



DIOCESE OF BUFFALO
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

September 25, 2017

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This last month has been a difficult time as many were affected by Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma. I sincerely thank you for your generosity in offering prayers, outreach, and donations to aid those impacted by these terrible storms.

Without much time to take a breath, Hurricane Maria swept through much of the same geography as Irma and our brothers and sisters in Central Mexico were hit with a 7.1 magnitude earthquake not even three weeks after Southern Mexico experienced an 8.1 magnitude quake. As we have all seen from the reports on television, the Caribbean and Mexico have experienced substantial damage and have suffered significant devastation.

I wish I did not need to ask, but would you prayerfully consider making a donation to help those who have suffered from these two additional calamities. If you are unable to do so, please keep these communities in your prayers. The news coverage will quickly end, but the impact and loss will continue for time to come. Contributed funds will be used to 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 Earthquake).

Your pastor will determine the weekend when this collection will take place.

Again, thank you for your generous concern for all those communities that have experienced these calamities.

May the Lord bless you and your family and those who have suffered so much loss, peace, and hope.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Richard J. Malone
Bishop of Buffalo

RJM/mmj