

## FEMA Funds By Civil Parish

<i>Civil Parish</i>	<i>Source of Received and Anticipated FEMA Funding</i>	<i>Allocation of Received and Anticipated FEMA Funds</i>
Orleans	\$94,589,369	\$70,675,393
St. Bernard	\$45,830,829	\$13,054,032
St. Tammany	\$25,962,852	\$47,653,625
Jefferson	\$3,580,923	\$38,580,923
Plaquemines	\$174,123	\$174,123
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$170,138,096</b>	<b>\$170,138,096</b>

The above chart lists by civil parish the value of the project worksheets completed by FEMA for damage to eligible properties in the Archdiocese of New Orleans and how that funding will be allocated.

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funding already has been used for evacuation, cleanup, erection of temporary school facilities, demolition and new school construction. The remaining \$108 million is what the archdiocese anticipates it will receive for ongoing and future projects.

The largest projects already completed are the new campus of Archbishop Hannan High School in Goodbee, which opened in August 2008, and the rebuilding of the school campuses at Resurrection of Our Lord in New Orleans East and at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Central School in Chalmette.

### \$35 million for Marrero

The \$35 million for the new Academy of Our Lady campus will allow the school to move from its current location next to Immaculate Conception Church in Marrero to a site near Archbishop Shaw High School near the intersection of the Westbank Expressway and Barataria Boulevard.

The Academy of Our Lady was established in 2007 with the merger of Immaculata High School and Archbishop Blenk High School in Gretna, and the school has used the facilities of Immaculata. The new 23-acre campus will provide a chance for tremendous growth, Archbishop Aymond said.

"Catholic education is a very important priority to the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of New Or-

leans," Archbishop Aymond said. "This new campus will greatly strengthen Catholic education on the West Bank."

Archbishop Aymond said the location of the new Academy of Our Lady could offer future benefits because of its proximity to Archbishop Shaw.

"Though there are no immediate plans for cooperation or collaboration between the two schools, some day it may help them in sharing resources," he said.

### Central schools boosted

The \$25 million in new construction and renovation at five central elementary schools in Orleans Parish was previously announced by FEMA, but this report lists a price tag for each project: St. Peter Claver (\$8.9 million), St. Stephen (\$5.8 million), St. Leo the Great (\$4.5 million), Cathedral Academy (\$3.4 million) and St. Rita (\$2.4 million).

Other major school projects include \$4.5 million for a multi-purpose building at Resurrection of Our Lord in New Orleans East, \$4.4 million for a classroom/cafeteria building renovation at Holy Ghost School in New Orleans and \$4 million each for a new middle school at Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Chalmette and a new classroom building at Mary, Queen of Peace in Mandeville.

Also included in the construction projects will be

community centers in New Orleans at Corpus Christi-Epiphany (\$5 million), St. Mary of the Angels (\$3.2 million) and St. David (\$2.5 million). A fourth community center, at a price to be determined, will be built at the new Transfiguration of the Lord Parish, formerly St. Raphael Parish.

### Community centers

In addition to being used by the church congregation, the community centers will be available for meetings and programs hosted by neighborhood and community groups, Archbishop Aymond said.

"The great gift of the community centers is that they will not be solely for use by the parish," Archbishop Aymond said. "It is not solely a Catholic project. It is a project where we are providing quality space and a quality building in order to enrich the community educationally, formationally and in terms of self-help programs."

The funding for the new Academy of Our Lady in Marrero, reallocated from damages in Orleans and St. Bernard parishes, pushes the total funding in Jefferson Parish to \$38.6 million, though the parish suffered only \$3.6 million in FEMA-authorized damages.

The archdiocese's decision to fund "alternate" projects was made after a careful and prayerful analysis of trying

to help the most people, Archbishop Aymond said. There are two explanations for reallocating the money elsewhere, he said.

### Follow the people

"Canonically, pastorally and morally, you want the money as much as possible to follow the people who were served by a particular school that was closed under the strategic plan," Archbishop Aymond said. "When it can't follow the people directly, you want it to go as closely as possible to where the majority of the people moved to."

"Secondly, because of Katrina, some of those schools could never be reopened. There is no perfect way to find out where people have moved. There is no such thing as perfect justice. We were then faced with a problem – either take the money and use it for a good cause in the mission of the Catholic Church or forego the funding for worthy projects that will serve the entire community. We felt that accepting the money was the better thing to do because it allows us to continue the mission of Christ for the people of this archdiocese, which is, indeed, one family.

"If we see ourselves as family – as St. Paul says, when one member of the family suffers, we all suffer, and when one member rejoices, we all rejoice – then if we suffer we want to be able to

help so that others would not have to suffer more."

### St. Bernard decisions

Archbishop Aymond said he also realizes there are those in St. Bernard Parish who are upset by the loss of Archbishop Hannan High School to the north shore and also by the relocation of Holy Cross High School from the lower 9th Ward.

"We are aware that one of the downsides of this plan is that there is no Catholic high school in the St. Bernard area," Archbishop Aymond said. "As the population continues to increase, we realize we will have to take another look at whether this area will need and be able to support a Catholic high school."

The four-year process of finalizing the FEMA reimbursements and reallocations was challenging, said Jeff Entwisle, chief operating officer of the archdiocese, but he had high praise for the way in which FEMA representatives worked through any potential roadblocks.

"We have had a very cooperative working relationship with FEMA and the state," Entwisle said. "Through our collaboration, we've been able to maximize our available funding for projects that will allow us to do what the archbishop thinks is important for education and for the community. The FEMA and state representatives have been incredibly helpful."

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