



The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
Archdiocese of Indianapolis

1400 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367
317-236-1403

17 February 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As with each year, parishes in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis will take up the collection for ***Black and Indian Missions*** on the first Sunday of Lent, ***March 8-9, 2025***. This collection established in 1874 supports the evangelization efforts and faith formation in our African American, Native American, and Alaskan Native communities throughout the United States.

Your support provides the presence of “missionaries” in 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, religious, 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 to serve in our neighborhoods and often forgotten missions here in the U.S.

Funds are distributed through a grant process administered by the national Black and Indian Mission Office. In 2024 parishes and ministries in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis were awarded more a total of \$33,000.00 for faith formation of children, youth and adults at St. Rita Catholic Church, Holy Angels Catholic Church, and Holy Angels School. Archdiocesan Black Catholic Ministry also received funds to support the Black Catholic Women’s Advent Day of Reflection, and to send participants to the both the National Black Catholic Women’s Annual Convention, and the National Black Catholic Men’s Annual Convention.

The grace of the Holy Spirit and your prayerful generosity ensure the continuation of evangelization in our communities. Please be as generous as you can to the Black and Indian Missions Collection on March 8-9, 2025.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

+ *Charles C. Thompson*

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
Archbishop of Indianapolis