



DIocese OF BUFFALO
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

October 4, 2022

Dear Father or Pastoral Administrator:

Archbishop José H. Gomez, President of the USCCB, has requested parishes to take up a special emergency collection for the to assist Catholic Charities USA and/or Catholic Relief Services respond to devastating effects of Hurricane Fiona and Ian. Archbishop Gomez writes: “lives have been lost and many Church properties, along with home and businesses, have been severely damaged or destroyed.” The archbishop requests that this collection take place as soon as possible to support the humanitarian, long-term recovery, and significant Church needs arising from these calamities

Funds collected in this special appeal will become part of the Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund and will be used to support the efforts of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church and/or Catholic Charities USA/Catholic Relief Services, the office relief agencies of the U.S. Catholic Church, as they and their local agencies respond to the immediate emergency needs for such necessities as water, food, shelter, and medical care and aid in long-term rebuilding needs and recovery efforts. Funds will be used in response to the hurricane, subsequent tornados and flooding, and any other disasters that occur and will be distributed where they are most needed.

I ask that a second collection be taken up in all parishes in as soon as possible. I know the generosity of our people and their deep care for those in need. I trust that you will find the best way of making these needs known to the faithful of your parish community and I have confidence in their prayerful consideration and generous support.

I ask you to join me in continuing to offer prayers for families who have lost loved ones, are among those injured, and those who have lost their homes and livelihood. Please ask your community members to be as generous as possible.

Proceeds should be forwarded, in a timely manner, to:

Diocese of Buffalo Lockbox Dept 294

PO Box 8000

Buffalo, NY 14267

Memo portion of the check: Hurricane Special Collection

With assurances of my grateful and prayerful best wishes, I am

Most Rev. Michael W. Fisher
Bishop of Buffalo