



The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson  
Archdiocese of Indianapolis

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9 February 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your ongoing generous support of the annual **Black and Indian Mission Collection!** The Black and Indian Mission Collection, established as the first National Collection in 1874, has proven itself to be a successful vehicle for sharing the resources of the Church's members to provide for the needs of our African American, Native American, and Alaska Native brothers and sisters.

The **2026 Black and Indian Mission Collection will be taken up February 21-22.** As we embark on another year of evangelization in the African American, Native American and Alaska Native communities, everyone is encouraged to make a difference by offering their prayers for the fruitful support of the missions in the United States and to consider expressing concretely their Christian solidarity through sacrificial offerings.

We all agree that never have the needs for African American, Native American and Alaska Native communities been so great as during this time of economic uncertainty. History tells us that lasting change to a community can all come through faith, hope and charity. Please continue to support this mission of faith and hope by your most generous charity.

Your support provides the presence of missionaries here in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native missions, parishes, schools, religious education programs and the many, many diocesan programs and projects that strengthen the work of the Gospel. Your partnership places Bibles and catechetical materials in the hands of priests, consecrated men and women, and lay leaders. Your sacrifice impacts pastoral work across the country and addresses the need to train catechists, permanent deacons, and seminarians for future generations here in many of our neighborhoods and backyards. It is only through this constant generosity that evangelization efforts are multiplied a thousand-fold.

To learn more about the Black and Indian Missions and how your donations support religious education programs, Catholic schools and diocesan projects visit the BIMO website, <https://blackandindianmission.org>

Thank you again for your generous support.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson  
Archbishop of Indianapolis