

PRESS RELEASE

Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington

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The United States Conference of Bishops and Bishop Christopher Coyne are asking all Catholic parishes to take up an emergency collection this weekend, Sept 16-17, or next weekend, Sept 23-24, for those devastated in parts of the Caribbean and southeastern United States by Hurricane Irma. Funds given to the collection will support the humanitarian and recovery efforts of Catholic Charities USA and will provide pastoral and rebuilding support to impacted dioceses through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“Our faith calls us to respond to all those in need.” says Bishop Coyne. “Even though we are a small diocese, the Vermont Catholic community is very generous.”

Vermont Catholics have responded generously to victims of natural disasters over the years. Nearly \$400,000 was collected for victims of Hurricane Katrina over the course of one year (Sept. 2005 – Oct. 2006), and, in 2011, \$154,000 was collected over one month for victims of Tropical Storm Irene. Collections for Hurricane Harvey victims earlier this month, Sept 2-3 and 9-10, are still coming in and the total will be shared with our parishes once tabulated.

The Vermont Catholic Church is comprised of 73 parishes, 91 churches and an estimated 118,000 Catholics.

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