



Diocese of Worcester
Office of the Bishop
49 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

February 19, 2026

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

For more than a half century, the **Collection for the Church in Latin America** has been a sign of the solidarity of the Church in the United States with the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The year 2025 marked the 60th anniversary of the promulgation of *Dei Verbum*, the document on Divine Revelation issued during the Second Vatican Council. In order to help the bishops fulfill their mission to proclaim the Word of God to all people, the Catholic Biblical Federation used funds received through the Collection for the Church in Latin America to gather 130 participants for a Bible conference at the Mexico City headquarters of the Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano in April 2025. At that conference biblical pastoral ministry leaders from countries throughout Latin America came together for formation in the teachings of *Dei Verbum* and for the opportunity to collaborate with and encourage one another in this critical pastoral ministry.

When you participate in the collection at your parish, you support special events such as this Biblical Conference as well as the ongoing work of forming catechists, supporting vocations to priesthood and religious life, and implementing family ministries throughout Latin America.

A significant portion of this collection is also used to assist in the ongoing efforts of our local Diocesan Hispanic and Latino Ministry, which serves the large number of Hispanic and Latino Catholics who are now in the Diocese of Worcester. It is gratifying to see the life of faith flourishing in these parish communities as their faith life enriches us all.

I encourage you to respond to the national theme to "Share your Faith" by supporting the special Collection for the Church in Latin America on the weekend of March 1. Please be assured of my appreciation for your generous response.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

*Please share this letter in the parish bulletin or on Flocknote on the weekend of February 22
and take the collection for the Church in Latin America at all Masses on March 1.*