



Diocese of Austin

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Office of the Bishop

September 26, 2017

Dear Brother Priests:

We have experienced multiple natural disasters in the last several weeks and each time we turn to you seeking assistance due to the fact that people are asking "How can we help the people who suffer such a tragedy as an earthquake or hurricane?"

I come to you today, again, cognizant of your most recent support regarding the collections for Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma, asking if you would take up another collection to assist those affected by Hurricane Maria and the earthquakes in Mexico.

As always, it is difficult to describe the loss that so many people have experienced. Yet, each and every time that we encounter a natural tragedy, the goodness of our people arises. Please consider either the weekend of October 14-15 or October 28-29. These monies collected will once again support the reconstruction and pastoral needs of the Church, as well as humanitarian and recovery assistance through Catholic Charities USA (Hurricane Maria) and Catholic Relief Services (Mexico earthquakes). Please send your special collection funds to the Diocese of Austin finance office.

With my gratitude and prayers, I remain

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Joe S. Vasquez
Bishop of Austin

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