

A Prayer of Relief

Loving and gracious God,

Bl. Mary Angela once wrote, "Let your love be like Christ's love, revealing itself not only in feelings but in deeds" (III, 137) and to "give aid to all without exception" (I, 112). All love and mercy, our mission and heritage compels us to the side of our brothers and sisters affected by Hurricane Harvey.

In our charity and in our compassion, help us stand with them.

In our solidarity and in our sharing, help us to stand with them.

In our advocacy, and in our prayer, help us to stand with them.

And as we turn to them in their peril, we ask your grace to go with us:

To feed the hungry:

-give us your grace.

To give drink to the thirsty:

-give us your grace.

To clothe the naked:

-give us your grace.

To shelter the homeless:

-give us your grace.

To care for the sick:

-give us your grace.

To reach the trapped and the stranded:

-give us your grace.

To mourn the dead:

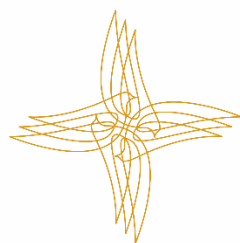
-give us your grace.

May the intercession of our Holy Father Francis imbue us with his spirit so that in reaching out, may we find God in them. And may they find God in us. Amen.

-Adopted and adapted from a prayer of Catholic Relief Services following Typhoon Haiyan, Nov. 2013

Questions for reflection:

- 1.) How do we advocate for change so that the US Government provides better care for all affected in times of disaster?
- 2.) How can we put our faith into practice to help those who suffer from natural disasters?
- 3.) In what ways can we stand in solidarity with the victims and be advocates for better responses to natural disasters when they occur?



Felician *Sponsored Ministries*