



Bishop James F. Checchio asks faithful of the Diocese of Metuchen to assist victims of Hurricane Harvey through special collection

August 31, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Diocese of Metuchen,

It was nearly five years ago, in October 2012, that Superstorm Sandy hit parts of our diocese and many of our people went through something of what is now being experienced by the residents of eastern and southern Texas. In scope and level of devastation, Hurricane Harvey is being described as a natural disaster beyond anything our nation has ever experienced. In the aftermath of Sandy, our people were able to begin to rebuild their homes and their very lives through the support of parishes and dioceses throughout the United States.

Hurricane Harvey presents us with the opportunity to show to the grieving and displaced persons in Texas the same compassion that was so generously shown to us. I encourage the faithful of the Diocese of Metuchen to continue to pray for those who are suffering from this storm. I also invite you to **participate in a special second collection**, which I have asked to be taken up in our parishes the weekend of September 16-17, or an alternate weekend determined by your pastor. Please be generous as your means allow.

If it is more convenient, you may also **donate online** at <http://diometuchen.org> or **write a check** made payable to "Diocese of Metuchen" with "Hurricane Harvey" in the subject line and mail to: Hurricane Harvey Donation, Diocese of Metuchen, P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, NJ 08840-0191. We will accept donations through September 30 and then will forward all monies collected to the Catholic Charities in the dioceses affected by the storm.

Thank you in advance for your concern for our brothers and sisters in great need.

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen