



October 14, 2008

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The news media presented many images of the damage and destruction left by Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. These pictures may be passing away from our memories, but the devastation of these two storms are still most vivid for the Catholic Churches in the coastal areas of Texas and throughout the dioceses of Louisiana. Time has not yet healed the hardships and suffering still borne by the people. Homes, schools and a place to worship are not yet fully available to them. Help is desperately needed!

In the past, you and I together have been able to sustain the hope of so many by our generosity and our prayers. We are being asked to continue doing so by our supportive efforts to rebuild the lives of our brothers and sisters in their present need.

It is with these sentiments in mind that I come again to seek your collaboration in comforting and supporting these brothers and sisters of ours. Your pastor will indicate the manner which he has selected to enable you in your parish to make tangible and effective this desire of ours to help those in need.

May God bless them and us as we pledge to share in His Name our gifts with the suffering, the poor and the needy.

Faithfully in Christ,

+ Paul S. Loverde

Most Reverend Paul S. Loverde
Bishop of Arlington