



## **Archbishop Kyril of San Francisco and Western America calls the faithful to make donations for victims of wildfires in Russia**

The official website of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia has published an appeal by Archbishop Kyril of San Francisco and Western America concerning the disasters in the Russian Federation. He calls upon all the faithful of the diocese of Western America to begin collecting donations for victims of wildfires:

“Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters of the Western American Diocese!

A terrible misfortune has come upon the Russian Land. Many parts of Russia are in a state of disaster due to an unbelievable heat wave, drought and uncontrollable fires. As a result of the drought, smoke in the air and fires many people have died, hundreds left without homes and thousands without any income to live upon. We cannot be simple bystanders and observers in these circumstances. We must not only pray to God for rain in the Russian Land, for all the people who have lost everything in the fires and for those who are fighting the fires and providing emergency help around the clock, but must open our hearts and provide concrete financial help to the suffering ones. I call upon all the parishes in our Western American Diocese throughout all of August to collect money for the homeless and needy victims of the forest fires. The collected sums should be forwarded to the Diocesan Treasurer no later than September 10, 2010.

‘Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee (Psalm 32, 22).

+KYRILL,  
Archbishop of San Francisco and Western America”.

*DECR Communication Service*