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## Jordan Donates \$100,000 to Hurricane Relief

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(Hyattsville, October 7, 2005) At a meeting held today at the Archdiocese of Washington's Pastoral Center, Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, Archbishop of Washington, thanked Jordan's Ambassador to the United States Karim Kawar for a \$100,000 donation to assist victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The donation from the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan was made at the direction of His Majesty King Abdullah II who delivered an address at The Catholic University of America's Columbus School of Law in Washington, DC on September 13. At that time, he spoke of the natural disaster, saying, "We are all in God's hands. And together, we are called to a common duty – to help, to share, to comfort and heal – to build a better future for every person on our earth."

Ambassador Kawar noted the donation was "a small token" and said His Majesty chose "the Archdiocese of Washington because it is a leading organization in channeling effective aid to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita."

Cardinal McCarrick called the contribution "not just a symbolic gift, but a great blessing." "When I met with His Majesty earlier this year, we spoke of how nations might walk together in unity, fellowship and love. I offer my deep gratitude to His Majesty and to the people of Jordan for this extraordinary gift, which will assist the many people who have suffered so terribly from the recent hurricanes," Cardinal McCarrick said, continuing, "It is an example of how we may all work together, regardless of nation or faith, to help our brothers and sisters in need."

The funds will be disbursed to dioceses and Catholic agencies in the affected regions that are providing direct assistance to people in need, regardless of faith.

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