

Collection for the Church in Latin America

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Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America

Dear Communications Director,

At World Youth Day 2019 in Panama, Pope Francis told hundreds of thousands of young people that the world "will be better when more people, like these friends . . . are willing and enthused enough to give birth to the future and believe in the transforming power of God's love." He explained: "It is impossible for us to grow unless we have strong roots to support us and to keep us firmly grounded" (Vigil with Young People, January 26, 2019). The zeal and energy of youth, empowered by good formation and example by the Church, have the power to show God's love to a world in need of change and renewal. The pope encouraged young people to be bridges in a culture of encounter so people can see each other as human persons and not enemies.

Your generosity to the Collection for the Church in Latin America helped many young people from several countries, but especially 235 Haitians, to attend World Youth Day 2019 in Panama, where they heard the Holy Father's message of love and hope firsthand. Strengthened by this experience of the Universal Church, these young people are taking steps to become missionary disciples at home.

You can make this year's collection successful by placing an ad in your diocesan paper, sharing more stories about projects funded by the collection, and placing web banners on your diocesan website. The materials you need are available at *www.usccb.org/latin-america/collection*. If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-541-3365 or *ngermain@usccb.org*.

We truly appreciate your support of the collection. Thank you for your generosity to the people of Latin America and the Caribbean. May our merciful and loving God, through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, bless you always.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Nicole Germain Assistant Director, Promotions Office of National Collections