



PRESS RELEASE

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The Diocese of Charleston is Steadfast in Assisting those Affected by the Flooding

(CHARLESTON, SC) – Officials with the Catholic Diocese of Charleston are committed to assisting those suffering and trying to recover from the recent flooding. Over the past several weeks, the diocese and Catholic Charities South Carolina have provided food, fresh water, personal hygiene products, laundry services and financial support to hundreds of flood victims throughout the state. “Many of our brothers and sister in South Carolina lost everything in the floods and are still hurting. We are dedicated to helping them as they work to recover from the damaging waters,” said the Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmono, Bishop of Charleston. “As Jesus tells the crowds in the Gospel of Luke, ‘Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.’”

Diocesan, parish and Catholic Charities officials have been assisting flood victims throughout the state.

Their efforts include:

- Distributing approximately 900 bags of food to flood victims in the Georgetown area and the Pee Dee region;
- Assisting members of St. Cyprian Catholic Church in Georgetown by providing them with food and cleaning supplies;
- Disseminating clothes and personal hygiene items to various Columbia community agencies that are supporting flood victims;

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The Diocese of Charleston Committed to Assisting Flood Victims

Oct. 21, 2015

Page 2

- Giving financial aid to those in need including covering the cost of a hotel room for a homeless Columbia women who will soon give birth;
- Spearheading relief efforts for individual parishes, i.e. parishioners at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Columbia are gathering food, water and relief supplies and distributing the items to members of the parish and community;
- Assisting residents in a Newberry and Greenwood trailer home who were affected by the high water.

Those outside the state are also assisting with relief efforts. Over the weekend, a truck filled with food donated by students at Charlotte Catholic High School was delivered to the Conway Catholic Charities Office.

Personnel with the Catholic Diocese of Charleston plan to continue working with flood victims in the upcoming days, weeks and months; however, financial assistance is necessary to carry on this important mission. The public is asked to send check donations to the Diocese of Charleston at 901 Orange Grove Road, Charleston, South Carolina, 29407. Donations can also be accepted online at www.sccatholic.org. Please designate the check or online payment "Flood Relief Fund."

Diocesan officials are also available to help those still suffering and requiring assistance due to the floods. They are asked to contact the Coastal Deanery office of Catholic Charities at 3921 St. John's Avenue in North Charleston. Their phone number is (843) 531-5535 x30.

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