



## Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa

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SUPPORT THE  
Solidarity Fund for the  
**CHURCH IN  
AFRICA**

**Dear Diocesan Director,**

Liberia, on Africa's western coast, suffered a long period of civil war from 1989 to 2003 that left thousands dead. Though the country has not been at war for years, residual effects of that conflict still cause tensions and divisions between people. To foster reconciliation and peace, people, especially youth and young adults must learn and apply new ways to relate to each other that promote trust and unity.

As part of its mission of mercy and healing, the Catholic Bishops Conference of Liberia (CABICOL) focused on a theme of reconciliation during its 2019 plenary assembly. In a practical response to the pastoral need identified at the assembly, CABICOL subsequently used a grant from the USCCB's Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa to gather 250 youth and 20 adult chaperones and facilitators from the three Liberian dioceses for a six-day training in healing and reconciliation. These young participants learned how one women's nonviolent peace movement helped bring an end to the civil war in 2003. When you support the collection for the Solidarity Fund, you help the Church in Africa form young people to take on roles of service, healing, and mercy.

We need your help to promote your local collection for the Solidarity Fund and to share the stories of those who benefit. **You can help the collection by encouraging pastors to highlight it at Mass and to use the bulletin announcements, sample letter from your bishop, and social media tool kit** available at [www.usccb.org/africa](http://www.usccb.org/africa).

If you have additional questions, please contact me at 202-541-3365 or [ngermain@usccb.org](mailto:ngermain@usccb.org). Thank you for your continued support.

With gratitude,

Nicole Germain  
Assistant Director, Promotions  
Office of National Collections