

**MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP OF LANCASTER  
ON THE SEVERE FLOODS IN CUMBRIA & NORTH LANCASHIRE  
(‘STORM DESMOND’)**



7 December 2015

**MESSAGE BEGINS:**

‘I extend my prayerful sympathies and thoughts to everyone affected by the devastating floods in Cumbria and North Lancashire of recent days.

My heart goes out in particular to those of you who now have had to endure such upheaval and destruction for the second time in recent years. I know that the wonderful spirit of community solidarity which sustained you then, will again give you the courage and determination to meet and deal with the present dreadful adversity.

I pay tribute to all the emergency services for their unstinting work and to the local radio stations for keeping everyone informed, also to those responsible for restoring power and utilities to houses, schools and businesses throughout our regions. We are greatly indebted to them all.

I assure everyone affected of my ongoing thoughts and prayers, and those of so many more nationwide. May the Lord be close to you in this time of trial!

+Michael G Campbell OSA  
Bishop of Lancaster

**MESSAGE ENDS**

***N.B. The Opening of the Jubilee Year Mass at Lancaster Cathedral on 8 December is now cancelled.***

**HOW TO HELP:**

- Pray for all individuals, families, schools, and businesses involved in this disaster.
- All Catholics of the Diocese of Lancaster (*covering both North Lancashire and all of Cumbria*) are encouraged to support an emergency appeal that has been launched - not by the Diocese - but by **[Cumbria Community Foundation](#)**.
- To donate – go to:  
**<http://campaign.justgiving.com/charity/cumbriafoundation/cumbriafloodappeal2015>**
- Cheques, made payable to: *Cumbria Community Foundation*, can be sent to CCF, Dovenby Hall, Cockermouth, Cumbria, CA13 0PN.
- Donations can also be made by text – 70070 with the message ‘FLUD15’ and a monetary amount. For example, ‘FLUD15 £10’.