



# ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI

Office of the Archbishop

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October 2025

My Dear Friends in Christ,

As we celebrate the ninth World Day of the Poor on November 16<sup>th</sup>, Catholic communities are encouraged to reflect on poverty and offer practical signs of charity. The 2025 theme is "You are my hope" (Ps 71:5), and Pope Leo XIV invites Christians to see the poor as active protagonists of hope and not just objects of charity.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the U.S. bishops' anti-poverty, gospel justice program, focuses on lifting up the voices of the poor and marginalized and empowering them to take their rightful place at the table of humanity. Pope Leo invites us to make the prayer of the poor our own and pray together with them. As the poor raise up their voices in prayer to God, through our gifts to CCHD we can stand in solidarity with them and have their rights and dignity honored.

For Catholics in the United States, the weekend of November 15-16 is our annual collection for CCHD. Through the grants we make to well-vetted organizations, CCHD uniquely empowers those in poverty to identify their own needs and to become their own agents of positive change.

As a result of your generosity from last year's CCHD Collection, thousands of low-income individuals in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati benefitted from the outreach of our funded organizations. Funded initiatives created an environment for at risk teens to build positive mentorship relationships and participate in leadership opportunities; empowered neighborhoods to create food secure communities; and met the immediate and long-term needs of abused and sexually exploited women who are incarcerated or in treatment for substance abuse. In every instance, CCHD was there to hear their cries, help them find a place at the decision-making tables impacting their lives, and give them a sense of ownership over their communities.

CCHD is a mandatory collection in the archdiocese, which means that every parish is to take it up. We send two-thirds of this collection to the national CCHD offices at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (some of which comes back to fund organizations operating in our archdiocese). The remaining one-third is granted to agencies in our own archdiocese through our local CCHD Committee and Social Action Commission. A small portion supports the U.S. bishops' Black and Indian Mission Fund, anti-poverty education efforts in our parishes and schools, and administration of these funds. It is our strict policy that organizations that receive CCHD funds must not participate in activities that promote abortion, same-sex marriage, the death penalty, affronts to human life and dignity, or any positions contrary to Church teaching.

Thank you in advance for your donations on CCHD Collection Weekend. You can learn more about CCHD's work in the Archdiocese at <https://resources.catholicaoc.org/offices/catholic-social-action/task-forces-committees/cchd>.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert G. Casey  
Archbishop of Cincinnati

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