



DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG  
Office of the Bishop

September 18, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The images of natural disasters such as fires, floods and hurricanes always move our hearts with compassion, and this year is no different. As a Church, we seek to respond with the love of Christ, who heals the brokenhearted. That is why I invite you to participate in a special collection to benefit the Diocese of St. Petersburg Disaster Relief Fund, which supports victims of natural disasters during their time of tremendous need. The donations can be made through your parish or online at [www.dosp.org/disaster-relief-fund](http://www.dosp.org/disaster-relief-fund).

This collection will benefit our brothers and sisters in Christ who are impacted by natural disasters, including Hurricane Sally, which has devastated parts of Florida's Gulf Coast, including areas of my former Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee.

By joining together, the people of our Diocese can make a difference in the hardest hit areas around the world. Please be assured that 100% of all donations will be directed to people affected by natural disasters as needed.

In the past year, contributions to our Disaster Relief Fund have been used to provide the following assistance:

- **\$50,000** for Hurricane Laura Relief in the Diocese of Lake Charles, Louisiana
- **\$50,000** for Hurricane Laura Relief in the Diocese of Beaumont, Texas
- **\$100,000** for COVID-19 Relief in the Diocese of St. Petersburg
- **\$250,000** for Hurricane Dorian Relief in the Archdiocese of Nassau, Bahamas

As always, I thank you for your generosity and prayers as we care for those in need by following the example of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gregory Parkes  
Bishop of St. Petersburg