

Post Hurricane Harvey Prayer Resources

Prepared and Compiled by the Office of Worship – Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

Roman Missal: For an End to Storms

O God, to whose commands all the elements give obedience,
we humbly entreat you,
that the stilling of fearsome storms may turn a powerful menace
into an occasion for us to praise you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer for faith after Hurricane Harvey (*Chris Labadie*)

Merciful and loving Father,
when the Apostles feared that they were going to drown
your Son rebuked the winds, and they were calm;
He rebuked the waves, and they subsided.
Hear the prayers of your people impacted by Hurricane Harvey,
that as the winds become calm and the flood waters subside
we might turn in faith to you and seek refuge.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Prayer for healing and strength (*Chris Labadie*)

Almighty God,
who comforts those in need and strengthens those bowed down,
listen to us in our time of need.
Give healing to those who have lost loved ones,
give strength to those who must rebuild their lives,
give compassion to those who might offer assistance.
Bring our community together in faith of you
and love for our neighbors.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Lift Up Those Who Have Fallen (*Author unknown*)

Holy One, you are our comfort and strength
in times of sudden disaster, crisis, or chaos.
Surround us now with your grace and peace
through storm or earthquake, fire or flood.
By your Spirit, lift up those who have fallen,
sustain those who work to rescue or rebuild,
and fill us with the hope of your new creation;
through You, our rock and redeemer.

Psalm 46:1-3, 5, 7

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Following a Hurricane (*Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel*)

Almighty and ever living God,
we bring our grateful hearts to you in thanksgiving and praise
for bringing us through the peril of a threatening hurricane.
Yet we are mindful of those who have suffered injury, damage, or loss
and ask that you would comfort them with your healing love.
Guard as well those who yet remain in harm's way.
As we continue through this turbulent season, help us always to place our hope,
our fears, and our trust in you,
for in you alone is life;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer after Hurricane Harvey (*adapted from a prayer by Dr. Dan Girardot*)

Loving God,
We thank you for keeping us safe from the hurricane,
and we continue to ask your blessing on those who were harmed.
Help all of us who continue to suffer the effects of Hurricane Harvey.
Open our hearts in generosity to all in need during the coming days.
In all things and in all times, help us to remember that
when the storms of life come upon us,
you are always with us, guiding us to safety.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Songs of Comfort and Trust in Times of Natural Disasters

Healer of Our Every Ill (Marty Haugen)	Worship IV #965
O God Our Help in Ages Past, Psalm 90 (Isaac Watts)	Worship IV #689
O Lord, Hear Our Prayer (from Taizé)	Worship IV #667
Precious Lord, Take My Hand (Thomas A. Dorsey)	Lead Me, Guide Me #780
There Is a Balm in Gilead (African American Spiritual)	Worship IV #649
We Are Called, Micah 6:8 (David Haas)	Worship IV #799
When Peace Like a River/It Is Well With My Soul (Horatio Stafford)	Lead Me, Guide Me #569
You Are Mine (David Haas)	Worship IV #704

Suggested Universal Prayer Post Hurricane Harvey

Presider: In this time of deep suffering and need in our community, let us turn to our loving God and ask Him to be with us in our pain and sorrow as we begin the recovery process.

Minister: For Cardinal DiNardo, Bishop Sheltz, our clergy, and our parish leaders; that our prayers for the evacuees and victims of devastation may rise to God like incense, we pray to the Lord...

For all public officials, public leaders, and organizations; that the relief and assistance that they provide for victims and evacuees may come swiftly, and in abundance, we pray to the Lord...

For those who now struggle each day with economic worry and fear of the future; that our faith community might be a source of comfort and strength in this time of uncertainty, we pray to the Lord...

For the gentle healing of all those who face mental health issues - women, men, and children - as a result of the trauma from Hurricane Harvey, we pray to the Lord...

For our brothers and sisters who have been injured, uprooted from their homes, or who are in despair; that the Lord might heal their wounds, provide them shelter, and give them a sense of hope, we pray to the Lord...

For all those in the path of Hurricane Irma; that they might be safe from the damaging effects of this and other storms, we pray to the Lord...

For those who have lost their lives as a result of Hurricane Harvey; that God will comfort their families with the sure knowledge that they now sleep in the peace of the Resurrection, we pray to the Lord...

**Presider: Father of mercies,
your Son calmed the winds and waves when the Apostles were afraid,
and he mourned with Martha and Mary at the death of his friend
Lazarus.
Hear the prayers that we offer now for those impacted by Harvey,
let us be your calming voice in the midst of the storm,
help us to bring words of comfort and assurance to those in need,
and strengthen us as we begin to rebuild.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.**