

Archdiocese of Detroit

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Fr. Molnar Eager to Begin Rebuilding

Update on Conditions at St. Ignatius Parish, Grand Cayman

Fr. Michael Molnar, pastor of St. Ignatius Parish, Grand Cayman, has contacted the Archdiocese of Detroit via cell phone and described scenes of vast destruction brought on by Hurricane Ivan and the 220 mile per hour wind and rain that pounded the island for 32 straight hours.

“There’s not a single leaf on any of the surviving trees and one-third of all the structures have been washed away,” said Fr. Molnar. “The roofs of the buildings still standing are totally bare, all the shingles and tarpaper were blown off.

“There was tremendous water and wind damage, especially to our school and library. Everything, including all the books, desks, filing cabinets, and school supplies, was ruined.

“We are extremely grateful to Cardinal Maida for requesting the parishes of the archdiocese remember us in their prayers and for the special collection that will be taken up on September 25-26 to help meet our needs.”

Currently, parishioners are busy at St. Ignatius tarpapering the roofs. “But our biggest problem is missing people,” Fr. Molnar explained. “The government provided free trips off the island and we’re hopeful those who are missing simply took advantage of the offer and left.”

Government authorities are not permitting reporters or camera crews on the Cayman Islands to document the destruction. Fr. Molnar is attempting to e-mail digital pictures to the archdiocese. In the meantime, he recommends those interested in viewing recent photos visit www.davidolson.com.

Persons wishing to contribute to relief effort, should send a check (indicate *Cayman Relief*) to:

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