

*This article was originally printed in the October 2011 issue of New Earth, the newspaper for the Diocese of Fargo.*

## **Catholic Charities assists individuals and groups with short- and long-term flood recovery aid**

Many areas were fighting floods this past spring and summer. Catholic Charities North Dakota's initial disaster response was to provide \$20,000 in gift cards to assist those impacted by flooding in Devils Lake, Bismarck/ Mandan and Minot.

These cards were distributed by pastors to those people who needed immediate assistance, such as purchasing food or medicines in the aftermath of the flooding. These cards were invaluable in helping people who may have had reduced paychecks because of not working during the flooding, or found themselves needing those extra funds because of flood-fighting expenses.

To assist with long-term recovery, Catholic Charities North Dakota applied for and received \$50,000, which will be directed to the groups serving as unmet needs committees in the Minot and Bismarck areas.

Case managers from the Resource Agency Flood Teams work to identify resources for those who need help in recovering from the floods. Through the case management process, Catholic Charities North Dakota made payments directly to vendors to purchase needed items for recovery.