



United States
Conference of
Catholic Bishops

Secretariat of
Justice and Peace

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Dear Participants:

I offer my most profound prayers for all of you participating in the ***Catholic Social Teaching Certificate Program for Hispanic/Latino Regional Facilitators***. You represent over forty (arch)dioceses from twelve Episcopal Regions. I am delighted to know about your commitment to form yourselves and share in the social mission of the Church with your local communities.

The USCCB's Secretariat of Justice and Peace (SJP) mission includes promoting awareness of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) and advocacy opportunities to live the Baptismal call to love God and neighbor. SJP's work is guided by the Committees on Domestic Justice and Human Development, International Justice and Peace, Religious Liberty, and the Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism. We at SJP are committed to the importance of engaging and forming Catholics on the social mission of the Church in order to put their faith into practice through concrete actions.

I want to thank the National Catholic Association of Diocesan Directors for Hispanic Ministry (NACDDHM) for its valued collaboration in launching this initiative. I also want to thank the National Team of Hispanic/Latino CST Facilitators for working with NCADDHM's planning team to offer this formation opportunity, which seeks to equipped Hispanic/Latino Catholics to interpret the "signs of the times," put their faith into action, and engage with their local, state, and national elected officials to address pressing community needs and challenges.

May the Good Lord continue to inspire and strengthen your ministry, and may the studies on which you are embarking be a great source of guidance and support for your important work in the coming of God's Kingdom.

With every blessing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yohan Garcia".

Yohan Garcia
Catholic Social Teaching Education Manager
Secretariat of Justice and Peace
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops