



# 2016

## ANNUAL REPORT

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for joining us in 2016 in our mission to build churches and the Church in America's poorest places. Together we answered Jesus' missionary call. We have gone out to the "peripheries" of our country and, together with you, we have helped Catholics there proclaim the joy of the Gospel.

In planning for 2016, we did not know about some of the wonderful new opportunities that would come our way.

In February we partnered with the Diocese of El Paso, Texas, in organizing events called "Two Nations, One Faith" that welcomed Pope Francis to the U.S.-Mexico border. In October we presented our Lumen Christi Award to Melva Arbelo, an inspiring lay leader in Puerto Rico who provides a safe haven for abused children. And in November we organized a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi to witness the elevation of our chancellor to cardinal and the conclusion of the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

I am so thankful for your generosity in 2016, which allowed us to provide \$23.3 million to build faith, inspire hope and ignite change throughout the 90 mission dioceses we serve. With your

support, we helped build and repair churches and church buildings, educate America's priests, sisters, deacons and lay leaders and bring about and sustain ministries and communities that would otherwise not exist.

During our November pilgrimage, in St. Peter's Basilica, we heard Pope Francis beautifully capture Catholic Extension's urgent missionary task. "If something should rightly disturb us," he said, "it is that so many of our brothers and sisters are living without the strength, light and consolation born of friendship with Jesus Christ, without a community of faith to support them."

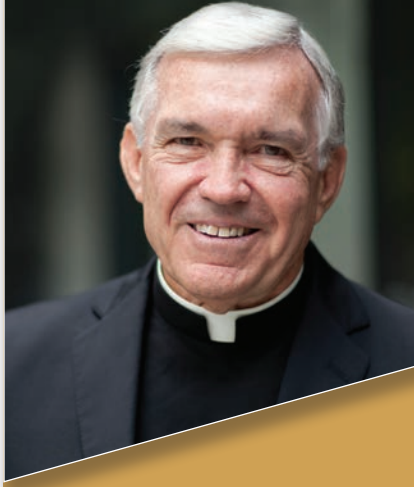
Indeed, isn't this the very reason that Catholic Extension exists?

With gratitude for your continuing generosity,

Yours in Christ,



Reverend John J. Wall  
President, Catholic Extension



See pages 4 and 5 for photo captions



# 2016 HIGHLIGHTS



Forty-two seminarians funded by Catholic Extension were ordained, signaling a wonderful infusion of life in the mission dioceses.

*Read more on page 10 about how you supported the education of other future leaders of our Church and ignited change across our country.*

Catholic Extension's chancellor, Archbishop Blase J. Cupich, was elevated to the College of Cardinals.

The U.S.-Latin American Sisters Exchange Program celebrated its third year with support from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation. Thirty-six women religious gathered at Boston College for continued education. The program helps serve the growing Hispanic population.



Pope Francis declared 2016 as the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Catholic Extension celebrated this year by sending out funding for various works of mercy. This supported 20 ministries that provide pastoral outreach and spiritual care to the poor.

*"We will be judged on the basis of our works of mercy. The Lord will say to us: 'Do you remember? That migrant, who so many wanted to kick out, was me.'"*

—Pope Francis

During 2016, 52 churches received building and renovation funding. Since 1905, Extension has funded 12,500 building and renovation grants.

*Read more on page 6 about how you supported the construction and renovation of churches and their facilities and helped build faith across our country.*

Catholic Extension helped the Diocese of El Paso celebrate Pope Francis' visit to the U.S.-Mexico border in February.

Catholic Extension presented Melva Arbelo of the Diocese of Arecibo, Puerto Rico, with the 2016 Lumen Christi Award.

*Read more on page 8 about how you supported ministries that inspire hope and are enhancing faith formation, religious education and outreach in Catholic communities.*

# BUILD FAITH



Top: Construction of St. Catherine of Siena Church  
Middle: The church pre-construction  
Bottom: The interior of the church after completion

## REBUILDING AN OLD TREASURE

Parishioners of St. Catherine of Siena Church in Clarksville, Virginia, were in a bind. They loved their traditional, quaint church, but it was small and outdated. And with many parishioners being retired and on fixed incomes, the budget was tight.

Located in the Diocese of Richmond, the original church was built in 1946 with a Catholic Extension grant. It was a tiny chapel, 22 feet wide and 48 feet long.

When Father Gerry Kaggwa arrived as pastor in 2013, he knew it was time to renovate.

It took months to design a plan that would preserve the church's character while adding space for two sacristies, two accessible restrooms, additional seating, a place for the choir and a large vestibule.

Initial funds were raised, but not enough. **With your generous donations, Catholic Extension offered a \$45,000 matching grant to finish the project.**

Parishioners took great pride in matching the offer and volunteering to help. They refurbished donated pews and built a new altar and tabernacle.

Completed in 2016, the old church was carefully transformed to accommodate its current members.



## BUILDING UP HUMAN DIGNITY

Catholics are a small minority in eastern Tennessee. But their faith communities have an impact far beyond their numbers. Their neighbors are coming to know the Catholic Church at an unusual location: a mobile health clinic. Sister of Mercy Mariana Koonce is a medical doctor, and she leads area Catholics in serving their neighbors and uplifting their dignity by providing much-needed health care to the poor.

Since 2014 she has managed a mobile health clinic in the Diocese of Knoxville that provides free primary medical care to its poorest residents. On a regular schedule, Sister Koonce and her many volunteer medical professionals



Sister Mariana Koonce meets with patients in her medical health clinic.

make the rounds among five rural communities to treat anyone in need.

Driving a custom-made van called St. Mary's Legacy Clinic, Sister Koonce visits about 600 patients annually. Many area residents were wary of Catholics – until they met Sister Koonce.

**For her ministry, she was awarded \$10,000 as a Lumen Christi finalist in 2016. And through your dedicated support, Catholic Extension is also funding \$50,000 for a full-time nurse to assist her.**



INSPIRE  
HOPE



Top: Sister María del Lourdes Estrada-Meza greeting parishioners  
 Bottom: St. James the Less parishioners celebrating Mass

# SISTERS INSPIRE THE FAITHFUL

**T**he Diocese of San Bernardino, California, is ethnically diverse and bustling with 91 parishes, seven mission churches and five chapels to serve its 1.6 million Catholics.

The diocese faces two challenges: to meet the needs of its overflowing churches and to identify Catholics, spread throughout, who have not yet joined a parish.

With your generous help, Catholic Extension is supporting a group of sisters who are tackling both issues. The sisters, who are members of a religious congregation based in Mexico, arrived in 2014 as part of the U.S.-Latin American Sisters Exchange Program. This program supports 36 missionary sisters who foster Hispanic ministry in poor parishes across the country. The sisters have committed to serving five years in the United States.

The San Bernardino sisters are serving two parishes, St. James the Less in Perris and St. Vincent Ferrer in Sun City. Both parishes are bursting at the seams, particularly with growing numbers of Catholics who are flocking to the small churches.

Built to hold 300 people in 1907, St. James now has more than 10,000 registered families, many of whom are spilling out its doors and standing in its parking lot during Masses. The parish has acquired a 12-acre site to build a larger church, community center and religious education buildings.

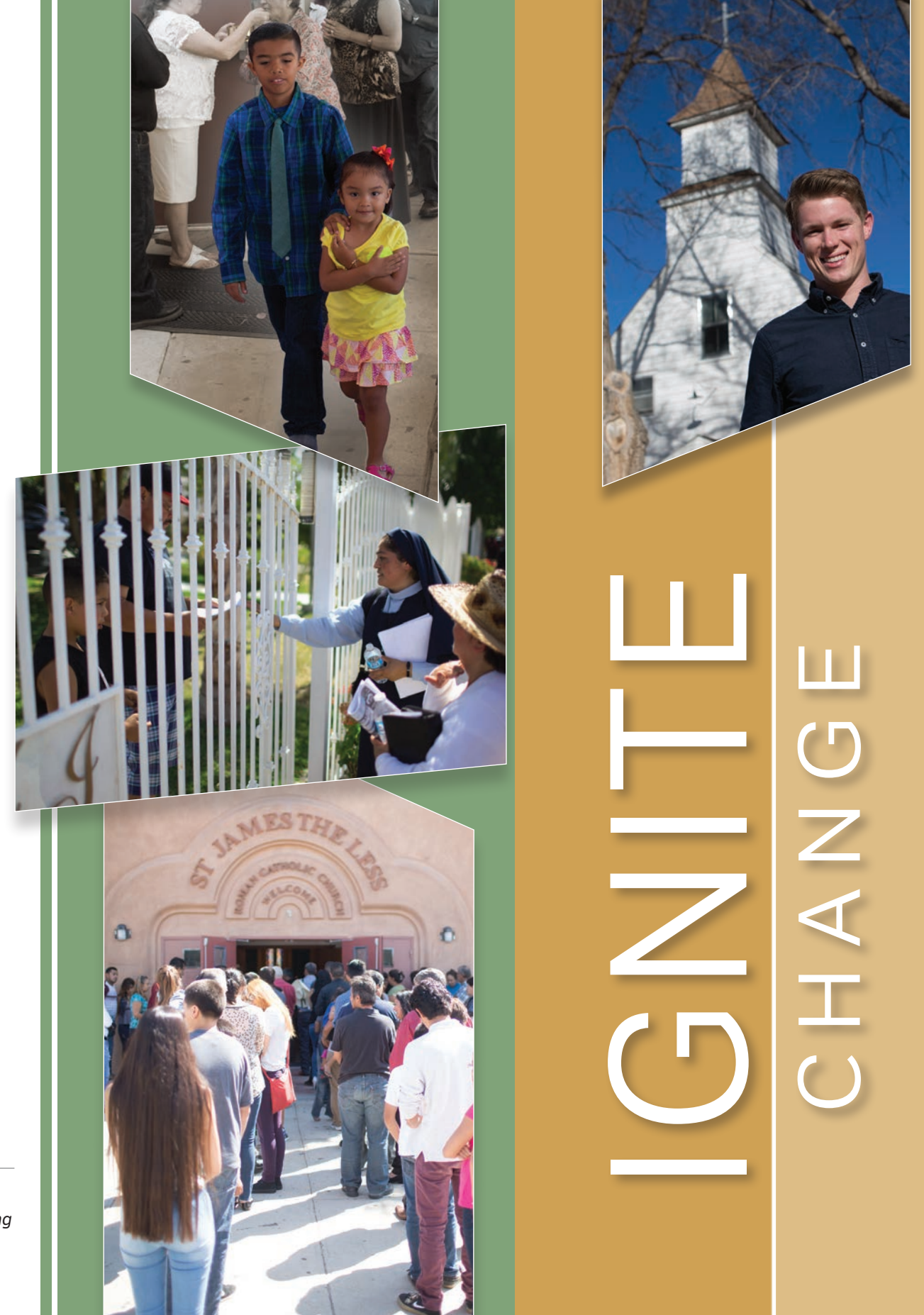
The massive influx of Hispanics at these two parishes keep the sisters busy with sacramental preparation, religious education and pastoral care.

Several times a week, the sisters gather a group of parishioners to go door-to-door, walking through the dusty streets of the surrounding neighborhoods, to share the good news of the Gospel and invite people to come to Mass. They reach people who have no transportation to church, who are isolated from the community. They comfort, provide guidance and offer a community of support.

**In the last two years, the sisters have visited more than 3,400 new households.** They are offering inspiration to fledgling Catholics, helping migrant workers keep their faith and nurturing a booming Hispanic Church that plays a big role in the diocese.

**In 2016 Catholic Extension granted more than \$1.5 million for the U.S.-Latin American Sisters Exchange Program nationwide.**

Top: Children during Communion  
 Middle: Sister María del Lourdes Estrada-Meza going door-to-door sharing the good news of the Gospel  
 Bottom: St. James the Less parishioners lining up for Mass



IGNITE  
 CHANGE

“Your support makes it possible for those in ministry to pursue a master’s degree who would not otherwise have this opportunity. It might seem like your gifts are only helping a handful of leaders, but your gifts go beyond the individual and reach an entire college campus.”

—Andrew Waring  
Fordham University



Young Adult Leaders praying together in Tucson, Arizona

## IGNITING A SPARK IN YOUNG LEADERS

The future of the Catholic Church rests with young people. To help ensure a strong and vibrant future, Catholic Extension invests heavily in youth and young adult ministries.

One vehicle is the Young Adult Leadership Initiative (YALI), designed to allow mission dioceses to retain their best and brightest young adults by preparing them for professional leadership positions within the Church.

Catholic Extension has partnered with three Catholic universities to offer these promising young leaders the opportunity to pursue a master’s degree in pastoral ministry, theology or religious education while simultaneously working in their diocese.

In addition to covering the cost of tuition for the two-and-a-half-year program, the initiative also subsidizes the graduates’ first-year salaries at their dioceses.

Since this initiative began in 2012, your support has enabled 38 young leaders from 19 dioceses to participate. They are having a profound impact across the country, reaching 87,000 people through various ministries they lead at parishes, schools and on university campuses.

Karina Sandoval began working as the Reverence for Life coordinator in the Diocese of El Paso, Texas, after college. Seeing her potential, the diocese offered her a YALI scholarship to study pastoral ministry at Boston College. She obtained her degree while working as the diocese’s stewardship coordinator. “This initiative gives me the theological foundation and pastoral skills to develop into a leader,” she said.

In the Diocese of Dodge City, Kansas, Gentry Heimerman is director of youth ministry, and through YALI he attends the University of Notre Dame to study theology. He is grateful to add an academic dimension to his work. “I enjoy my ministry of presence to the students,” he said. “To make it most meaningful, I need a sound background in theology.”

**Your generous donations enabled us to extend more than \$234,000 in 2016 to this vital initiative.**

“I am so grateful! Thank you so much for giving me an education, skill and the tools to help others here in my diocese get closer to God.”

—Karina Sandoval  
Boston College

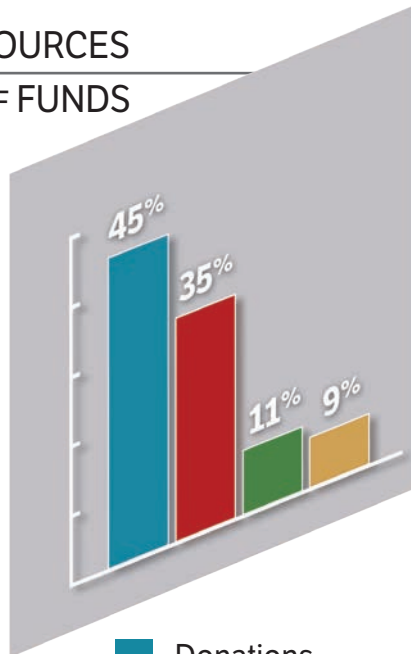


“To make my ministry most meaningful, I need a sound background in theology.”

—Gentry Heimerman  
University of Notre Dame

## FINANCIALS

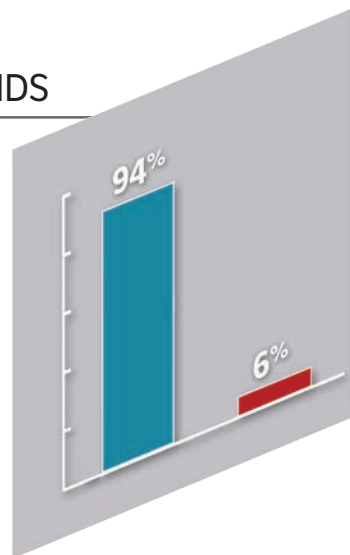
### SOURCES OF FUNDS



- Donations
- Estate Gifts
- Investment Earnings
- Parish Calendars

### USES OF FUNDS

- Support to Mission Dioceses
- Administrative Costs



### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	IN MILLIONS
General Investments	\$105.7
Charitable Gift Annuities	\$36.2
All Other Assets	\$27.8
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$169.7</b>

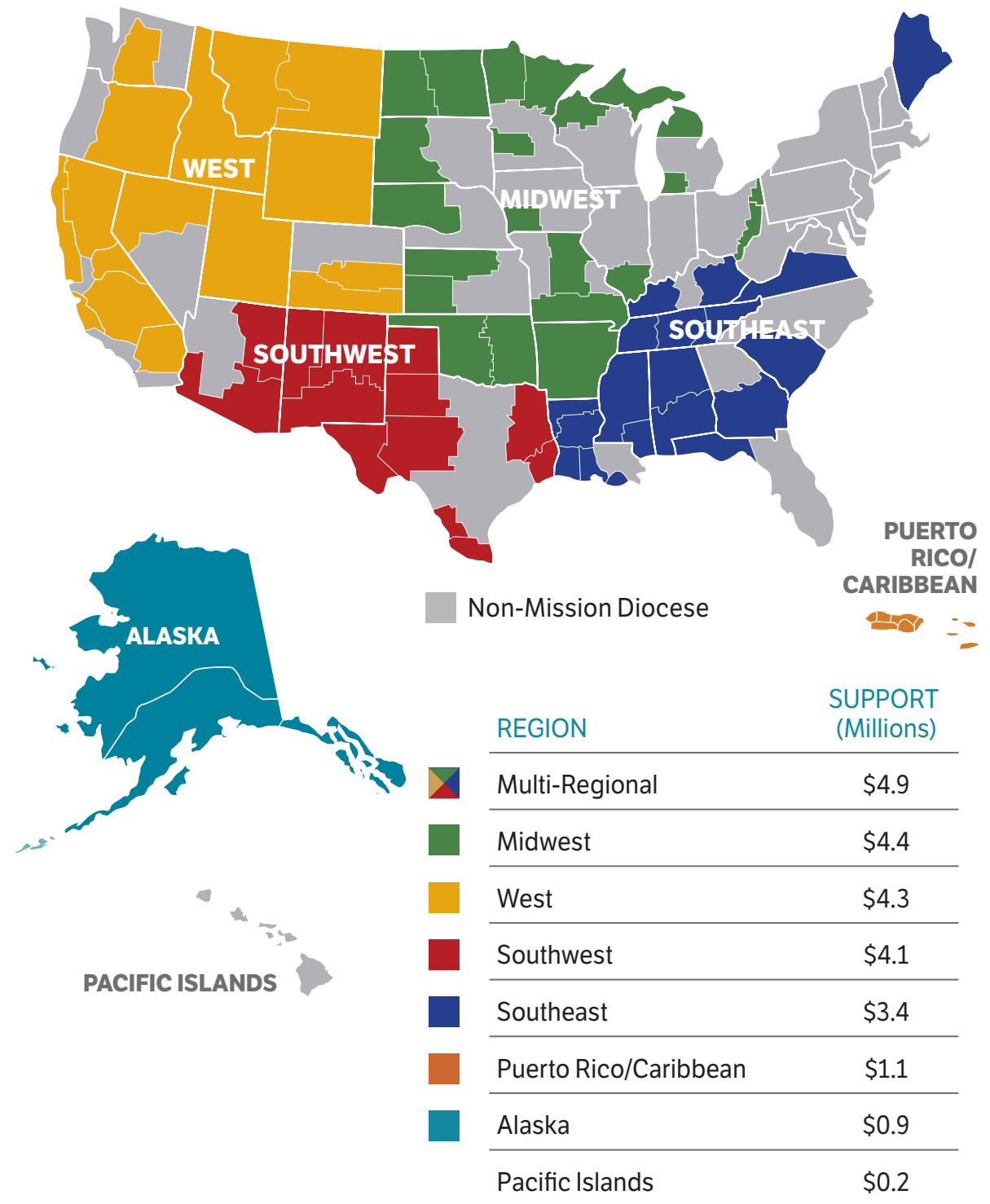
### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES	
Charitable Gift Annuities	\$30.3
All Other Liabilities	\$10.4
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$40.7</b>

NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	\$76.5
Temporarily Restricted	\$19.0
Permanently Restricted	\$33.5
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$129.0</b>

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$169.7</b>
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## SUPPORT BY REGION



**GRAND TOTAL \$23.3**

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## Cardinal Blase J. Cupich

Elevated to cardinal on November 19



*Catholic Extension dedicates this Annual Report to our chancellor, Chicago's Archbishop Blase Cupich, who became a cardinal this year.*

*We are deeply blessed and grateful for his inspired leadership of Catholic Extension since 2014.*

*As he continues to remind us, "The Church is about mission." And so is Catholic Extension.*



# Mass for the close of the Jubilee Year of Mercy in St. Peter's Square



Building Faith | Inspiring Hope | Igniting Change

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*Top cover photo: St. Catherine of Siena Church in Clarksville, Virginia*  
*Middle cover photo: Sister Mariana Koonce, a Sister of Mercy, in eastern Tennessee*  
*Middle cover photo: St. Anne's Church in Klagetoh, Arizona*  
*Bottom cover photo: Andrew Waring, campus ministry in the Diocese of Richmond*  
*Background cover photo: St. Joseph Mission School in San Fidel, New Mexico*