ARCHDIOCESE OF
CINCINNATI

Office of the Archbishop

archbishop@catholicaoc.org
513.263.6612

October 2026

My Dear Friends in Christ,

The 10th annual World Day of the Poor will be celebrated on Sunday, November 15, with the theme, "***The Lord is the refuge of the poor***"(based on Psalm 14:6).

For Catholics in the United States, the weekend of November 15-16 is also our annual collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). The CCHD is the domestic anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops. The CCHD works to break down the cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families and communities. This work is supported through the annual collection and distribution of grants.

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 have supported young adult artists as they pursue training, real world work experience, and entrepreneurial skills; empowered neighborhoods to create food secure communities; and supported resident lead initiatives to design a development and organizing process to increase leadership opportunities for youth. In every instance, CCHD was there to hear their cries, help them find a place at the decision-making tables that impact their lives, and give them a sense of ownership within their communities.

CCHD is a mandatory collection in the archdiocese, which means that every parish is asked 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 will receive CCHD funds must not participate in any activities contrary to Church teaching.

This year as our archdiocese begin its efforts toward Synod 2027, it is a particularly meaningful time to contribute to the CCHD. Synod 2027 invites our local Church into a prayerful discernment of how God is calling our archdiocese to live out the Gospel. Lifting up the poor in our communities must certainly be part of that mission.

Thank you in advance for your donations during 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.

In Christ,

+Robert G. Casey

Most Reverend Robert G. Casey
Archbishop of Cincinnati