



DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

November 1, 2024

Jubilee Year 2025 - "Pilgrims of Hope"

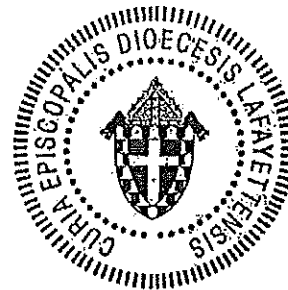
Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has decreed the year 2025 to be a Jubilee Year with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope". The beginning of the Jubilee Year will be marked with the official opening of the Holy Doors at the four major basilicas in the city of Rome. They are St. Peter's Basilica, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran, and St. Paul Outside the wall. These doors are normally sealed and only opened every twenty-five years. People who visit these churches, receive the sacraments of the Eucharist and Penance and pray the Apostle's Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the intentions of the Holy Father may gain a Plenary Indulgence for the remission of punishments due to sin. The indulgence may be applied for oneself, or for the poor souls in Purgatory.

The Jubilee Year will begin On December 29, 2024 and end December 28, 2025. Every Bishop of a Diocese may designate churches in his Diocese for people of the Diocese to visit on pilgrimage and obtain the same Plenary Indulgence after having fulfilled the same requirements; Holy Communion, Confession, Apostle's Creed, Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be for the intentions of the Holy Father. As Bishop of the Diocese of Lafayette, I have designated the following Churches as pilgrimage Churches: St. Landry in Opelousas, St. Peter in New Iberia, St. Mary Magdalen in Abbeville, St. John Cathedral in Lafayette, and the Chapel of the Carmelite Monastery in Lafayette. You may call the Church offices to find out the times they will be open for pilgrims.

The theme of the Jubilee Year, "Pilgrims of Hope", reminds us that we are all pilgrims passing through this life with our eyes fixed on our ultimate destination, everlasting life with God in heaven. Hope is one of the main virtues. Having hope, means that we firmly believe in the promises of our Lord and that he will give us whatever we need to overcome every challenge so that we may benefit from those promises. In a world in so much turmoil today, we must live our lives trusting that God will see us through all challenges and difficulties and that God, who conquers all, will be triumphant in the end. May this hope renew us to be more faithful followers of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Faithfully yours,

Most Reverend J. Douglas Deshotel, DD
Bishop of Lafayette



Share YOUR Faith



Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America

In the 13th century, St. Francis and St. Clare said yes to the Lord's call to renew the Church in Assisi, Italy, through lives of prayer, peace, and love for the poor. Their example inspired the men and women of their time to embrace the Gospel and dedicate their lives to God as religious brothers and sisters.

Nearly 800 years later, women continue to answer God's call following St. Clare's example by taking up lives of prayer at the Monastery of St. Clare in the Dominican Republic. Women who enter the monastery begin a formation process that encompasses prayer, study, and adaptation to separation from the world in a cloistered community. With funding through the Collection for the Church in Latin America, the monastery has been able to cover the food, clothing, and educational expenses for 18 sisters in various stages of formation.

Vocations to religious life are fulfilled through the prayers and contributions that sustain men and women religious in their mission. Helping the sisters at the Monastery of Saint Clare say yes to God's call is just one of the many positive impacts made by your support for the Collection for the Church in Latin America in strengthening the relationship between Catholics in the United States and those in Latin America and the Caribbean.

For more information about how donations help the Church in Latin America, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

2023 CLA Financials

Expenses

- Grants and Donations: **77.60%**
- Program Costs: **7.91%**
- Allocations—Internal Grants: **8.22%**
- Promotions and Fundraising Expenses: **4.66%**
- Administrative Expenses: **1.61%**

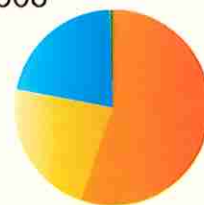
Total Expenses: \$5,725,947



Total Number of Grants Approved: 252

Total Amount Approved: \$6,227,608

- General Pastoral*: **53.00%**
- Formation of Clergy and Religious, and Vocations: **19.44%**
- Emergency Disaster Funds: **27.56%**



*Includes evangelization, religious education, family, and other pastoral ministries



Collection for the Church in Latin America | Office of National Collections
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