

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Scripture speaks to us of water: God moved over it, he leads us to it, we are baptized in it, he promises us living water such that we will never thirst again. But for many families in Africa, water brings pain and death. After walking miles to a river or pond, these families carry home contaminated water that makes them sick and often kills their children.

But thanks to your gifts to The Catholic Relief Services Collection, people in Tanzania are now receiving clean, clear, life-giving water from new wells, with faucets newly installed throughout their villages. You will read about one such family in this report, but they represent hundreds of thousands of others.

You brought life to them through \$12,745,326 in grants that this collection made in 2023 to six agencies working to reveal Christ's love to those in need overseas and here in the United States. The Catholic Relief Services Collection shares its name with the flagship international relief and development agency of the Catholic bishops of the United States, but it also supports four of their other initiatives: the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Migration and Refugee Services department for resettlement; the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC), which helps immigrants with work permits, residency, family reunifications, and citizenship; the USCCB Secretariat of Justice and Peace for advocacy of human rights and education on Catholic social teaching; and the USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, whose ministries address the unique pastoral needs of Catholics from a range of cultures as well as itinerant peoples. Last but not least, this collection supports the Holy Father's Relief Fund, through which Pope Francis aids people in distress worldwide.

This collection provides material, social, and spiritual assistance. It financed peacebuilding efforts to end 60 years of civil war in Colombia. It also supported spiritual renewal—bringing the living water of which Jesus spoke. You'll read about a celebration of Asian and Pacific Islander Catholic heritage at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and about catechetical resources connecting Catholic social teaching to the three-year National Eucharistic Revival.

Our immigrant sisters and brothers are an important focus. Nearly all of us in the United States are descended from immigrants, but today's immigration system is fractured and failing. You sponsored many efforts to help immigrants access the justice and opportunities that this great nation promises. As you read about them on the following pages, know that your gifts have made you the same kind of neighbor to them that the Good Samaritan was to the injured man he found on the road.

Whether literally, by funding a water tap in Tanzania, or spiritually, by supporting a Mass for migrants, your gifts to The Catholic Relief Services Collection brought the water of life to those who thirst. Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Rev. James S. Wall

Bishop of Gallup

Chairman, USCCB Committee on National Collections

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Office of National Collections

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The Administrative Committee is made up of the USCCB officers, elected chairmen of standing USCCB committees, and an elected representative from each episcopal region of the United States. The Administrative Committee operates as the governing body of the USCCB.

STAFF

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Mr. Anthony R. Picarello Jr., Esq.

Ms. Theresa Ridderhoff

Mr. James L. Rogers

*The Committee on National Collections promotes The Catholic Relief Services Collection. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Administrative Committee distributes collected funds. Members and staff listed here reflect 2023 membership.



IN 2023, GIFTS FROM YOU AND OTHER SUPPORTERS

Of The Catholic Relief Services Collection brought peace, hope, dignity, and life to people in great need in many nations—including our own. Through an inspiring range of projects—such as helping people in developing nations to access clean drinking water, supporting peacebuilding efforts in countries divided by conflict, and welcoming and ministering to migrants and refugees—the agencies supported by The Catholic Relief Services Collection reveal Christ's love every day to the poor and marginalized. This report describes just a small sampling of these efforts.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) saves lives every day by giving families easy access to safe, clean water. Madade and Esther Njile used to get up at 5 a.m. every other day to walk three miles to a contaminated river near their village in Tanzania. There they prayed for protection from crocodiles as they drew buckets of water to carry home to supply their children, cattle, and goats. The family often became sick from intestinal diseases caused by bacteria in this water. Thanks to your gifts, CRS worked with local organizations to drill for clean water and install 83 community faucets—one of which is close to the Njile family home. The Njiles and their livestock are now healthier. Madade's new vegetable garden gives them fresh produce, and Esther spends more time with the children. CRS will assist about 148,000 people over five years by building, repairing, and expanding water supply systems for villages and schools.

USCCB MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES

Religious worker visas are necessary for the international clergy and religious who serve in many US parishes, but they have become increasingly difficult to obtain or renew. Priests and religious who have

ministered for years in US parishes have been forced to return to their home countries, disrupting many parishes and causing pain to the affected priests and religious. Trying to remedy this situation, the USCCB—through its Migration and Refugee Services department—obtained a grant from The Catholic Relief Services Collection to survey dioceses, parishes, and schools about difficulties they were experiencing with the Religious Worker Visa Program. This information will enable the USCCB to effectively advocate for reform.

USCCB CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH

Asian and Pacific Island Affairs

Each May, one of the most colorful celebrations at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, is the Marian pilgrimage for people of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage. With support from the USCCB Asian and Pacific Island Affairs program, this pilgrimage is in its 21st year. Wearing the traditional clothing of cultures from the Philippines, India, and Korea, and bearing images of the Blessed Mother as she is venerated in their homelands, Catholics process into the basilica. The Rosary is prayed in many languages. This joyous and reverent celebration both



affirms Catholics of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage and educates others who might never have encountered Our Lady of La Vang or Our Lady of Velankanni.

Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers

In August 2023, multiple Catholic bishops, USCCB staff, representatives from several dioceses, and board members of the Catholic Migrant Farmworkers Network visited fields and packing facilities that employ migrant farmworkers in the Diocese of Yakima in Washington. There, they listened and provided resources to help local pastoral leaders with ministry and outreach. These pastoral visits—recently resumed after the COVID-19 pandemic—offer solidarity with farmworkers and help the bishops learn how best to advocate for them and provide for their spiritual welfare. The subcommittee also makes recommendations to help church leaders better accompany the farmworkers, such as assigning candidates for the priesthood and diaconate to work alongside migrants for a time in dioceses where farming is common.

CATHOLIC LEGAL IMMIGRATION NETWORK, INC.

The Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC), is mentoring mentors. CLINIC helps immigration staff from other social service agencies to mentor immigrants seeking federal accreditation so they can, in turn, represent other immigrants and asylum seekers at hearings. For example, CLINIC volunteers in Wisconsin paired a federally accredited legal services representative with members of the Ethiopian Community Development Council in Wausau, helping him to immerse his mentees in the process of becoming accredited immigration representatives themselves. Once accredited, these Ethiopian workers vastly increase the legal assistance available to a community who faces major barriers of language and culture.

USCCB SECRETARIAT OF JUSTICE AND PEACE

Education and Outreach

As Catholics have renewed their faith in the Eucharistic Jesus through the National Eucharistic Revival, the Education and Outreach program of the USCCB Secretariat of Justice and Peace has provided resources to connect the Body of Christ in the monstrance with the Body of Christ in “these least ones,” as Jesus says in the Gospel of Matthew (25:45). Created with funding from The Catholic Relief Services Collection, the Eucharist and Social Mission section of the USCCB website (www.usccb.org/eucharist-social-mission) offers resources for catechesis, liturgy, and prayer that explore the inextricable relationship between Holy Communion and the communion and solidarity we share with those on the peripheries. The parish and small-group resource *Body of Christ, Broken for the World* (available at www.usccb.org/about/justice-peace-and-human-development/upload/Eucharist.pdf) highlights teachings from Pope St. Paul VI, Pope St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis to explain how the love we experience in the Eucharist must be shared with those in need.

International Justice and Peace

In Colombia, whose 60-year guerilla war is now the world’s longest, the USCCB Committee on International Justice and Peace uses funding from The Catholic Relief Services Collection in its peacebuilding work alongside the Colombian bishops and human rights groups. As part of the USCCB Secretariat of Justice and Peace, the International Justice and Peace program provided crucial support and powerful connections as the bishops of Colombia lobbied in Washington and also in their own nation to promote a peace process that has made significant strides and must continue.

THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

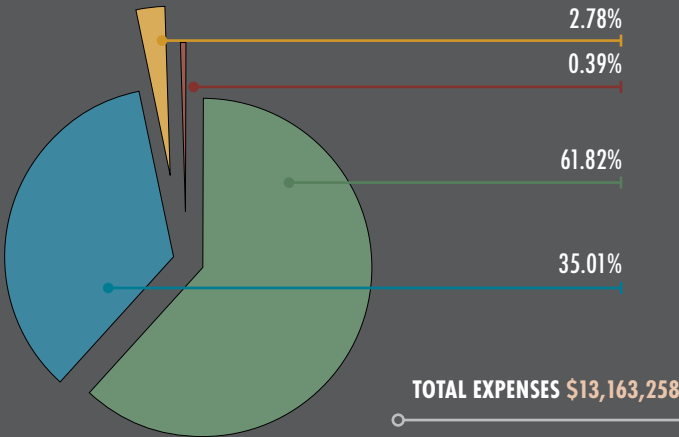
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Other Changes in Net Assets for the Year Ending December 31, 2023

REVENUES

National Collections Contributions	\$13,669,210
Income on Investments	\$264,489
Total Revenue	\$13,933,699

EXPENSES

Grants and Donations*	\$8,137,188	61.82%
Allocations-Internal Grants**	\$4,608,138	35.01%
Promotions and Fundraising Expenses	\$366,142	2.78%
Program Costs	\$51,790	0.39%
Total Expenses	\$13,163,258	100%
Total Expenses, Excluding Internal Grants	\$8,555,120	
Total Grants & Donations, Including Internal Grants	\$12,745,326	



Changes in Net Assets from Operations	\$770,441
Non-Operating Activities:	
Unrealized Gain on Investments	\$3,476,873
Changes in Net Assets	\$4,247,314
Net Assets at the Beginning of the Year	\$26,068,210
Net Assets at the End of the Year	\$30,315,524

*Grants and donations in 2023 totaled \$12,745,326 and included payments to grants approved in 2023 and in prior years.

**Internal grants include distributions from The Catholic Relief Services Collection for USCCB programs for migration and refugee services, education and outreach on Catholic social teaching, international peacebuilding efforts, and pastoral ministries to ethnic groups and people on the move.

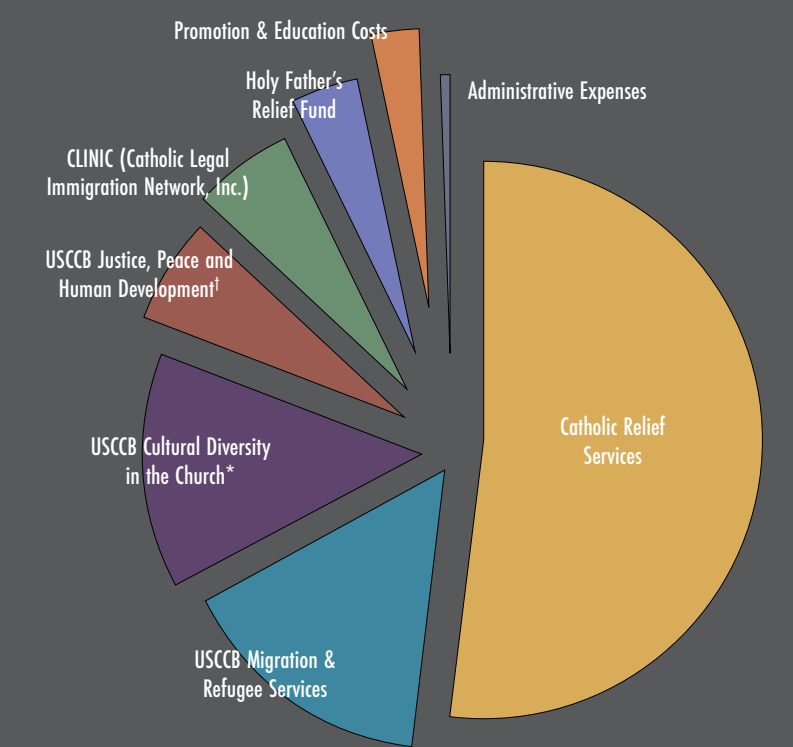
2023 EXPENSES

Total: \$13,163,258

GRANTS	GRANT AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
Catholic Relief Services	\$6,849,470	52.03%
USCCB Migration & Refugee Services	\$2,031,216	15.43%
USCCB Cultural Diversity in the Church*	\$1,775,187	13.49
USCCB Justice, Peace and Human Development†	\$801,732	6.09%
CLINIC (Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.)	\$787,866	5.99%
Holy Father’s Relief Fund	\$500,000	3.80%
ADMINISTRATION		
Promotion & Education Costs	\$364,098	2.77%
Administrative Expenses	\$53,689	0.41%
TOTAL	\$13,163,258	100.00%

* The USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church includes Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers (\$1,150,833) and Asian and Pacific Island Affairs (\$624,354).

†The USCCB Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development includes International Justice and Peace (\$653,054) and education activities (\$148,678). In June 2024, the Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development was renamed the USCCB Secretariat of Justice and Peace.





*If you miss the collection or wish to give outside of the collection,
#iGiveCatholicTogether ([usccb.igivecatholictogether.org](https://usccb.igivecatholictogether.org/organizations/usccb-the-catholic-relief-services-program)
/organizations/usccb-the-catholic-relief-services-program) accepts
funds online to support the good work of the
Catholic Relief Services Collection.*

Thank you for your support!

For more information about the USCCB's work with the
Catholic Relief Services Collection and around the world, please
visit www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

or write to:

Office of National Collections

3211 Fourth Street NE | Washington, DC 20017

