to offer help to volcano victims with food, clean water, medical and hygiene supplies.

Donations can be posted to:

Salesian Missions Australia

P O Box 264

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or via:

Website : www.salesianmissionsaustralia.org.au

Phone : 03 9377 6060

Email : salmiss@salesians.org.au

Donations are tax deductible.

Tina Newton

(Director of Salesian Missions Australia)

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