



The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis will take up the *Collection for the Church in Latin America* on the weekend of *January 27-28, 2024*. For more than 50 years, this collection has given Catholics in the United States an opportunity to share faith in unity with our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout Latin America and the Caribbean islands.

The work of evangelization is carried out by Christians who meet people where they are – not only in a geographical sense but also in the context of culture. Though the Gospel is unchanging, we have many ways to make it relevant to people of all cultural, ethnic, and linguistic backgrounds.

The countries of South America have diverse populations from Indigenous, African, European, and Asian ancestries, all with different cultural experiences. By welcoming and understanding people from so many backgrounds, the Church grows and continues its mission of making disciples of all peoples. In Brazil, the Brazilian Bishops' Conference organized visits and meetings to engage Afro-Brazilian Catholic leaders in discussing a variety of themes, including social pastoral ministry and the vision of Pope Francis. In Peru, missionaries working in the Peruvian Amazon bring the Gospel to the Ashaninka and Matsigenka communities of about 60,000 people.

Such encounters and engagement with the peoples of South America are made possible when U.S. Catholics generously give to this Collection for the Church in Latin America. Your participation becomes a way for you to share your Catholic faith. I ask you to be as generous as you can.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

+ Charles C. Thompson

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Archbishop of Indianapolis