



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF BOSTON

## ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΒΟΣΤΩΝΗΣ

August 31, 2017

***To the Reverend Clergy and Faithful  
Stewards of the Metropolis of Boston***

**My dear Brothers and Sisters in the Household of God,**

**The past few days have witnessed one of the most catastrophic weather events in United States history after Hurricane Harvey made landfall near Corpus Christi, Texas on Friday, August 26, 2017. Although the event has been downgraded to a tropical storm its devastating effects continue to wreak havoc in south Texas and Louisiana, especially in the greater Houston area.**

**Lives have been lost and many thousands have been displaced by the severe flooding which has resulted from the storm. Among those who have been evacuated or suffered total losses of their homes are many of our own Orthodox brothers and sisters.**

**In the face of this incredible tragedy, I direct that a special collection be made in all parishes of the Metropolis of Boston on either Sunday, September 3, 2017 or Sunday, September 10, 2017. These monies should be directed to International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), which is mobilizing its Emergency Response Network Frontliners to assist in offering Emotional and Spiritual Care in American Red Cross shelters, as well as working with local and national assistance organizations to provide essential supplies for the general relief and to address specific needs of Orthodox faithful.**

**Checks from parishes and individuals should be made out to "IOCC US Emergency Response Fund" (noting Hurricane Harvey in the memo) and sent to 110 West Road, Suite 360, Baltimore, MD 21204. Donations also can be made online at [www.iocc.org](http://www.iocc.org).**

**Thank you for your loving and generous support to those in great need. May our merciful God allow the waters to recede quickly and may He grant safekeeping to all of His people that are in harm's way.**

**With Archpastoral love,**

**M E T H O D I O S  
Metropolitan of Boston**