

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

*O God, to whose command 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.*

Hurricane Irma is expected to impact all South Florida this weekend with strong winds and heavy rains. Because of these severe and dangerous conditions it is not prudent or safe to be on the road during the storm. Also, because parish facilities including churches need to be secured for the onslaught of Irma, **the regular scheduled Masses and other parish activities will be suspended Saturday and Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.** Due to the emergency and for their safety, the faithful are dispensed from their obligation to attend Mass this weekend. (cf. Canon 87)

While conditions make attendance at Mass this weekend unadvisable, let us all pray for the safety of all our people both during the storm and the recovery in its aftermath. May we be guided by our faith and not driven by our fears. Normal parish operations will resume after the storm passes when conditions permit.



+ Thomas G. Wenski  
Archbishop of Miami