## SUPPORT THE Solidarity Fund for the CHURCH IN AFRICA

When you think of the life of the Church in dioceses and parishes, the first ideas that come to mind might be evangelization efforts, catechesis programs, sacramental preparation for families, or support for seminaries and religious communities that encourage young people to discern vocations as priests or religious sisters or brothers. While such faith-strengthening pastoral ministries are among the visible ways the Church carries out its mission to prepare Christian disciples, the Church also needs responsible administration of parish and diocesan resources. A solid foundation in financial management and recordkeeping helps pastors build trust in the local church and use limited financial resources with transparency and responsibility.

Recognizing this need, the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa supports episcopal conferences' efforts to train pastors, administrators, and financial staff in budgeting, management, and procedures to improve transparency and accountability. A Solidarity Fund grant to the National Episcopal Conference of Cameroon helped the Diocese of Ngaoundéré train 136 members of 29 parish councils in these skills, empowering them to manage financial matters with competence and reliability. The Solidarity Fund also granted funds to the National Episcopal Conference of Congo (in the Democratic Republic of Congo) to conduct financial management training for 121 diocesan and parish staff from the Diocese of Buta. Through this training, the diocese has prepared diocesan clergy and parish staff to manage development projects, social ministries, and parish resources, thereby becoming better and more effective ministers to those they serve.

By participating in the collection for the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa, you show your dedication to the growing African Church and its commitment to being good stewards of resources, building trust, and delivering the Gospel to all.

Please be generous through the offertory collection envelope or your parish's e-offertory platform. To learn more about the Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa, visit www.usccb.org/africa.



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Total Granted: \$2,669,600

PROGRAM AREA NUMBER OF GR	ANTS	GRANT AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
■ Leadership Formation	23	\$696,300	26.08%
Construction	16	\$617,700	23.14%
Church Capacity Support	18	\$428,600	16.06%
Communications	11	\$291,300	10.91%
Justice and Peace	8	\$242,500	9.08%
■ Clergy/Religious			
Continuing Education	4	\$107,500	4.03%
Evangelization	4	\$92,500	3.46%
■ Youth Ministry	3	\$83,200	3.12%
<ul><li>Religious Education and</li></ul>			
Catholic Schools	2	\$61,800	2.31%
■ Child Protection	2	\$48,200	1.81%

## **EXPENSES**

■ Grants and Donations	\$2,654,141	80.09%
Program Costs	\$430,944	13.00%
Promotions and		
Fundraising Expenses	\$149,345	4.51%
Administrative Expenses	\$77,305	2.33%
Allocations-Internal Grants	\$2,048	0.06%

Total Expenses \$3,313,783



## **SOLIDARITY FUND FOR THE CHURCH IN AFRICA**

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