



DONATE TODAY!

KPC Disaster Relief Fund

Donations are used to support the recovery of Knights and Ladies who have survived natural disasters as well as assist churches in affected areas that have received damage or provide recovery and relief programs.

Disasters can strike
ANYONE at ANY TIME

Make Your Contribution Today!
www.kofpc.org/disaster

Hurricane recovery in southern U.S., Caribbean islands continues

The scenes were unbelievable and heart-breaking — exhausted, crying and disheveled survivors shocked into silence as they stood waiting for hours for food, water or fuel; lines of hospital patients in wheelchairs waiting for a flight to safety; homes torn apart and immersed in water up to the eaves; cars up-ended along streets and boats sinking in marinas; the landscape littered with twisted trees stripped of all foliage and crops flooded and destroyed.

Approximately 100 of our Claver brothers and sisters were impacted by natural disasters and assisted with their recovery by the KPC Disaster Relief Fund.

- **In Texas and Louisiana**, Hurricane Harvey dumped a record 51.88 inches of rain and forced an estimated 30,000 people in Houston and thousands more in other coastal communities from their homes.
- **In the Caribbean and Florida**, Hurricane Irma tore through the Virgin Islands of St. John and St. Thomas, then spanned Florida, ripping through the Keys and crossing the state to cause flooding in the northeast of the peninsula and Georgia. Estimates from government officials report that 40,000 of St. Thomas' 52,000 residents were left homeless. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reports that almost 150,000 households in Florida filed for assistance.
- With barely time to assess damage from Irma, **the Virgin Islands** braced for Hurricane Maria. Her 150 mile-an-hour winds pummeled St. Croix before unleashing the worst of her wrath on Puerto Rico. According to Associated Press

reports, 80 percent of Puerto Rico's transmission lines were knocked out and almost all of the island's customers were without power. According to Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello, 3.4 million U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico were affected by this disaster.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops called on Catholics across the country to respond in prayer and generosity to aid those mourning the loss of loved ones, their homes and, in some cases, their entire communities. As coastal residents brace for the hurricane season to begin, recovery is still ongoing for many victims of the 2017 hurricanes.

Quick Disaster Tips

1. Check your insurance policies and coverage

- a. What is covered?
- b. Are they paid and up-to-date?
- c. What are your limits and deductibles?
- d. Make sure you have your local agent and national claims contacts

2. Protect your valuables

- a. Even heavy furniture and shelves will float with flooding
- b. Bolt shelves to walls to provide more stability
- c. Electronics, clothes, shoes are easily replaced
- d. Pictures, historical documents, etc. are often irreplaceable

3. Be ready

- a. Have copies/originals of IDs, prescriptions, insurance policies
- b. Have phones and phone chargers ready
- c. Make sure you have transportation available (gas, oil change, etc.)
- d. Check on your neighbors and the elderly ♦