

acn-canada.org info@acn-canada.org

## Dear Friends,

2022 will go down in history as a momentous year, factoring in the impact of the terrible war in Ukraine and the social and economic consequences of the pandemic.

That's why your faithfulness and generosity have meant all the more to us, enabling us to support the suffering Church's specific projects with over 140 million dollars in aid for the first time. We would like to thank you on behalf of our project partners around the world and also on behalf of all of us here at ACN.

Almost 10% of this aid went to Ukraine to enable priests and religious there to continue providing comfort and support to the faithful and to refugees amid the turmoil of war. And we still had more resources to enable us to carry out our mission elsewhere in the world.

It is with gratitude and humility that we see that the blessing of the Almighty has once again rested on our work, and that our benefactors have heard the cries of our oppressed brothers and sisters. This allows



#### 972 construction projects

Almost a third of all the construction projects we supported were churches or chapels. We also helped with the building and repair of convents, seminaries, presbyteries, and pastoral centers. 37% of these projects were in Africa, but we were also able to help in Eastern Europe, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East.

#### 1,872,240 Mass offerings

In 2022, almost 1.9 million Mass stipends were offered by our benefactors, meaning that every 17 seconds, Mass was being celebrated for their intentions somewhere in the world. You helped a total of 40,730 priests—that's one in every 10 worldwide!

#### 13,836 seminarians supported

One in every eight candidates for the priesthood was helped with their training by ACN in 2022. The majority of them were in Africa (7,894), which has the highest number of priestly vocations, but there were also 2,693 in Latin America, 1,622 in Asia, and 1,409 in Eastern Europe.

# 20,909 religious sisters were supported in their apostolate and/or training

ACN helped one in every 30 of the 619,456 religious sisters in the world—up from one in every 34 the previous year. We were able to help both contemplative and active sisters, supporting not only their life and ministry, but also their basic and ongoing formation, including spiritual retreats.

us to face the future with confidence, even though our help will continue to be needed for years to come.



Throng thein folden

Thomas Heine-Geldern International Executive President



Marie-Claude Lalonde National Director

27.8%	Construction
15.5%	Mass offerings
14.7%	Formation of priests and religious
11.5%	Refugee and emergency aid
11.0%	Pastoral transport
9.2%	Religious formation of the laity
6.4%	Subsistence support for religious sisters
3.9%	Religious literature and publications/Mass media

#### 1,253 pastoral vehicles

We provided 406 bicycles, 564 cars, 252 motorcycles, 16 boats, 11 buses, and 4 trucks for the pastoral work of the Church—particularly in Latin America and Africa.

#### 353 projects for Ukraine

In 2022, 13.2 million dollars went to support priests, religious, seminarians, and other Church workers helping refugees and others in dire need.

#### A total of 5,702 projects funded in 2022

This was 404 more than in 2021. We helped in 128 countries and in 1,199 dioceses—well over a third of the world's Catholic dioceses.

In 2022, we received 7,571 requests for help—more than in 2021. We have been able to support, or have pledged support for, 85% of these.

The smallest project we supported cost 400 dollars, for a program training spiritual directors in Colombia, while the biggest was for 1,359,700 dollars for the repair and renovation of a partly destroyed parish center in Iraq.

Among other things, we were able to support 33,821 catechists and lay pastoral workers. We also provided almost 1.3 million books, including Bibles, catechetical material, and other religious literature, half of which went to Latin America. The initial amounts were calculated in euros. The exchange rate used for Canadian dollars in this report is 1.3701 CAD.

### Summary

- Offices in 23 countries
- **364,695** benefactors worldwide
- \$200,028,422 in donations and legacies
- Project partners in 128 countries
- 5,702 projects supported worldwide
- 82.6% of donations used for mission-related expenditures

#### Our total revenue in 2022, from donations and legacies, amounted to just over 200 million dollars. With the additional 3.7 million dollars in reserves from the previous year, we were able to fund mission and related activities in the amount of 203.7 million dollars.

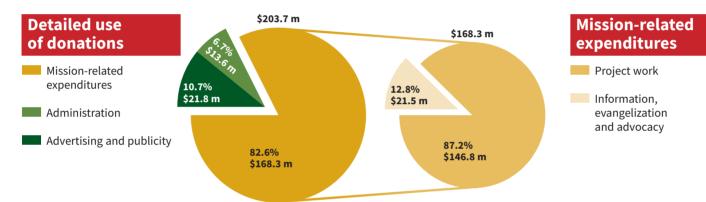
82.6% of these funds were allocated to mission-related expenditures, 87.2% of which went towards specific project work enabling us to respond positively to 5,702 of the 7,571 project requests received.

The remaining 12.8% was used towards information, evangelization, and advocating for persecuted Christians.

Essential administrative expenditures accounted for 6.7% of the total, while advertising and publicity accounted for 10.7%.

Once again in 2022, legacies accounted for a significant proportion of the support we received for the Church in need (37.5 million dollars). Along with our suffering brothers and sisters, we gratefully remember all our departed friends and benefactors in our prayers.

A detailed activities report is available on demand. These international financial statements have been audited and certified by PwC Canada (PricewaterhouseCoopers).



Other activities, not funded by donations (e.g., sale of religious literature and other items), yielded an additional revenue of \$6.6 million.



## A record in generosity

In ACN's 75<sup>th</sup> year of existence, your generosity has once again exceeded all bounds. You gave a total of 200 million dollars—3 million more than in the previous year.

We received an exceptionally high number of requests for help from Ukraine, where the Church is striving to meet the many spiritual, psychological, and material needs of its people in this time of war. So it is not surprising that 10% of our total aid went there, meaning our support for Central and Eastern Europe increased to 17.7% of the total.

In Africa, the number of Catholic faithful—and of priestly and religious vocations—continues to rise. At the same time, the spread of Islamist violence is a real cause for concern, meaning Africa remains a priority region for us. This is why in 2022, it received around 30% of our aid.

13.9% of our total aid went to Asia, where Christians are a minority in most countries, often suffering discrimination or even outright persecution.

The Middle East (18.1%) continues to urgently need our support, not least to halt the massive exodus of Christians. In 2022, we prioritized help for Syria and Lebanon. Our aid for Latin America increased to 16.7% (compared to 13.8% in 2021), as the Church here is also facing many challenges, including rural exodus, emigration, and the growth of sects and anti-Christian regimes.

Construction projects once again accounted for the biggest portion of our expenditure, amounting to almost one third of our aid. Our support for the formation of priests, religious, and laity increased to 24% of the total (compared to 19.5% in 2021). Mass offerings for priests and subsistence aid for religious sisters accounted for a further 22% of our help, while the remainder was divided between other forms of pastoral assistance (e.g., transport, religious books, the radio apostolate, and other forms of media work) and emergency aid in crisis situations.

For thousands of priests, religious, and laity, your support was an instrument of Divine Providence. You may be assured of their prayers and our heartfelt thanks!

