



Pastors and Parish Leaders,

I would like to offer my prayers to the people of Haiti who once again are suffering a great tragedy. After an earthquake shook the country on August 14th, Tropical Storm Grace followed, adding to the devastation.

In a response to Archbishop Gomez's request for a special collection for Haiti. I would like all of the parishes within our diocese to take up a special collection on August 28th and 29th, if possible, for the people of Haiti. I am suggesting this weekend because there is an urgent need of relief for the country and its people. The following weekend, there will be a special collection for the Catholic University of America. If your parish is unable to take up a special collection on August 28th and 29th, please consider taking up this collection on September 11th and 12th.

Checks should be made out to the Roman Catholic Bishop of Stockton and have Special Collection for Haiti noted on the check. Please send the proceeds as quickly as possible to the Pastoral Center due to the extreme need in Haiti.

The funds collected in this special appeal will become part of the Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund and will be used in response to the earthquake and Tropical Storm Grace calamities in Haiti.

Please encourage your parishioners to give generously to this special collection.

In the Peace of Christ,

The Most Reverend Bishop Myron J. Cotta