



# Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### *Parishes to Take Special Collection for Storm Victims*

(HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA) – As catastrophic flooding continues to affect the Gulf Coast region of our country, Bishop Mark Bartchak is asking the faithful to pray for victims of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Harvey and offer financial support.

The Bishop has asked the clergy of the Diocese to take up a special collection at every parish, church, and chapel in Altoona-Johnstown as soon as possible. Pastors/Administrators may choose one of the following weekends: September 2-3; September 9-10; or September 16-17. The collection is to be taken at all Masses on one of those weekends.

In making his request to the clergy, the Bishop noted that all monies collected will go to Catholic Charities USA, which is already assisting in the areas affected by the storm.

Bishop Bartchak urges the faithful to be as generous as possible.