



Collection for the Church in Latin America

OFFICE OF NATIONAL COLLECTIONS

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Share YOUR Faith

Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America

Dear Communications Director,

Helping spread the Good News is your vocation. Sharing stories about the many ministries of the Church in Latin America and those who benefit from the US bishops' annual collection helps the faithful in your diocese hear the Good News and understand the work their contributions support. For those in Latin America and Caribbean, the barriers to participating in the life of the Church can seem insurmountable. For many, there are no catechetical resources or regular celebrations of Mass. Further, the lack of infrastructure and difficult terrain pose even greater obstacles to participating in and sharing the Catholic faith—the very Good News of Jesus Christ. Promoting the Collection for the Church in Latin America (CLA) in your diocese is a prophetic and bold way to be in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in these countries and to share the Good News of a merciful and loving God.

I am sure you know that the next World Youth Day will be in Panama. In southern Panama on the Colombian border, the landscape is a thick jungle and the people who live there speak many different dialects. Peoples of African and Spanish descent mixed with the indigenous population, creating a unique and rich culture. Bringing the message of the Good News of the Gospel to this community is difficult because the area is vast and the roads are sparse; much travel must be done on foot or by boat. There are nearly 200 faith communities, many with numerous young people, but they cannot learn about the sacraments and the faith because they do not have ministers to visit them regularly. Through your generosity to the CLA collection, you help bring training for new ministers and help share the Gospel with those who long to hear it.

You can make this collection successful by printing the sample letter from the bishop, placing an ad in your diocesan paper, sharing more stories about projects funded by the collection and placing web banners on your diocesan website. These materials, including a social media toolkit, are all available online at www.usccb.org/latin-america/collection. If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Germain, assistant director for promotions, at 202-541-3365 or at ngerman@usccb.org.

We truly appreciate your support of the collection. Thank you for your generosity to the people of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Mary Mencarini Campbell
Executive Director
Office of National Collections