



St. Elizabeth of Hungary/St. Mark

5700 Bear Creek Boulevard, Bear Creek, Pennsylvania 18602

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

TAKE
THESE OUT
OF HERE.

— JOHN 2:16 —

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA | NOVEMBER 9, 2025

St. Elizabeth Church (E)
5700 Bear Creek Blvd
Bear Creek, PA 18602

St. Mark Church (M)
1052 Bear Lake Rd
Thornhurst, PA 18424

Mission Statement

Humbly guided by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to help people:

~ Through prayer and worship, discover God's desire to be in a relationship with us ~ Discover and develop the gifts and talents God has bestowed on each person ~ Share our faith in Jesus Christ through a welcoming community, beautiful liturgy and ongoing faith formation ~ Be of service to one another, to the communities in which we live and especially to those in need. ~

SERVED BY

Rev. Rawel Toppo
Administrator
rawelt81@gmail.com

Rev. Anthony M. Urban
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. William J. Karle
Pastor Emeritus

PARISH WEBSITE

Churchofstelizabethstmark.org

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



The Roman Catholic Community
of St Elizabeth of Hungary and
St. Mark



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Monday-Wednesday, Friday 9:00AM
(E)

First Fridays — Adoration after Mass—
12Noon (E)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00PM (M)

Saturday 6:00PM (E)

Sunday 8:30AM (M)

Sunday 10:30AM (E)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Mark's Church—1/2 hr before all
Masses

St. Elizabeth's Church —1/2 hr before
all Masses

~ or anytime by appointment ~

OFFICE STAFF

Amanda Proch
Business Manager
stelizabethbearcreek@
outlook.com

Mer Rish
Office Secretary
Director of Music & Liturgy
stelimar@ptd.net

OFFICE HOURS / PHONE

Tuesday & Wednesday
9AM—3PM

Phone.....570-472-3061

Fax.....570-472-3503

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Emily Bell
Renee Sipple

Directors of Religious Education
saintelizabethccd@gmail.com

DAILY TV MASS

WARMING FAITHFUL HEARTS

Cathedral of St Peter in Scranton, available on
CTV: Catholic Television of the
Diocese of Scranton.

Weekdays 12:10p.m., 3:30p.m. and 7:00p.m.

Weekends, Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30 p.m. and
rebroadcast on Sunday morning at 10:00a.m.

STEWARDSHIP

Nov 2, 2025

Weekly \$2502.00

Online \$735.12

\$3237.12

Diocesan -\$50.00

TOTAL \$3187.12

Thank you for your continued generosity.

The Parish Budget is set at \$5000.

Eucharistic Celebration

Saturday, Nov 8, 2025 — Sunday, Nov 16, 2025

Sat, NOV 8

- 4:00pm (M) Luis Velasco Soria
Barbara & Will Daskal
- 6:00pm (E) Vincent DeBeneardinis
Dr. Gary & Benedetta Lawrence

Sun, NOV 9

- 8:30am (M) Marie Griswold
David & Linda Hamill
- 10:30am (E) Rose Kindred
Steve & Mer Rish

Mon, NOV 10

- 9:00am (E) Frank X. Kearns
Joan & Lee Potter

Tues, NOV 11

- 9:00am (E) Theresa Ponko
Morning Mass Friends

Wed, NOV 12

- 9:00am (E) Special Intentions for Bill Colford
Butch & Jeannie Bidwell

Thurs, NOV 13

- 9:00am (E) NO MASS

Fri, NOV 14

- 9:00am (E) Special Intentions for Pat Gillern
Butch & Jeannie Bidwell

Sat, NOV 15

- 4:00pm (M) Kevin Kakareka
Sandy Czychyk
- 6:00pm (E) George Hutchins
Dr. Gary & Benedetta Lawrence

Sun, NOV 16

- 8:30am (M) Florence Morehead Keshaw
Charlie & Elaine Morehead
- 10:30am (E) Davin M. Soda
Theodore & Diane Haas

THE MOST BLESSED
SACRAMENT IS RESERVED IN OUR CHURCH

We respectfully ask that all observe a
reverent silence.



This week we pray for our sick,
elderly and homebound
parishioners and friends,
especially...



*Noreen Catani Amico, Laurie Ayre,
Richard Emmert, Lea Furlong, Kevin Gardner,
Bernard Hendrzak, Erin Himes, Jake Johnson,
Joseph Kachurak, Patrick Kildea,
Michael Lilienthal, Mollie Litchman,
Carolyn Palencar, Jessica Lawrence Rorke,
Donald Scharf, Mary Soos, Byran Stanton,
Verna Stavish, John Tucker,
Rev. Anthony Urban, Gary Walker,
Hank Walker, Loretta Washick*

***Please notify office when names should be
removed. 570-472-3061***

*Please remember Robert Hoban and his
family in your prayers. Robert passed
away October 29th and was buried from
our church on Saturday, November 1st.*

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and all the souls of the
faithfully departed rest in peace. Amen.*



Next week our special collection
will support the Catholic Cam-
paign for Human Development.
Nearly 38 million people in the
United States live in poverty. This collection supports
programs that empower people to identify and address
the obstacles they face in bringing permanent and pos-
itive change to their communities. Learn more about
the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at

www.usccb.org/cchd



**Wednesday
November
12th**

Father Rawel's



DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA, PROPHETIC ANGER

In the Bible, Jesus is always seen as a calm and prayerful person. But in the Gospel today, what we see is quite scandalizing: the angry Jesus.

Most people will not be comfortable with this type of Jesus. But the underlying questions of this incident are:

Was Jesus really angry? Was it legitimate anger? If yes, why was he angry? And how did he manage his anger?

In the Gospel, St. John does not say directly that Jesus was angry. In a close reading of this passage, we find Jesus saying, 'Stop making my Father's house a marketplace'. This was the main reason for his action of turning down the tables of the shops made in the temple. The temple, which was supposed to be a place of worship, was losing its sacredness. It had become a center of injustice for many poor people who came to worship in the temple. They were forced to buy offerings from the temple at an unjust price. They did not do an appropriate exchange of money. Temple was becoming a place to make money. Jesus' anger was legitimate, as it was a prophetic anger against the injustice done to the poor. It was against the misuse of the temple. He never got angry about the injustice done to him. Not even when he was humiliated by the soldier before the crucifixion. He did not turn violent against people. He knew what he was doing and did not lose his sense.

As Christians do we get angry (holy anger) when injustice is done to the people? Does this anger bring positive results?

HAVE A BLESSED WEEKEND!



Notice Regarding Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at 570-862-7551.



Father Rawel—Thursday, Nov. 13th

We wish you a wonderful birthday. May God give you the power, courage, knowledge and wisdom to continue to propagate His words to mankind.



Holy Redeemer High School Musical

Spongebob Square Pants the Musical

Friday, Nov 21 and Saturday, Nov 22, 2025

7:00 p.m.

Adults: \$10 ~ Seniors \$9 ~ Students \$8

ALL ARE WELCOME!!



The parish of St Elizabeth/St Mark will be hosting a Family Style **Thanksgiving** Dinner (free of charge / good will offering appreciated) on **Thursday Nov27** at 3 PM in the Father Urban Parish Center. All are invited. To prepare adequate amounts of food, we will need to know how many will be attending. We ask that you please call 570-851-0213 to indicate your intention and the number in your party. Please include your name, phone number and the number of people that will be attending.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of November 9, 2025

Sunday:

Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22

Monday:

Wis 1:1-7/Ps 139:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10/
Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday:

Wis 2:23-3:9/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19/
Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday:

Wis 6:1-11/Ps 82:3-4, 6-7/Lk 17:11-19

Thursday:

Wis 7:22b-8:1/Ps 119:89, 90, 91, 130, 135,
175/Lk 17:20-25

Friday:

Wis 13:1-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18/
Lk 17:26-37

Saturday:

Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Ps 105:2-3, 36-37,
42-43/Lk 18:1-8

Next Sunday:

Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9 (see 9)/
2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was 22, I entered St. Peter's Basilica for the first time. It floored me. I could hardly take it in, its grandeur, majestic arches, vibrant colors, and the light that danced through its high windows. Somehow, amidst such splendor, I felt an overwhelming sense of belonging, as if I had finally come home.

Jesus reorients how we Catholics see sacred buildings. In today's Gospel he says, **"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:13-22)**. His riddle implies, shockingly, that his own body is now the fundamental dwelling place of God and humanity. The temple in Jerusalem has been superseded.

In our churches today — whether they mirror the basilica's grandeur or embrace humble simplicity — we experience architectural symbols of Christ's risen body. It is no accident we call them "churches": they make visible in brick-and-mortar Christ's body which is made up of the living stones we call Christians. Each church building, like St. John Lateran in Rome, or St. Peter's, or any other, is meant to be a vibrant sign of Christ's resurrected body. We should cherish and protect our churches as places where heaven touches earth, where we, as a community, are raised to the fullness of life in Christ.

— *Father John Muir*

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Along both banks of the river,
fruit trees of every kind shall grow;
their leaves shall not fade, nor their fruit fail. (Ez 47:12)

Psalm:

The waters of the river gladden the city of God, the holy dwelling of the Most High! (Ps 46)

Second Reading:

Do you not know that you are the temple of God,
and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? (1 Cor 3:16)

Gospel:

Jesus answered and said to them,
"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." (Jn 2:19)

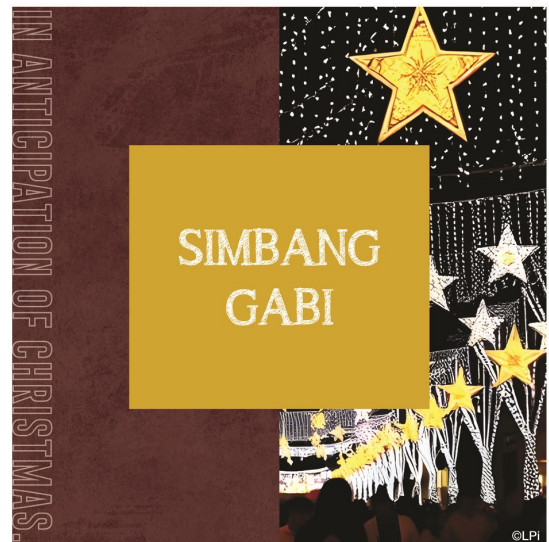
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"You are the temple of God," Paul tells us.
But in today's Gospel we see how easily even
temple areas become corrupted. Jesus, purge
the greed and selfishness from our hearts.
Make them fit dwellings for your Holy Spirit.

Observances for the week of November 9, 2025

- Sunday:** The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica;
Monday: St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
Tuesday: St. Martin of Tours, Bishop; Veterans Day
Wednesday: St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr
Thursday: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin
Saturday: St. Albert the Great,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Devotions, Explained!

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino tradition of nine early-morning votive Masses offered in anticipation of Christmas. Celebrations follow Mass, where delicacies like baked rice cakes and breakfast rolls are enjoyed.

Prayer of Missionary Zeal

Dear Lord,
Give us eyes to see the depth of
grace You provide to Your Church.
May that goodness ignite in us fire
to share the truth of Your mercy
with every soul we encounter.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: It matters why you do something, not just how you do it. Are we allowing our worship to transform us, or are we only concerned with transforming our worship?

Modern Money-Changers

The “liturgy wars” are something of a hot topic in contemporary Catholic circles.

Latin chant or guitar hymns? Communion on the tongue or in the hand? Chapel veils or bare heads? Surplice or alb? It’s giving me a headache just writing it all out.

I don’t mean to say that none of this matters. The worship of the Almighty God, especially in the context of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, is no trifling matter. It is good for people to be concerned about whether or not their worship is pleasing to God. I am happy that Catholics care enough about these things to have an opinion.

I’m not going to say where I fall on this spectrum of liturgical sensibility (the headache intensifies thinking of the emails I would get). And I won’t pretend it’s not something I feel passionate about, in my own way.

But too often I find myself sniffing dismissively at the “other camp,” the folks who are drawn to a different style or tradition. Too often I see them sniffing dismissively back to me. We are, both groups, obsessed with the form of a thing — so much so that we risk forgetting the function of it.

And when I stop to think about it, I wonder if Jesus shouldn’t crack the whip at us all, the modern money-changers of the temple, who have allowed worship to become a transaction (I offer *x* sacrifice, I am rewarded with *y* feeling of fulfillment and satisfaction).

I look at the Gospel today, and I can see the purpose of the money-changers. It could be argued that, in a way, they were facilitating the laws of Moses, making possible the temple sacrifices stipulated by God.

But it matters *why* you do something, not just *how* you do it.

What good is any act of worship, if at its conclusion we do not more closely resemble the One before whom we kneel?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Can Catholics be cremated?

Answer:

As the practice of cremation becomes more and more common, it’s important to know what the Church asks of families who have chosen this for a loved one who has died.

As the US Bishops observe on their website, “Ideally, if a family chooses cremation, the cremation would take place some time after the Funeral Mass, so that there can be an opportunity for the Vigil for the Deceased in the presence of the body.” However, if cremation takes place before the Funeral Mass, the cremated remains can be present at the Funeral Mass and the appendix to the Order of Christian Funerals provides adaptations for the texts and rituals that are part of the Funeral Mass and the Committal.

The primary concern is that the cremated remains should be treated with the same respect given to any human remains. The Order of Christian Funerals instructs, “This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, and the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains on the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires” (no. 417).

It is becoming more and more common for parishes or diocese-sponsored cemeteries to include columbaria to house cremated remains in a way that respects Church teaching, allowing family and friends the opportunity to honor the remains of the one they have lost with dignity, reverence, and care.

To those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, *Zeal for your house will consume me.*

- Jn 2:16-17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading:

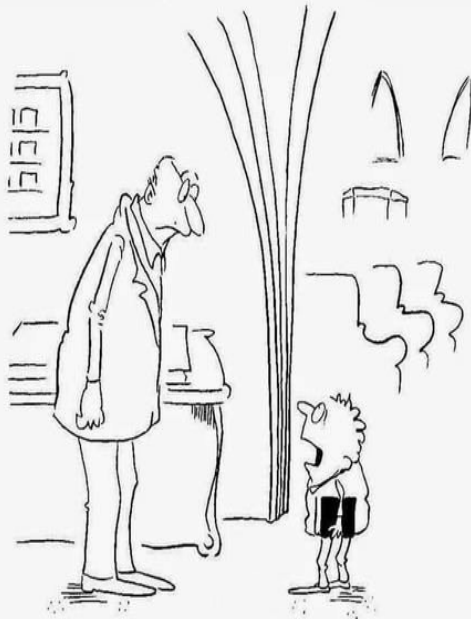
The prophet Ezekiel envisions a future of restoration and renewal for the exiled Israelites held captive in Babylon. What future do you hope for with your family?

Second Reading:

Paul tells us that as believers in Christ, the Spirit dwells in us, making us holy, the temple of God. Can you share a time when you felt the Holy Spirit active in your life?

Gospel:

The disciples understood the full meaning of Jesus' cleansing of the temple only after his resurrection from the dead. What has hindsight taught you about your life?



"I slept in church because I'm striving to be more like God, and on the seventh day He rested."

FIRST CANONIZED
U.S. SAINT

“ I WILL GO ANYWHERE AND DO ANYTHING IN ORDER TO COMMUNICATE THE LOVE OF JESUS TO THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW HIM OR HAVE FORGOTTEN HIM. ”

- ST. FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT WORKING ON THE MARGINS

The Catholic Church has always taught us, through the words of Sacred Scripture and the witness of saints like Francis of Assisi, that the natural world is created by God, that it is good, and that humans have a special duty to care for creation so that it benefits not only themselves but also future generations. Today we live in a time where pollution, climate change, and poor agricultural practices harm creation and place us all in danger.

In 2015, Pope Francis responded to this environmental crisis by issuing the encyclical *Laudato Si'* (*On Care for Our Common Home*), in which he emphasizes the connection between humanity and nature and calls for "the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development" (no. 13).

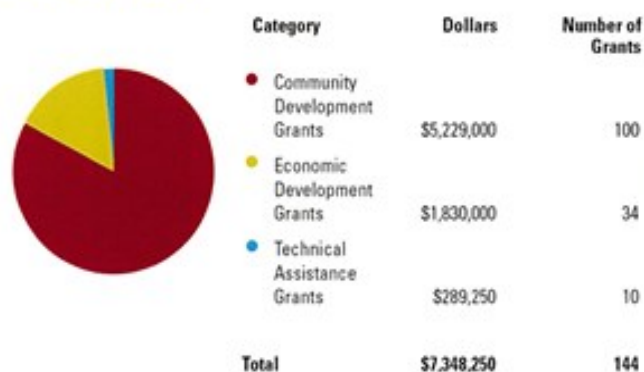
This spirit of cooperation, sustainability, and human dignity animates the work of organizations like La Cosecha Community Supported Agriculture, a cooperative farm network in Albuquerque, New Mexico, which makes

locally grown, sustainable, and nutritious foods available to low-income people. With support from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), La Cosecha has expanded its outreach beyond Albuquerque to 11 rural New Mexico counties, increased year-round accessibility to healthy produce and other food products, and obtained a US Department of Agriculture Good Agricultural Practices food-safety certification for its cooperative farm partners.

CCHD-funded organizations show how we can care for the environment, address the needs of the poor, and support responsible and sustainable local businesses at the same time. When you participate in the CCHD collection, you help not only other communities but also your own, because 25% of your contribution remains in your diocese to create local solutions to poverty.

To learn more about the collection for the CCHD and the way CCHD upholds the moral and social teachings of the Catholic Church, visit www.usccb.org/cchd.

2023 GRANTS



2023 EXPENSES



*Internal grants include a distribution from the CCHD collection for CCHD operations and for the education and outreach program of the Office of Justice, Peace, and Human Development of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, which engages Catholics in our faith-filled call to address the root causes of poverty.

LEARN about those living in poverty who are working to improve their communities. • **ACT** and spread the word about poverty by sharing this flier. • **CONNECT** with the work of CCHD by supporting the collection. • **PRAY** for those who benefit from this collection.



Office of National Collections

3211 Fourth Street NE • Washington, DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-3346 • www.usccb.org/cchd • www.povertyusa.org

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CAMPAÑA CATÓLICA PARA EL DESARROLLO HUMANO TRABAJANDO DESDE LA PERIFERIA

La Iglesia Católica siempre nos ha enseñado, a través de las palabras de la Sagrada Escritura y del testimonio de santos como Francisco de Asís, que el mundo natural es creado por Dios, que es bueno y que los humanos tienen la singular tarea de cuidar a la creación para que ésta les beneficie no solo a ellos, sino también a las futuras generaciones. Hoy vivimos en un tiempo en el que la contaminación, el cambio climático y las malas prácticas agrícolas están dañando a la creación y nos están poniendo a todos en peligro.

En el 2015, el papa Francisco respondió a esta crisis ambiental publicando la encíclica *Laudato Si'* (*Sobre el Cuidado de la Casa Común*), en la cual él enfatiza la conexión entre la humanidad y la naturaleza y hace un llamado para "unir a toda la familia humana en la búsqueda de un desarrollo sostenible e integral" (n° 13).

Este espíritu de cooperación, sostenibilidad y dignidad humana alienta la labor de organizaciones como La Cosecha Community Supported Agriculture, una red de cooperativas agrícolas apoyada por la comunidad, en Albuquerque, Nuevo México, la cual pone a disposición de las personas de bajos ingresos, unos alimentos nutritivos y sostenibles y

cultivados localmente. Con el apoyo recibido de la Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano (CCHD), La Cosecha amplió su alcance más allá de Albuquerque llegando a 11 condados rurales en Nuevo México, incrementó el acceso durante todo el año a productos agrícolas saludables y otros productos alimenticios y obtuvo la certificación de seguridad alimentaria de Buenas Prácticas Agrícolas del Departamento de Agricultura de Estados Unidos para sus socios de cooperativas agrícolas.

Las organizaciones que reciben fondos de CCHD nos enseñan a cuidar el medio ambiente, a responder a las necesidades de los pobres y, al mismo tiempo, a brindar nuestro apoyo a las empresas responsables y sostenibles de la localidad. Cuando ustedes participan en la colecta para CCHD, no solo están ayudando a otras comunidades, sino que también están ayudando a las suyas ya que el 25% de sus contribuciones permanecen en su diócesis con el fin de crear soluciones para la pobreza en su localidad.

Para informarse más acerca de esta colecta para CCHD y la manera en que CCHD sostiene las enseñanzas morales y sociales de la Iglesia Católica, visiten www.usccb.org/cchd.

SUBVENCIONES 2023



GASTOS EN EL 2023



*Las subvenciones internas incluyen una distribución de la Colecta de CCHD para los gastos de operación de CCHD y para el programa de educación y extensión de la USCCB para la Paz, la Justicia y el Desarrollo Humano, el cual incluye el compromiso de los católicos a nuestro llamado pleno de fe para abordar las causas raíz de la pobreza.

APRENDAN acerca de aquellos que viven en la pobreza y que trabajan para mejorar sus comunidades. • **ACTÚEN** y diseminen información sobre la pobreza compartiendo este folleto. • **CONÉCTENSE** con la labor de CCHD brindando su apoyo a la colecta. • **OREN** por los beneficiarios de esta colecta.



Oficina de Colectas Nacionales

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