

## *Tragedy vs. Prosperity*

When tragedy strikes,  
we look out  
for each other;  
when prosperity reigns,  
we lock up  
within ourselves.

Tragedy brings us together  
for cooperation;  
prosperity pushes us apart  
in competition.

Tragedy stimulates  
a spiritual adrenalin;  
prosperity sinks us  
into a moral torpor.

Tragedy calls us  
to involvement;  
prosperity smothers us  
in indifference.

Tragedy evokes  
caring and sharing;  
prosperity overlooks  
the despairing.

Prosperity perverts  
our priorities;  
tragedy calls us back  
to the essentials.

Why does prosperity  
lead to complacency,  
which is only shattered  
by sudden tragedy?

It is tragic  
when human solidarity  
is awakened only when  
devastating disasters  
invade our prosperity.

The hungry and destitute,  
the diseased and marginalized  
do not need an  
earthquake or tsunami  
to make their lives tragic.

Therefore,  
the goal of globalization  
should be the mobilization  
of prosperity  
to alleviate their  
daily tragedy.

© *Msgr. Walter Niebrzydowski*  
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[Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com](mailto:Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com)  
[www.fatherwaltersparish.org](http://www.fatherwaltersparish.org)