

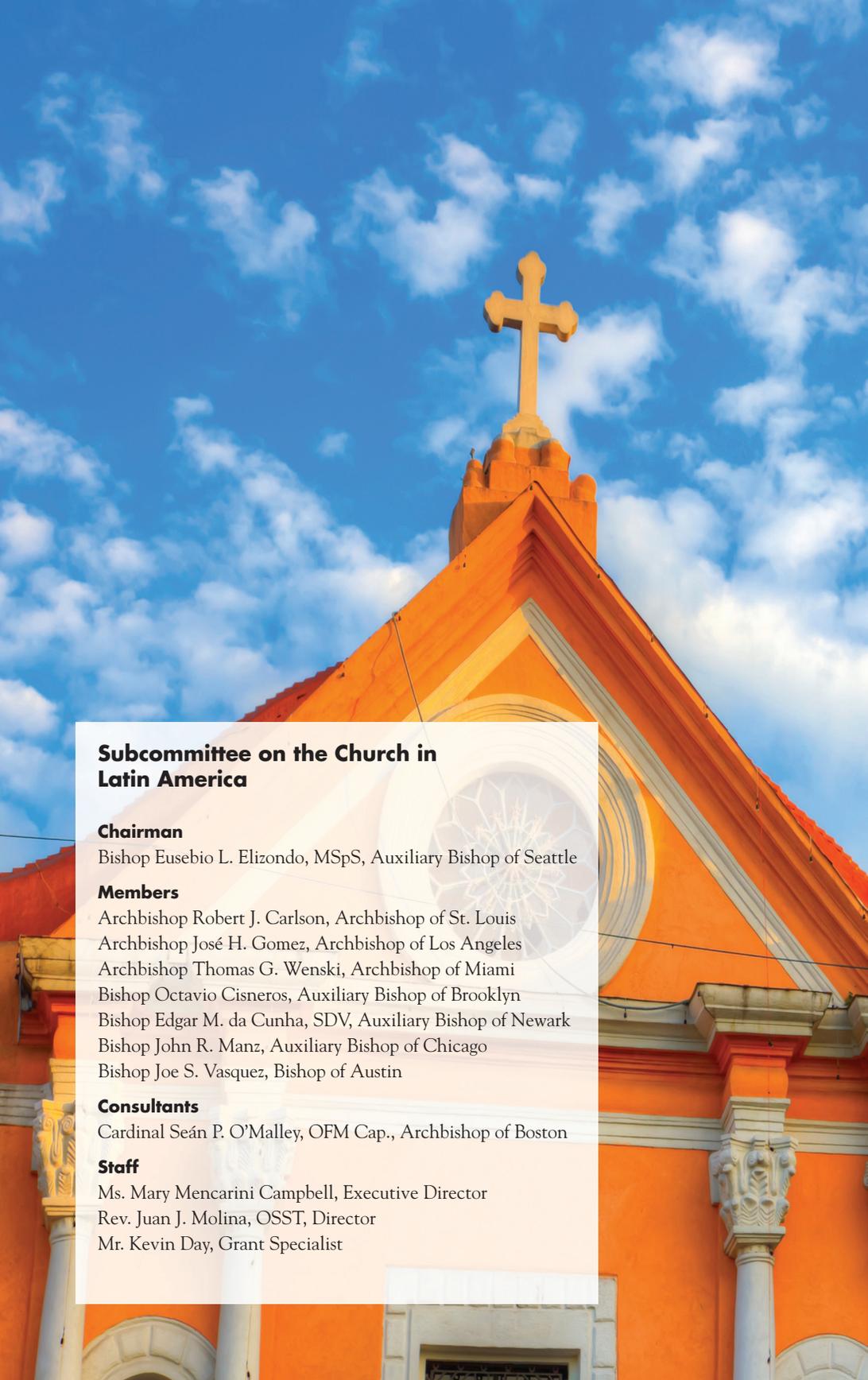


Collection for the Church in Latin America

SHARE YOUR FAITH



Annual Report 2014



Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America

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Bishop Eusebio L. Elizondo, MSpS, Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle

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Archbishop José H. Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles
Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski, Archbishop of Miami
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Ms. Mary Mencarini Campbell, Executive Director
Rev. Juan J. Molina, OSST, Director
Mr. Kevin Day, Grant Specialist



LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am pleased to present to you this annual report for the year ending December 31, 2014, from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) on our continued efforts to support the Church in Latin America. With the bishops and episcopal conferences in Latin America and the Caribbean, we have been strengthening relationships and providing support for pastoral projects in the region. The Catholic faith is deeply rooted in the culture of the region, but the Church faces real challenges due to violence, drug trafficking, and poverty.

In 1965, what is now the Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America was formed to forge relationships with and provide support to our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean to live out their faith. The faithful support of Catholics in the United States to the annual parish collection to benefit this region is truly an inspiration and a source of hope as we continue to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean.

As chairman of the USCCB Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America, I see firsthand how your generosity to the Collection for the Church in Latin America directly translates into strengthening the Catholic faith there. The programs we fund are diverse and address a broad range of pastoral needs, but all of them work to support the deepening of faith. In this report, you will find examples of how donations are being put to work, as well as a breakdown of the allocation of the funds that we received through the 2014 Collection for the Church in Latin America.

If you have any questions, please contact Bevin Kennedy in the Office of National Collections at 202-541-3365 or at bkennedy@usccb.org. Thank you for your dedicated support of this collection. We truly could not do this work without you. May God bless you.

Gratefully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eusebio L. Elizondo". The signature is stylized and includes a large flourish at the end.

Most Reverend Eusebio L. Elizondo, MSpS
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle
Chairman, Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America

Fifty years ago, during the last session of the Second Vatican Council, the Catholic bishops of the United States approved the creation of an annual national collection for the Church in Latin America. This collection was created to support our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean as they seek to live their faith in the face of many challenges. The funds from this collection are used to provide grants in support of projects for catechesis, family ministry, lay leadership training, prison ministry, and other pastoral outreach in more than 20 countries.

By standing in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean, we share the faith and strengthen ties with the Church in this region. The following are just a few examples of how donations from this collection are being put to work.

PERU

In Peru, the 14 villages of Chazuta in Moyobamba are all located away from the city center, with the most remote only accessible by boat. The faithful in these communities do not have access to catechetical formation. As a result, members often feel separated from the life of the universal Church. Through a grant from the Subcommittee on Church in Latin America, the religious congregation of the Missionaries of Jesus provided faith formation, spiritual retreats, and workshops to nearly 250 people in the Chazuta villages. Upon completion of these activities, participants were better equipped to help others in the faith and to answer questions. They found a renewed sense of commitment to their parishes, and they created stronger bonds within their own families. Despite their geographical isolation, they felt the love and support of the universal Church.



COLOMBIA

The parish of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the Diocese of Garzon, Colombia, is blessed with a large community; however, it has only a few priests to address the community's many needs. Through a grant from the Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America, the parish was able to train lay pastoral and evangelization leaders for the parish community. These leaders participated in



formation on leadership and teaching, as well as in spiritual retreats in order to reach out to the larger community. The parish also created “Catholic Faith” kits to aid in teaching and catechesis for those in the community. Through this formation program, the parish was able to achieve its goal of creating an evangelization program that can reach the 3,700 families of the parish.

CUBA

The Archdiocese of San Cristobal in Havana, Cuba, is home to more than 90 Catholic communities that provide support and enrichment in the faith. Known as “basic Christian communities,” these units are vital to the spiritual lives of many. The lay ministers in these communities, however, were lacking strong ministry training on pastoral care of the family, an integral part of Catholic life. The leaders of the archdiocese identified the need to strengthen family ministry in their basic Christian communities. With a grant from the Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America, the bishops were able to become more present to those who minister in basic Christian communities, providing monthly formation meetings for the lay ministers. These monthly meetings provide formation and encouragement to enliven the faith of the domestic Church, the family.

In addition, the grant funded projects to promote praying the Rosary in the family and to prepare people for the National Day of Families and the annual diocesan Gathering of Families. More than 3,500 people have been reached through this grant, fostering a deeper experience of faith and family life.



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

In the Archdiocese of Santiago de Los Caballeros, many people are deeply dedicated to their parishes but do not have access to materials to help them fully understand the commission Jesus gave us to spread the gospel message. To address this problem, the archdiocese developed a three-stage plan to prepare people to become missionary lay leaders. Thanks to a grant from the Collection for the Church in Latin America, the archdiocese was able to implement the first stage of its plan—providing workshops, retreats, and door-to-door missions for participants.

Now 90 participants are leaders in their communities. These leaders offer formation and catechesis, and they seek out parishioners who may be interested in becoming missionaries themselves. This program strengthened not only the participants' connections to the universal Church but also their bonds with their neighbors and fellow parishioners. As one participant noted, "This training and course helped me, as a mother and wife, to feel loved by Jesus, to know a God that is alive, and to carry my burden each day with love, patience, and strength."

Your support of the Collection for the Church in Latin America is vital to the success of programs like these. Through the steadfast generosity of Catholics in the United States, projects like these can receive support, helping the people of Latin America to continue to share their faith.

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Other Changes in Net Assets for the
Year Ending in December 31, 2014

Revenue

National Collections Contributions:	\$7,040,835
Income on Investments:	\$912,927

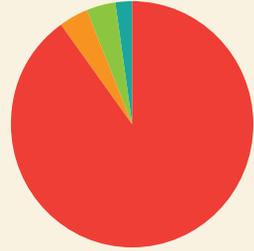
Total Revenue: \$7,953,762

Expenses

Total Expenses Including Internal Grants*: \$7,911,485

● Grants and Donations**	\$6,675,668	90%
● Program Costs	\$322,765	4%
● Administrative Expenses	\$268,369	4%
● Promotions and Fundraising Expenses	\$186,091	2%

Total Expenses \$7,452,893 100%



Changes in Net Assets from Operations:	\$42,277
Non-Operating Activities	
Unrealized (Loss) Gain on Investments:	\$(50,662)
Changes in Net Assets:	\$(8,385)

Net Assets at the Beginning of the Year: \$11,832,202
Net Assets at the End of the Year: \$11,823,817

*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 allows for US advocacy and policy advisory work for Latin American countries and issues.

**Grants approved in 2014 totaled \$6,769,519. Grants and donations in 2014 totaled \$6,675,668 and includes payments and write offs to grants approved in 2014 and prior years.

See the complete USCCB financial report at www.usccb.org/about/financial-reporting.

2014 DISTRIBUTION OF APPROVED GRANTS

Total Number of Grants Approved: **439** | Total Amount Approved: **\$6,769,519**



Geographical Region	Grant Count	Grant Amount	Percentage
● Andean Countries	132	1,939,607	28%
● Caribbean	153	1,624,617	24%
● Mexico and Central America	74	1,333,296	20%
● Southern Cone	71	1,160,199	17%
● Latin American Episcopal Conference (CELAM)	2	520,000	8%
● Multinational	7	191,800	3%

Top Six Countries by Total Grant Amount:

Colombia—\$915,129
Haiti—\$591,946

Cuba—\$703,239
Brazil—\$409,427

Peru—\$622,561
Nicaragua—\$353,906



For more information regarding the USCCB's work with the **Collection for the Church in Latin America** and around the world, please visit www.usccb.org/latin-america or write:

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

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