

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL ANNUAL REPORT 2015





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Mr. Kenneth Ong, Grants Specialist



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is my pleasure to present this annual report on the activities of the Subcommittee on Catholic Home Missions from the year ending December 31, 2015. As the bishop of a mission diocese, I can personally attest to the vital assistance that the Catholic Home Missions Appeal provides. Without support from the appeal, my diocese, like so many others across the country, would not be able to provide many of the pastoral ministries our faithful need.

Over 40 percent of the United States is considered mission territory. It is likely that you have either lived or visited it, as it covers so much of our country. Over 40 percent of our brothers and sisters, our neighbors, live in dioceses that are financially challenged and geographically isolated.

As Pope Francis reminded us during his 2015 visit to the United States, “Mission is never the fruit of a perfectly planned program or a well-organized manual. Mission is always the fruit of a life which knows what it is to be found and healed, encountered and forgiven. Mission is born of a constant experience of God’s merciful anointing.” Because of their limited resources, our mission dioceses rarely find themselves with perfect plans or manuals, but they still offer places for people to encounter Christ, to be healed and forgiven. These dioceses reach the faithful and encourage them to be part of the mission.

I thank you for all you have done to accompany your neighbors who live in mission territory. Without your continued support through both financial contributions and prayers, the Church here in the United States could not continue to be strengthened. May God bless you and all you do.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

+ Paul D. Etienne

Most Reverend Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL
Archbishop of Anchorage
Chairman, Subcommittee on Catholic Home Missions

STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH AT HOME

WHAT IS A HOME MISSION DIOCESE?

While there is no canonical definition, home mission dioceses are those dioceses in the United States and in its territories and former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services to Catholics without outside help. Basic pastoral services include essentials of the faith, such as Mass and the sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and the laity. Right now over 40 percent of US dioceses are considered home missions.

Dioceses like Knoxville, Laredo, and Great Falls–Billings demonstrate the varied challenges and needs of home mission territory and the importance of the assistance received from the Catholic Home Missions Appeal (CHMA).

DIOCESE OF KNOXVILLE

The Diocese of Knoxville in eastern Tennessee has experienced great growth in its Hispanic community in recent years. With support from the Subcommittee on Catholic Home Missions (CHM), the diocese is providing for the spiritual needs of this rapidly growing population. With the creation of the diocesan Hispanic Ministry Council, parishioners are receiving leadership training and learning about resources available to assist them in their ministry. Through the generosity of parishioners across the United States for CHMA, the faith and culture of our newest brothers and sisters have been strengthened.





DIOCESE OF LAREDO

The Diocese of Laredo is located in southern Texas, along the US-Mexico border. Many in this diocese live on the margins of society, either as immigrants or as people living in poverty. It is a challenge for the diocese to keep up with the needs of its people. With support from the CHM subcommittee, the diocese reaches out to some of the most marginalized people—those in jails, prisons, and detention centers. Many detainees are returning to the Catholic faith and are in need of God’s mercy. A CHM grant provided funding for liturgical and educational supplies, helping priests bring the Eucharist and sacraments, and supporting volunteers and ministers to reach over 10,000 men and women in detention facilities. Donations from the Catholic faithful have brought Christ’s message of love, compassion, and reconciliation to this often forgotten population.



DIOCESE OF GREAT FALLS–BILLINGS

The Diocese of Great Falls–Billings in eastern Montana has 99 parishes and missions stretching over 90,000 square miles. Many priests in the diocese serve multiple parishes, some ministering in up to five! It is not unusual for parishes to be unable to meet the financial obligations of having a full-time priest, and communities often feel disconnected from the larger Church. With support from CHMA, the diocese ensures that priests can engage in the necessary travel to serve their flocks, while parishes can keep their doors open. The support from this appeal has touched the people in this diocese, allowing them to keep their faith communities active and connected to the universal Church.



CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

*Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Other Changes in Net Assets
for the Year Ending in December 31, 2015*

Revenue

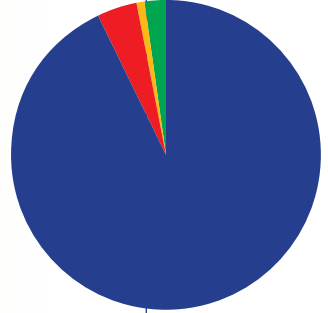
National Collection Contributions:	\$9,187,145
Income on Investments:	\$852,237
Special Collection Revenue:	\$3,000,000

Total Revenue: \$13,039,382

Expenses

• Grants and Donations*:	\$10,207,679	93%
• Program Costs:	\$487,837	4%
• Administrative Expenses:	\$65,945	1%
• Promotions and Fundraising Expenses:	\$239,771	2%

Total Expenses: \$11,001,232 100%



* Grants approved in 2015 totaled \$9,209,830. Grants and donations in 2015 totaled \$10,207,679 and included payments on 2015 grants, prior year grants, and donations.

Changes in Net Assets from Operations:	\$2,038,150
Non-Operating Activities	
Unrealized (Loss) Gain on Investments:	\$(930,826)
Changes in Net Assets:	\$1,107,324

Net Assets at the Beginning of the Year: \$15,039,228
Net Assets at the End of the Year: \$16,146,552

See the complete USCCB financial report at www.usccb.org/about/financial-reporting.

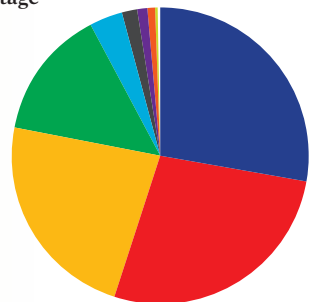
2015 DISTRIBUTION OF APPROVED GRANTS

Total Number of Dioceses That Received Grants: 85

Total Amount Approved: \$9,209,830

Program Area

Program Area	Grant Amount	Percentage
• Faith Formation	\$2,575,000	28.0%
• Diocesan & Parish Assistance	\$2,500,000	27.1%
• Priestly and Religious Vocations	\$2,127,500	23.1%
• Cultural Diversity	\$1,310,000	14.2%
• Strengthening Marriage & Family Life	\$330,000	3.6%
• Life & Dignity of the Human Person	\$150,000	1.6%
• Emergency Grants	\$100,000	1.1%
• Installation Gifts	\$75,000	0.8%
• Gift to Nuncio	\$35,000	0.4%
○ Professional Development for Mission Dioceses	\$7,330	0.1%





For more information regarding the USCCB's work with the **Catholic Home Missions** and around the world, please visit www.usccb.org/home-missions or write:

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