



United States
Conference of
Catholic Bishops

PLENARY ASSEMBLY
NOVEMBER 2025

Fall Plenary Assembly

Message to the Holy Father

“Where the world sees others as a problem or a burden, we must, and we will continue to show that each person is loved by God and therefore deserves to be respected, whether in the womb, a stranger, or homeless, hungry, in prison, or dying.”



Message of the Apostolic Nuncio

“Where have we been and where are we going?” A reflection on the legacy of Vatican II and a Church sent forth in unity, bringing hope, joy, and mercy to a world in need

“If we embrace this full inheritance of Vatican II—the educational, pastoral, and social dimensions alike—the Church in the United States can continue to be what she has so often been: a leaven within this nation, a sign of hope that transcends division, and a servant of the common good grounded in the dignity of every human being.”

- Address of His Eminence Archbishop Christophe Pierre,
Apostolic Nuncio to the United States Conference of
Catholic Bishops





Presidential Address

“Jesus identifies with the hungry, thirsty, helpless unborn, stranger, naked, homeless, and prisoner. He assures us that we meet Him in those others. It should surprise no one when we defend the unborn, meet the basic needs of the immigrant, lobby for immigration reform, reach out to those in need outside our borders through CRS, and call upon others to do the same.”

- *Final Address of His Excellency Timothy P. Broglio, President of the USCCB*

Solidarity with Migrants

The bishops overwhelmingly approved a Special Pastoral Message on Immigration:

“As pastors, we the bishops of the United States are bound to our people by ties of communion and compassion in Our Lord Jesus Christ. We are disturbed when we see among our people a climate of fear and anxiety around questions of profiling and immigration enforcement. We are saddened by the state of contemporary debate and the vilification of immigrants. We are concerned about the conditions in detention centers and the lack of access to pastoral care. We lament that some immigrants in the United States have arbitrarily lost their legal status. We are troubled by threats against the sanctity of houses of worship and the special nature of hospitals and schools. We are grieved when we meet parents who fear being detained when taking their children to school and when we try to console family members who have already been separated from their loved ones.”

Election of President and Vice President

President: Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Vice President: Bishop Daniel E. Flores, Diocese of Brownsville

Secretary: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend





Healthcare

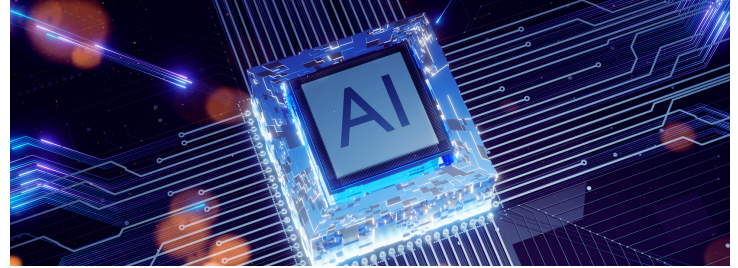
The bishops approved the revised text of the *Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services*. The updated version reflects the teaching of *Dignitas Infinita* and the Doctrinal Note on the Moral Limits to Technological Manipulation of the Human Body.

Artificial Intelligence

The bishops discussed the Church's role in addressing the impact of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies on the life and dignity of the human person.

"The emergence of AI also provides the Church with an evangelical opportunity. People are asking basic questions of what it means to be human; the Church can provide answers."

- Paul Scherz Ph.D., University of Notre Dame



Election of New Committee Chairmen

Archbishop Alexander K. Sample, Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon, was elected Chairman of the Committee for Religious Liberty.

Bishops were chosen as bishops-elect chairmen for the following committees:

Committee on Canonical Affairs and Church Governance:

Archbishop Jeffrey S. Grob, Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs:

Bishop Peter L. Smith, auxiliary bishop, Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon

Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis:

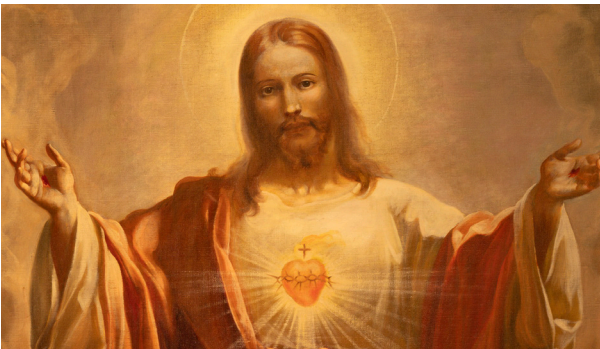
Bishop William A. Wack, CSC, Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee

Committee on International Justice and Peace:

Archbishop Borys Gudziak, Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia

Committee on Protection of Children and Young People :

Bishop Mark O'Connell, bishop designate, Diocese of Albany



Consecration to the Sacred Heart

The bishops approved consecrating the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in 2026.

Liturgy of the Hours

Rome has approved the text of the Liturgy of the Hours. First publication will be Book Two for the Lenten and Easter Season 2027.

National Eucharistic Revival

The bishops approved the summer of 2029 as the date for the 11th National Eucharistic Congress.

