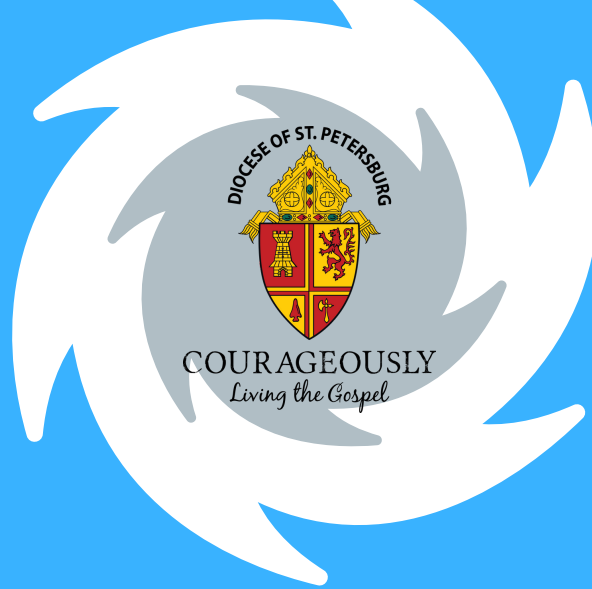


# Hurricane Season Safety Tips



## Be Prepared

**In the storms of life, we turn to God and pray that we will be spared from harm. We are also called to take the necessary precautions to protect the precious gift of life and to minimize damage to property.**

## Take Shelter

**If you are elderly or have special needs, please contact your county's Emergency Management Office to pre-register prior to any storm if you will need to evacuate.**

## Use Good Judgment

**Use good judgment when deciding if conditions are safe to travel to Mass. In the event that roadways are not clear and weather conditions are unsafe to travel, the faithful are reminded that the obligation to participate in the Sunday Mass does not apply when there is grave difficulty in fulfilling this obligation (Code of Canon Law, Canon 1248 §2).**

## Stay Informed

**If a storm threatens our area, please check local news stations for weather updates. Also, check with your parish and school about about closures and cancellations. Also, check the diocesan website, [www.dosp.org](http://www.dosp.org).**

## Local Resources

Florida Department of Emergency Management:  
[www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org)

Citrus County Emergency Management:  
[www.sheriffcitrus.org/divisions/bureau\\_of\\_support\\_operations/emergency\\_operations.php](http://www.sheriffcitrus.org/divisions/bureau_of_support_operations/emergency_operations.php)

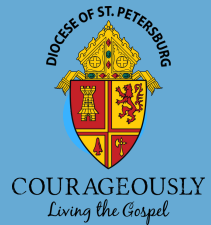
Hernando County Emergency Management:  
[www.hernandocounty.us/departments/departments-a-e/emergency-management](http://www.hernandocounty.us/departments/departments-a-e/emergency-management)

Hillsborough County Emergency Management:  
[www.hillsboroughcounty.org/residents/public-safety/emergency-management](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/residents/public-safety/emergency-management)

Pasco County Emergency Management:  
[www.pascocountyfl.net/365/Emergency-Management](http://www.pascocountyfl.net/365/Emergency-Management)

Pinellas County Emergency Management:  
[www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/](http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/)

# Prayer for Protection During Hurricane Season



**O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude.**

**You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster.**

**During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time.**

**O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.**

Composed by Most Rev. Maurice Schexnayder (1895–1981), Second Bishop of Lafayette (1956–1973), following Hurricane Audrey in 1957