



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

January 2021

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

The Faithful of the Church in Latin America face many challenges. For the past 55 years, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has helped the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean through an annual collection. This assistance has addressed barriers faced in increasing the growth of the Faith, including lack of resources, shortage of vocations, and poor infrastructure making relatively simple things difficult.

Many projects are needed in Latin America to offer the family, the basic unit of any society, a way to be strengthened and affirmed, as well as to celebrate their life together in faith. With the Church continuing to point the way to Christ as the source of love and healing within the family and society, they are offered a new and hopeful vision for a deeper relationship with God and with one another.

The annual collection for the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean this year will not only provide for pastoral initiatives, priestly formation, and educational programs, but will do so in the context of the COVID Pandemic. As historical assistance has been provided to our brothers and sisters in our Southern Hemisphere, let us again respond to this challenge with charity and compassion.

In the parishes throughout the Diocese of Venice, the Collection for the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean will take place the weekend of January 16 and 17, 2021. For the poor and the economically distressed living in this region, your support will truly make a difference. Please be generous!

I take this opportunity to extend to each of you my blessings for your safety in this New Year. Thank you and may God bless you and your family for your support of the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida