



# CATHOLIC MUTUAL GROUP

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Date 2/12/24

To: Sacramento Catholic Diocese-All Locations

From: Catholic Mutual Risk Management

Topic: Storm Damage Prevention

Recent storms have caused damages that range from inconvenient to dangerous. Please take appropriate actions to prepare for future storms. Some preparation may include:

- Ensure gutters and storm drains are clear.
- Ensure downspouts carry water at least 6' away from buildings.
- Place pumps in low areas where water can accumulate.
- Check for low spots around the exterior of buildings where drainage might be a problem. Fill trouble areas so ground slopes away from buildings.
- Clean and oil sliding windows. Leaks or cracks around windows and doors should be caulked or sealed with weather stripping.
- Sweep and pick up trash, leaves, grass clippings and other debris that collect around storm drains and curb gutters on or near your property.
- Keep the lids securely closed on trash and recycle bins when placing them out on the street for collection.
- Place each bin approximately 2 to 3 feet away from the curb so as not to impede the stormwater flowing on the street.
- Proactively turn off irrigation to save water and minimize runoff.
- Stock up on sandbags and place them in trouble spots.
- Consider alternative flood water barriers like *Quick Dam*. These products activate and swell when water hits the bag and then transforms into a sandbag-like barrier.
- Use Straw 'Dams' and place where storm water runoff is common.

Finally, it goes without saying that above all else, please ensure your staff, parishioners, students, volunteers, etc. remain safe. Property can be repaired, grounds can dry, furniture can be replaced ... but it's the people that are irreplaceable and are all that really matters when it comes to ensuring our church and schools don't just survive, but thrive.

Thank you for everything you've done to date. Together, we will continue to get through this. It may take time, but it will get done.

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