

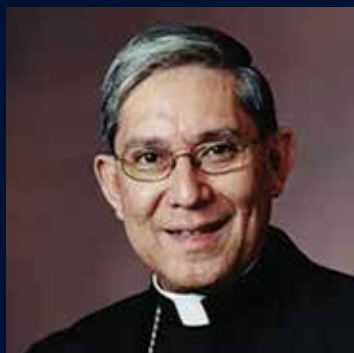
ANNUAL REPORT 2024

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

WWW.USCCB.ORG/LATIN-AMERICA



FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During this year's Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope, your gifts to the US bishops' Collection for the Church in Latin America are indeed bringing hope to people in places where there is often despair.

The collection helps the USCCB Church in Latin America program to strengthen the faith of Catholics in Latin America. Their renewed

faith then strengthens communities and sometimes whole societies where poverty, violence, or corruption creates fear and chaos. Nowhere is that phenomenon more visible than in Haiti, where government collapse and gang violence have made it dangerous even to go to church. Yet the Haitian people continue to demonstrate profound Christian faith, and many young Catholics are committed to rebuilding their society.

That is why a grant of more than \$20,000 from the 2024 Collection for the Church in Latin America supported a retreat for nearly 1,000 Haitian university students to gather in prayer, Bible study, and discussions of important societal issues of human rights, peace, economic justice, and ecological responsibility. I am proud to have been a part of making that happen, and I hope that you are also. Please join me in praying that God will protect those young people and point them to opportunities renew their society.

The 344 grants made through the collection in 2024 totaled more than \$8 million, which has been invested to build God's Kingdom. In the Archdiocese of Havana, Cuba, your gifts are supporting two key archdiocesan ministries in catechesis and Bible ministry designed to form and strengthen leaders so they can in turn share the message of the Gospel in their parishes and local communities. In Colombia, the Church is committed to an evangelization process whose goals include ending 40 years of civil war by changing hearts—and you subsidized a nationwide training conference for 1,500 evangelizers there.

Brazil has the most Catholics in the world, yet it has a great shortage of clergy who can care for them. In the Archdiocese of Uberaba, an agricultural and mining region, your gifts supported a grant of \$50,000 that covers some seminary expenses for 149 priesthood candidates and 69 applicants for the permanent diaconate. You are helping to bring Jesus in



the Eucharist, as well as pastoral care and inspiration, to people in great spiritual need.

Thank you again for your generosity. I can assure you that the countless Catholics in Latin America who benefit from your gifts are also deeply grateful to you. As you read this report, please pray that Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of the Americas, will bring all of us together in love for her Son and for one another.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Octavio Cisneros -

Most Reverend Octavio Cisneros

Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, Diocese of Brooklyn

Chairman, USCCB Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America

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In 2024, gifts to the Collection for the Church in Latin America from Catholics in dioceses across the United States enabled the US bishops to distribute 344 grants totaling just over \$8 million. Those gifts are creating greater opportunities to bring people to Christ and are empowering them to go forth with God's help to build a better community and world.

En el 2024, las contribuciones de católicos a la Colecta para la Iglesia en América Latina en diócesis a lo largo y ancho de Estados Unidos, hicieron posible que los obispos estadounidenses distribuyeran 344 subvenciones, las cuales sumaron un poco más de \$8 millones. Estas contribuciones están creando muchas más oportunidades para acercar a las personas a Cristo y las están empoderando para que, con la ayuda de Dios, salgan adelante para construir una mejor comunidad y un mejor mundo,

HAITI

As uncontained gang violence in Haiti has terrorized communities and threatened public ministry, the Collection for the Church in Latin America sponsored a three-day Catholic retreat for nearly 1,000 Haitian university students in the Diocese of Jacmel. Grounded in prayer and Bible study, discussions focused on human rights and responsibilities, economic justice, peace, creation care, and living in solidarity with others. The grant of more than \$20,000 subsidized food, lodging, transportation, training materials, and stipends for teachers and staff.

HAITÍ

Mientras la descontrolada violencia de las pandillas en Haití aterroriza comunidades y amenaza el ministerio público, la Colecta para la Iglesia en América Latina realizó un retiro católico de tres días para casi 1,000 estudiantes universitarios haitianos en la Diócesis de Jacmel. Arraigados en oración y en el estudio de la Biblia, las discusiones se centraron en las responsabilidades y los derechos humanos, la justicia económica, la paz, el cuidado de la creación y cómo vivir en solidaridad con los demás. El subsidio de más de \$20,000 cubrió el costo de los alimentos,

el alojamiento, el transporte, los materiales para la capacitación y los estipendios para maestros y personal.

BRAZIL

In Brazil's Archdiocese of Uberaba, the collection is helping nearly 150 candidates for the priesthood and 69 more men preparing for the permanent diaconate. The large number of seminarians is a blessing, but one that nevertheless places great financial strain on this seminary. The grant of \$50,000 not only assists with the seminarians' tuition expenses but also helps cover basic expenses such as food

BRASIL

En la Arquidiócesis de Uberaba, en Brasil, la colecta está ayudando a cerca de 150 candidatos al sacerdocio y a otros 69 hombres que están preparándose para el diaconado permanente. El gran número de seminaristas es una bendición, pero una que, no obstante, representa una gran presión financiera para el seminario. El subsidio de \$50,000 no solo ayuda con el costo de la matrícula de los seminaristas, sino que también cubre los gastos básicos como los alimentos.

COLOMBIA

Calling others to follow the Prince of Peace is the purpose of a national evangelization conference in Colombia. The organizers hope it will contribute to the peace process seeking to end Colombia's long-running civil war. Much of the work depends upon preparing lay "animators" of evangelization—leaders who share the Gospel with their neighbors through prayer, study, and acts of service. A grant of more than \$33,000 helped this conference to host 1,500 participants, including laity, clergy, and religious sisters and brothers from 20 jurisdictions across Colombia as well as from nearby countries such as Venezuela.

COLOMBIA

La finalidad de la conferencia nacional de evangelización en Colombia es hacer un llamado a los demás para seguir al Príncipe de la Paz. Los organizadores esperan que ello contribuya al proceso de paz que busca poner fin a la larga guerra civil en Colombia. Mucha de la labor depende de la preparación de los "animadores" laicos de evangelización—líderes que comparten el Evangelio con sus vecinos por medio de la oración, el estudio y las acciones de servicio. Un subsidio de más de \$33,000 ayudó para que esta conferencia acogiera a 1,500 participantes, incluyendo a laicos, al clero y a hermanas y hermanos religiosos de unas 20 jurisdicciones en Colombia, así como de países vecinos como Venezuela.

CUBA

In Cuba's Archdiocese of Havana, economic hardship makes it difficult to sustain the formation of catechists and the diocesan mission and Bible ministries that help the faithful grow in appreciation and understanding of the Word of God. Assistance from the collection, in the form of a grant totaling nearly \$55,000,

supported the archdiocesan programs that train and form catechists to exercise these important ministries. Parish catechists use that training to organize special Masses and activities where children and families can gather to worship and celebrate important feasts such as Epiphany. The mission and Bible ministries were able to hold Advent and Lenten biblical retreats, to sponsor workshops throughout the year on lectio divina and the Gospels, and to promote Bible reading groups.

CUBA

En la Arquidiócesis de La Habana, las penurias económicas dificultan sostener la formación de catequistas y la misión de la diócesis y los ministerios bíblicos que ayudan a los fieles a crecer en su apreciación y comprensión de la Palabra de Dios. La ayuda de la colecta, en forma de subvención con un gran total de casi \$55,000, financió programas arquidiocesanos para capacitar y formar catequistas para ejercer estos importantes ministerios. Los catequistas de la parroquia utilizan esa capacitación para organizar Misas especiales y actividades en las cuales los niños y las familias puedan reunirse para dar culto y celebrar las fiestas importantes como la Epifanía. Los ministerios de misión y Biblia pudieron realizar retiros bíblicos de Adviento y Cuaresma, patrocinar talleres durante todo el año sobre lectio divina y los Evangelios, y promover grupos de lectura de la Biblia.

This sampling of grants reflects hundreds that are changing the lives of Catholics in Latin America and the Caribbean in the communities where those Catholics live.

Estos ejemplos de subvenciones reflejan a cientos que están cambiando la vida de los católicos en América Latina y el Caribe en las comunidades en donde ellos viven.

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Other Changes in Net Assets for the Year Ending December 31, 2024.

REVENUE

National Collections Contributions*	\$7,366,858
Investment Income, Net	\$652,313
Total Revenue	\$8,019,171

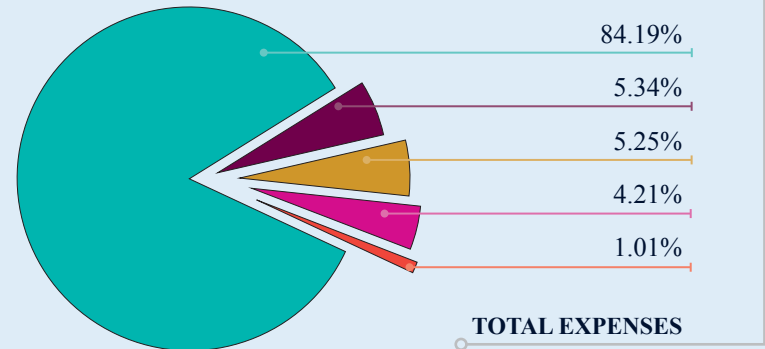
*Includes diocesan Church in Latin America collection remittances and direct individual and institutional contributions.

EXPENSES

Grants and Donations*	\$7,121,401	84.19%
Program Costs	\$451,426	5.34%
Allocations–Internal Grants**	\$443,792	5.25%
Promotions and Fundraising Expenses	\$356,369	4.21%
Administrative Expenses	\$85,457	1.01%
Total Expenses	\$8,458,445	100%
Total Expenses, Excluding Internal Grants	\$8,014,653	
Total Grants & Donations Including Internal Grants	\$7,565,193	

*Grants approved in 2024 totaled \$8,060,250. Grants and donations in 2024 totaled \$7,565,193, including payments and amendments to grants approved in 2024 and prior years.

**Internal grants include a distribution from the Collection for the Church in Latin America to the USCCB’s International Justice and Peace program. This grant fund U.S. advocacy and policy advisory work for Latin American countries and issues.



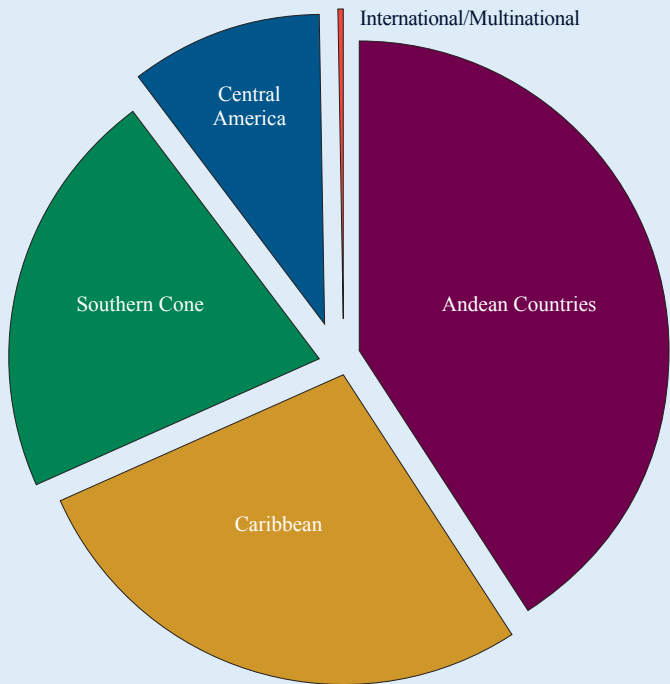
Changes in Net Assets from Operations	(\$439,274)
Non-Operating Activities:	
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	\$462,876
Changes in Net Assets	\$23,602
Net Assets at the Beginning of the Year	\$11,111,435
Net Assets at the End of the Year	\$11,135,037

2024 GRANT INFORMATION

PROGRAM AREA	NUMBER OF GRANTS	GRANT AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
General Pastoral*	244	\$5,427,982	67.34%
Formation of Clergy, Religious, and Vocations	87	\$1,603,051	19.89%
Emergency Disaster Funds	5	\$900,554	11.17%
Other**	7	\$116,663	1.45%
Inter-American Fund***	1	\$12,000	0.15%
TOTAL	344	\$8,060,250	100%

* Includes evangelization, religious education, family, and other pastoral ministries.
** Includes special grants for the purchasing of equipment and for the administrative costs of dioceses facing severe economic hardship.
*** Covers travel expenses for pastoral visits made by Latin American church leaders to US dioceses or elsewhere within Latin America.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA	GRANT AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
Andean Countries	\$3,310,165	41.07%
Caribbean	\$2,207,379	27.39%
Southern Cone	\$1,726,406	21.42%
Central America	\$804,300	9.98%
International/Multinational	\$12,000	0.15%
Grand Total	\$8,060,250	100%





To support the good work of the Church in Latin America with an online donation, please use this QR code or visit #iGiveCatholic at igivecatholic.org/story/USCCB-CLA.



Thank you for your support!

For more information about the USCCB's work with the **Church in Latin America** and around the world, please visit usccb.org/Latin-America.

Or write to
Office of National Collections
3211 Fourth Street NE | Washington, DC 20017

