



ANTILLES EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Message from the President of the Antilles Episcopal Conference To the People of God in the Caribbean

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As Hurricane *Melissa* continues to move slowly through the central Caribbean with the threat of severe destruction, particularly over Jamaica on Monday and Tuesday as a Category 4 storm, I invite all the faithful of the Caribbean to unite in fervent prayer for our sisters and brothers in **Jamaica, Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic**.

We especially hold in our hearts the people of the **Archdiocese of Kingston** under the pastoral care of **Archbishop Kenneth Richards**, and the **Dioceses of Mandeville and Montego Bay** led by **Bishop John Persaud**. May the Lord protect them and all communities in the hurricane's path from harm.

In our **AEC Pastoral Letter on Natural Disasters (2025)**, we were reminded that in the face of such trials, "our shared vulnerability calls us to deeper faith, solidarity, and stewardship of creation." Let us live that call now—supporting one another through prayer, compassion, and concrete acts of generosity.

May Mary, Star of the Sea, intercede for all those in danger, and may Christ, our Hope, calm every storm within and around us.

In Christ,

+Charles Jason Gordon

Archbishop of Port of Spain

President, Antilles Episcopal Conference

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