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Acronym

Ceama: Ecclesial Conference of the Amazon.

Cebitepal: Center for Biblical, Theological and Pastoral Formation of Celam.

CGC: Celam Knowledge Management Center.

Ceilac: Latin American and Caribbean Commission for Integral Ecology

Celam: Latin American and Caribbean Episcopal Council.

CPC: Center for Communication of Celam.

Ceprap: Center for Pastoral Action Programs and Networks of Celam.

Ecosoc: Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

Lacam: Network of Afrodescendant Women Catholic Leaders of the Americas

Oducual: Organization of Catholic Universities in Latin America and the Caribbean

Osmecca: Socio-pastoral Observatory of Human Mobility in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean

Pagaiceyna: Pastoral Garifuna Inculturated Central America and the Caribbean

PCAL: Pontifical Commission for Latin America

PCN: Child Centrality Program.

PEG: Global Education Pact

Reclac: Ecclesial Network of Communicators from Latin America and the Caribbean

Regchag: Ecclesial Network Gran Chaco Guarani Aquifer.

Remam: Ecclesial and Ecological Network of Mesoamerica.

Repam: Pan-Amazonian Ecclesial Network.

Reteis: Territorial Ecclesial Networks

Uniapac: International Union of Christian Business Leaders

News

Celam Delegation visited the United Nations Organization



Lizardo Estrada, visited the United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York to hold various meetings with the president of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc) and representatives of Mercy International, the Secretariat of Religions for Peace and the Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the UN. Bishop Estrada was accompanied by the director of the Knowledge Management Center, Guillermo Sandoval.

In the meeting held with Dr. Paula Narváez Ojeda, president of Ecosoc, a letter signed by the presidency of Celam was delivered, stating that “our presence here seeks to tell the international community that our Church wants to add its voice and its action to those who wish to strengthen the spaces for peace”.

During the meeting, some of the themes developed in the communication delivered were addressed: the crisis of democracy, migrations, integral ecology, the absence of land, roof and work for thousands of people, as well as “the need to walk together, so that dignity is not a luxury”. These issues are among the pains that the continental Church describes, studies and faces from the pastoral point of view and that in these spaces of political incidence for the international context it raises as a cause of struggle through institutional articulation.

“Our mission is not to take political sides in the partisan sense,” the communication states, making the caveat regarding the work of Celam which, for more than 60 years, has been aimed at “accompanying processes that allow for the enhancement of respect for the dignity of persons.”

From this perspective, the Celam presidency ratifies its desire to contribute to the construction of peace and human dignity. “We believe that this, which is the center of our social magisterium, is also a meeting point for all people of good will”, they say, convinced that “those who love peace seek and build justice”. For this reason, it is indicated that it is “a space where our Church and, we believe, all the Churches, are called to collaborate”.

Celam with the Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the UN and faith-based organizations



During his visit to the UN headquarters, Bishop Estrada, Secretary General of Celam, met with the Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, Monsignor Gabriele Caccia. It was a meeting of more than an hour where the work of the Latin American organization, its process of renewal and restructuring, the Ecclesial Assembly and the participation in the Synod of Synodality were explained.

Guillermo Sandoval presented the work of the Knowledge Management Center he directs and, in particular, reviewed the contents of the two recent documents on the Latin American reality

and migrations, produced by Redodsal and Universidad Alberto Hurtado, respectively.

Monsignor Caccia expressed his interest in the information received and stated that they are useful publications for his “activity in the different forums that take place within the United Nations”. He promised to study them and expressed his hope to receive new contributions.

The Celam delegation also held several meetings with faith-based organizations.

First, with the chairperson of the migration committee of the NGOs accredited to the UN, Cecilia Kern, of Mercy International Association. This organization brings together Catholic women who dedicate their lives to the Gospel of Jesus and take vows of poverty, chastity, obedience and service. Inspired by the life of Jesus and by the founder, Catherine McAuley.

On this occasion, there was a dialogue on migration processes in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Bishop Estrada then met with the Assistant Secretary General and Program Director of Religions for Peace, Deepika Singh. Religions for Peace is an interfaith organization with which Celam maintains cooperative relations.

During the meeting, the activities carried out by both religious institutions for the construction of justice as a foundation for peace were discussed. The Secretary General, Elias Szczytnicki, also participated in digital form.

Reclac: Ecclesial Network of Communicators of Latin America and the Caribbean (Reclac) is born



The Catholic Church in Latin America and the Caribbean announced on July 31 the creation of the Ecclesial Network of Communicators of Latin America and the Caribbean (Reclac), a space that will seek to integrate an articulated work between Celam, the Episcopal Conferences and other ecclesial organizations of the continent in the field of communications.

It is a dream that materialized during the Latin American and Caribbean meeting of communicators, held in Bogota from July 29 to 31 at the Celam headquarters, which was attended by 45 participants representing 16 Episcopal Conferences and 10 ecclesial organizations.

After three days of reflection, discernment, exchange of significant experiences and debates, the participants recognized that by coordinating efforts it is possible to contribute to the construction of a better society, with prophetic audacity and from the experiences, knowledge and expertise of each one, through collaborative networking.

To continue advancing in Reclac's reflection, its members identified six nuclei that will mark the work route to be followed: communication and ongoing training; territorial communication, prevention and crisis management; strategic communication and advocacy; pastoral communication; and financial support.

In this way, the Church adapts to the new changes demanded by the digital world and Artificial Intelligence, sharing and dialoguing on issues of faith, life and society. New members of the Episcopal Conferences and Church organizations related to the mission of the Church will be able to join the network.

More information: <https://adn.celam.org/iglesia-catolica-constituye-la-reclac-red-ecclesial-comunicadores-de-latinoamerica-y-el-caribe/>

The Network of Afrodescendant Catholic Women Leaders of the Americas (Lacam) is launched.



On July 25, International Day of Afro-Latino, Afro-Caribbean and Diaspora Women, the Network of Catholic Afrodescendant Women Leaders of the Americas (Lacam) was launched.

This network seeks to respond to current realities and challenges, based on “recognition of our contributions as transmitters of culture, faith, traditions, ancestral knowledge, values, care for the common home, spi-

rituality and capacity for resistance and resilience in making decisions about our lives, our communities and in the defense of our rights,” according to its members.

With the accompaniment of the Animating Commission of the Axis Women in the Church and Society of Celam and Clar, the coordinating team will be composed of representatives from each region of the continent: Vera López, from Brazil; Támara Barbará, from Argentina; Virginia Zegarra, from Peru; Nieves Méndez, from Ecuador; Eunice Meneses, from Panama; and Jessica Clarence, from Nicaragua.

“Our nature is to be caretakers and cultivators of the tenderness of creation; weavers of relationships, affection, dreams and projects, not only for ourselves, but for all those around us, especially those who are suffering and longing for better days,” say the members of this network, which was born as a result of the recent virtual meeting of Afro-descendant Catholic Women, held July 17-19, with the participation of 85 women from 11 countries of the continent.

The constitution of this space opens a horizon of work and organization for Catholic Afro-descendant women who, since the IX Afro-American and Caribbean Pastoral Meeting (EPA) held in Peru in 2003, had been considering their commitment to the creation of a network, which at the time was known as Afro-American Catholics in Integration (MACI). On this occasion, the main theme of this meeting was the role and participation of black women in the development and construction of the Americas, which can be understood as the first steps towards the constitution of the network that is now beginning its mission.

XXI Latin American Meeting of National Youth Pastoral Leaders



The XXI Latin American Meeting of National Youth Pastoral Leaders, held in Asunción, Paraguay, July 15-19, 2024, brought together leaders from 18 bishops' conferences, representatives of specific pastoral ministries, movements, networks, international organizations, and Celam. It was a unique opportunity to reflect and act on the contemporary challenges facing Latin America and the Caribbean youth.

The meeting theme, "I speak to you, arise!", inspired by Luke 7:14, resonated deeply among the participants. The biblical quote: "And he came and touched the bier, and those who bore it stood still. And he said, young man, to you I say, arise!" served as a call to action and spiritual renewal.

In this context, the community of youth leaders is committed to listening, discerning and transforming the way of doing Youth Ministry, facing with courage and creativity the changing realities of today's world. A call was made to be active protagonists in evangelization, not only through words but through concrete actions reflecting the Gospel's love and joy.

During the days of the meeting, through community discernment and spiritual conversation, concrete actions were outlined that sought to build the Civilization of Love, touching the wounds of God's people. The challenges identified range from marginality and social injustice to the climate crisis and the lack of articulation in pastoral efforts.

The process of listening to new youth realities made it possible to define key strategic needs: fostering the encounter with Christ and evangelization, promoting tools to accompany and welcome youth diversity, offering integral formation, using social networks for digital evangelization, and integrating social, economic and environmental issues into pastoral processes for sustainable development.

Special emphasis was placed on overcoming fear and comfort, practicing empathy and active listening to live the Gospel authentically. Building bridges and the centrality of human dignity were recurring themes, recalling that young people must go beyond the walls of the temples and take pastoral care to the peripheries.

The warm welcome of the Paraguayan people, with their dedication, love and service, was fundamental for the success of the meeting. Under the protection of the Virgin of Caacupé, the commitment to walk together towards a popular, prophetic, missionary and synodal youth ministry was renewed.

More information: <https://adn.celam.org/finalizo-xxi-encuentro-latinoamericano-de-pastoral-juvenil-nueva-conduccion-y-envio-sostenido-en-el-amor-y-el-compromiso-con-el-bien/>

<https://adn.celam.org/celam-presente-en-encuentro-de-pastoral-juvenil-latinoamericana-viven-una-espiritualidad-de-la-alegria-construyendo-la-tierra-prometida-permanentemente/>

Celam prepares regional meetings of Bishops' Conferences



Four meetings will be held in February and March 2025 to discuss common issues in each region of Latin America and the Caribbean and to advance in synodality processes. This has been coordinated in virtual meetings held with the Secretaries General of the Episcopal Conferences, who will participate accompanied by a group of members and collaborators of these organizations.

The meetings seek to emphasize the character of Celam as an episcopal space of service, to promote decentralization and the relevance of the actions developed, as well as ecclesial co-responsibility, following the document on Renewal and Restructuring of the Latin American and Caribbean organization.

We will also work on an analysis of the regional reality and coordination between the Global Plan 2023-2027 with national and regional initiatives. The project of regional meetings is based on the pedagogy of Jesus with the pilgrims to Emmaus, and after the first edition in 2025

will be evaluated to continue them with other instances where space is opened to the ecclesial and social, in a perspective of communion, participation and mission.

The schedule for these meetings is as follows: from February 24 to 27, the Central America-Mexico region, in San José, Costa Rica; from March 10 to 13, the Bolivarian countries region, in Lima; from March 17 to 21, the Caribbean region, in Santo Domingo; and from March 24 to 27, the Southern Cone region, in Argentina.

Meeting of the Pastoral Coordination Committee of Celam



On July 2 and 3, the second face-to-face meeting of the Pastoral Coordination Committee for 2024 was held at the Celam headquarters in Bogota. This is an instance of articulation between the four Pastoral Centers that favors the integration, evaluation and projection of the Global Plan in force for the period 2023 - 2027.

The Coordination Committee meets at least twice a month virtually, and three times a year physically, being a very important instance to evaluate and program the Celam's progress in light of the Global Plan.

Gloria Liliana Franco, president of CLAR, was invited to illuminate the beginning of the meeting with a spiritual meditation, followed by a moment of conversation in the Spirit on progress and challenges for articulation.

Each center presented an executive report evaluating their progress in light of the global plan; the progress of the transversal projects (integral ecology, global educational pact, missionary discipleship itineraries and the Synodal Church on the move) was discussed; regional meetings were scheduled; bilateral meetings were held among the centers and budgetary and evaluation issues were discussed.

According to the Celam statutes, the Pastoral Coordination Committee “is made up of the president, who presides over it, the general secretary who coordinates it, each of the coordinating bishops of the Councils of the Pastoral Centers, the director of each Pastoral Center, the assistant general secretary for pastoral work and the director of planning”. On this occasion, one more member of each Center and the person in charge of the Administration and Finance Department also participated in the meeting.

Diploma in Care and Protection of Children, Adolescents and Vulnerable People is a classroom training experience.

Since July 3, at the Celam headquarters, 28 people from 12 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Spain) have been participating in the activities of the Diploma in Care and Protection of Children, Adolescents and Vulnerable Persons.

Jorge Carlos Patrón, Metropolitan Archbishop of Xalapa in Mexico and coordinating bishop of Cebitopal; Bishop Lizardo Estrada Herrera, secretary general of Celam; Fr. Pedro Brassesco, assistant secretary general

of Celam; Fr. Fabio Antunes, director of Cebitepal; Sofía Brizuela, academic secretary of Cebitepal; for CLAR, Sister Liliana Franco, president; Sister Daniela Cannavina, general secretary; as well as Fr. Jesús García, coordinator of the Diploma.



Lizardo greeted the attendees and noted that this space shows the joint commitment of the two institutions to promote respect for human dignity to find effective ways to protect and care for the most vulnerable.

Liliana considered that caring for human dignity and the common good should be the horizon that inspires and animates the life of every Christian. She observed that everyone, faithful to Christian identity, must be like the Samaritan and become “guardians of the human”, where life is cared for and respected, especially care for the most fragile.

“There are no truces, the mission is care, to be and to situate ourselves as artisans of care and that has consequences. Assuming the consequences of this mission entrusted to us will mean that we will have to get out of our comfort zone, that we will have to go to the other side, to the sidewalk in front, that we will feel called to this permanent care for him,” said the nun.

The diploma course, organized in collaboration between Celam, Cebitepal and the Clar, aims to form ecclesial leaders committed to the prevention of all types of abuse within ecclesial communities and religious congregations. This training program for the pastoral care of victims of abuse with a close and professional approach and a sense of community will be held in person until September 20.

Secretary General of Celam present at the beginning of the Plenary Assembly of the Bishops of Colombia



Bishop Lizardo Estrada Herrera, Secretary General of Celam, was present at the inaugural session of the 117th Plenary Assembly of the Episcopal Conference of Colombia on July 1. In his greeting, the bishop expressed his desire that the “meeting be an opportunity to grow in communion and to discern together the will of the Lord for the Church on pilgrimage in Colombia”.

At the same time, he reiterated his gratitude for the visit that the Colombian bishops paid to Celam during their assembly last February. “I want to reiterate our gratitude for that opportunity, which has allowed us to get to know each other better and has encouraged us to renew the character of service to the episcopates that Celam has had since its foundation almost 70 years ago,” he said.

He also expressed his gratitude for the joint work being carried out by the two institutions, with concrete actions such as the COP 16 to be held in the city of Cali, the organization of the Latin American and Caribbean Meetings for the Culture of Care in Bogota, and other pastoral actions and training initiatives which, he said, “are signs of brotherhood and communion”.

Finally, he recalled that “it is always a challenge and a richness to broaden our gaze beyond the borders of our diocese or country. We are the Church of Christ in this continent united by special historical and cultural bonds, with a diversity that emerges from the inculturation of the Good News in the communities that make it up, but the same People of God inserted in the joys and sorrows of the Latin American reality”.

Virtual meeting with organized communities in Latin America and the Caribbean

Convened by the Ecclesial Network for Justice and Peace in the Patria Grande and Celam, 22 representatives from 13 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean and 38 leaders of popular organizations met virtually to get to know each other and begin a journey together around the 4 “T’s” proposed by Pope Francis: roof, work, land and technology.

On behalf of Card. Michael Czerny, prefect of the Dicastery for the Service of Integral Human Development, Fr. Patricio Sarlat sent a message in which he emphasized that the meeting was held to strengthen the

dialogue between the popular movements inspired by the Gospels and the encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*.

“Pope Francis calls you social poets because you have the ability and courage to create hope where there is only discarding and exclusion. Poetry means creativity, and you create hope,” he added.



Msgr. Lizardo Estrada, secretary general of Celam, also welcomed this initiative, whose objective is “to recognize and build a good life in abundance for all,” because “we are convinced that all work is dignified and constitutes a fundamental pillar for social cohesion,” he said.

“We admire the work you do in those contexts where the State is absent or does not fully comply with its obligations, ensuring rights that have been neglected by the authorities,” the bishop said.

In her turn, Dr. Emilce Cuda, secretary of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, who inspired this meeting, said that it is “in hope that we wanted to emphasize for this meeting, how to collaborate in the organization of an entire continent that continues to be hopeful and is already organized”. He added that it is about networking all the organi-

zations, which are communities organized for their rights to a dignified life and where there is an enormous amount of knowledge. “That is why the Celam has opened a new space which is the Network of Organized Communities”, he emphasized.

Finally, he stressed that the way of the Church, as expressed by Pope Francis, is first unity and then strategy. That is why this is an important place to get to know each other and walk together.

Celam participated in the international meeting of digital evangelizers “Acts 29”.



Fr. Pedro Brassesco, assistant secretary general of Celam, participated on behalf of the organization in the international meeting of creators of digital content with a Catholic focus “Acts 29”, held at the headquarters of the Episcopal Conference of Colombia from July 9 to 15, under the theme “Being and Doing Church”.

It was a space for fraternity, listening, spirituality and formation, which brought together 130 digital evangelizers from 21 countries of Latin America, the United States, Spain and Italy in Bogota. Although it was the fifth version, it was the first time that an Episcopal Conference hosted it.

The event closed with a music and worship festival attended by more than 1,700 people. In addition to the evangelists, members of music ministries and lay faithful from different areas of the country participated, who accepted the call to join 'Acts 29' through this space.

Msgr. Lucio Ruiz, Secretary of the Dicastery for Communication of the Holy See, shared with the participants the process of the Digital Synod and some ideas associated with the essential meaning of its mission from a theological point of view.

Fr. Brassesco made a positive assessment of the day, not only because "we met in person, which always generates a relationship", but also because it is an opportunity to continue "strengthening the digital mission".

"Digital missionaries generally work very alone, although they belong to a community, their work is individual because many times the people with whom they are linked are at a distance," he mentioned.

Of course, he stressed that the bishops unreservedly accompany this reality, because "evangelization is at the heart of the Church, it is essential, therefore, it is also a duty of Celam, which brings together the bishops of the continent, to be close".

One of the priorities of the meeting was to sensitize and empower content creators about the importance of their role as digital missionaries; a mission that transcends those tools and technological platforms that have allowed them to have an important reception and impact; that appeals much more to the human, the cultural and the theological; and where their audiences or followers should be considered true communities of faith.

Latin American course for seminar trainers held in Mexico



The Organization of Latin American Seminaries (Oslam), in collaboration with the Latin American and Caribbean Episcopal Council (Celam), held the 45th version of the Latin American Course for Formators in Toluca (Mexico) from July 1 to 19, 2024.

There were 33 participants, including a deacon, who for three weeks shared “the joy of priestly witness”, guided by experts in pedagogy, psychology and formation itineraries. They also deepened their theological and pastoral reflection on priestly formation in seminaries and promoted the exchange of experiences and good practices among formators from different regions.

Bishop Lizardo Estrada, Secretary General of Celam, welcomed the initiative of Oslam highlighting “this effort that seeks to enrich the formation in seminaries” of Latin America, especially of the youngest. He mentioned that during this formation process, tools have been provided that “will allow them to strengthen their skills and competencies in the teaching of synodality”, assuring that this experience and knowledge will be of great value for their development and that of the seminarians they guide.

Bishop Estrada visits Scalabrinians in New York City



Bishop Lizardo Estrada, Secretary General of Celam, held a meeting with superiors of the Scalabrinian Family in the United States, during which they discussed the work developed jointly and new possibilities for collaboration.

Bishop Estrada handed a copy of the recent research of the Socio Anthropological and Pastoral Observatory of the CGC of Celam on migrations. The Provincial Superior of the Scalabrinians thanked him and commented that he is preparing the next meeting of the General Chapter of his congregation, for which he would use this document for the paper to be presented at the global meeting of this religious order.

CGC Director with Vivat International



Daniel Le Blanc, a Canadian who lived in Peru for several years and is currently a director of Vivat International, paid a visit to Guillermo Sandoval, director of the Knowledge Management Center.

This was an opportunity to discuss the work of Celam in recent years, the scope and teachings of the Ecclesial Assembly and the synodal process in the region.

Vivat International works with individuals and groups living in poverty of any kind, sharing their efforts for the restoration and preservation of well-being, dignity and freedom. It promotes human rights, sustainable development, understanding and harmony among peoples, cultures, classes, religions and beliefs. It also strives for the creation of a global society and local communities that foster inclusion and participation for all.

It works for ecological sustainability, the protection of biodiversity and the preservation of the planet's wealth for future generations and recognizes that the United Nations is an important forum for collaboration with others in the world who share these goals. Vivat, therefore, seeks to collaborate with the United Nations, as well as with other agencies and NGOs. It hosts 12 religious congregations and represents Repam and Ceama at the United Nations.

Day of theological reflection on the culture and spirituality of the Garifuna people



“Clues from the history of salvation: knowing the God of our ancestors” was the theme of the second session of the Garifuna theological reflection day held virtually on July 20.

Sister Suyapa Cacho, coordinator of the Regional Inculturated Garifuna Pastoral, emphasized that “it was an opportunity to follow up on one of the challenges of the first Regional Garifuna Ecclesial Assembly held in

July 2022; based on the motivation of the first Latin American Ecclesial Assembly”.

“We count on the recognition, accompaniment and advice of Celam through Cepar, Cebitepal and the Center for Communication,” she said.

He indicated that it was an inclusive meeting and “an opportunity to know the history of the Garifuna people of God. We were invited to carry out a process in the living of synodality because we have been gathered and sent by the Trinity, connected in the testimony of ecclesial fraternity and dedication to the service of the last ones”.

Regarding the challenges and perspectives for the Garifuna pastoral he highlighted:

1. To maintain from the hierarchy of the church in Latin America the permanent Garifuna theological reflection taking into account its own charisma as a contribution to evangelization.
2. Involve and integrate ourselves in evangelization as ecclesial subjects with our ancestral charisms and history and contribute to the formation of a synodal church from our diversity.
3. To be an outgoing synodal Church open to an intercultural and intercultural evangelization.
4. To be trained in the process of holistic, inculturated and intercultural evangelization.
5. To understand a deeper evangelization from the different cultural contexts; encouraging a lively exchange between the Church and the different cultures (GS 44); referring to the particularity of the “place” and the needs of ecclesial communion (at the different levels).
6. To understand the social, cultural, educational and ecclesial reality of the Garifuna peoples as a “sacred land”.

“The Jubilee will be an occasion to intensify the spirituality that flows from the liturgy.”



Raising the urgency of liturgical spirituality in the life of the Church and its pastoral challenges was one of the objectives of the VII International Congress on Liturgy and Pastoral Care held on July 18 and 19 in Medellín.

During the first day, the lectures focused on the relationship between liturgical spirituality and pastoral ministry, the Eucharistic prayer as a model of Christian prayer and the historical approach to the teachings of the Babylonian exile regarding the worship of Jerusalem.

Lizardo Estrada, Secretary General of Celam, was one of the guests invited to share his reflections at the event organized by the Pontifical Bolivarian University and the Archdiocese of Medellín. In his first intervention, Bishop Estrada affirmed that “the spirituality that flows from the liturgy nourishes the pastoral life of the Church, at the same time orienting its activity”; which leads the person “towards the encounter

with the Lord who makes himself present in the sacramental actualization of his paschal mystery”.

He emphasized that the “living celebration of all the liturgical actions gradually shapes a Christian life by the celebrated mystery”.

In this sense, Bishop Estrada pointed out that one could describe as the essence of Christian spirituality the general attitude of the spiritual man, with which he builds, in faith, his own life, human and spiritual, starting from the celebration of the mystery of Christ. Hence the importance of understanding that such an “inner attitude is inseparable from his action”.

Bishop Estrada closed his speech by advocating that the upcoming Jubilee be a privileged occasion to “intensify the prayer and spirituality that flows from the liturgy so that we can deepen our faith and commitment to the proclamation of the Gospel in the different environments in which we are called to live”.

V International Colloquium on the Thought of Ignacio Ellacuría



The “V International Colloquium on the Thought of Ignacio Ellacuría. Peace, reconciliation and social justice: Interpellations to the legacy of

Ignacio Ellacuría today,” was held at the Pontifical Javeriana University in Bogota. About twenty professors who have been researching the theological thought of the martyr Ignacio Ellacuría for several years participated. The activity was supported by the Center for Knowledge Management of Celam.

During the previous year, this group held a colloquium linking Ellacuría’s thought with social movements, which resulted in a book co-published by Editorial Celam and Sal Terrae.

Participants in the Colloquium, held July 2-6, included José Sols, Martín Meier, Rodrigo Castillo, Robert Lasalle-Klein, Juan Antonio Sennent, Enrique Téllez and Daniel Vilches.

The next meeting of this group will be held in Berkeley, California, in June or July 2025.

Celam's journey in June



Bishop Jorge Carlos Patrón participated in meetings of Celam and the Diploma in Protection. Between July 1 and 4, Bishop Jorge Carlos Patrón, coordinating bishop of Cebitepal, participated in various meetings at the Celam headquarters in Bogota. He also attended the opening session of the face-to-face stage of the Diploma in Care and Protection of Children, Adolescents and Vulnerable Persons. He also took part in the coordination meeting of the councils of the Celam Centers and the Cebitepal work teams.

Process on the presence of the Church at COP 16. On July 4, the technical coordination team was established with the presence of the Laudato Si' Movement, Caritas Latin America and the Caribbean, Celam (represented by Ceparap and CPC), Pastoral Social Caritas Colombia, Repam Colombia and Caritas Norway. As part of the actions for COP 16, it was reported that about ten events have been registered, including one as Integral Ecology Network. The Catholic Church will hold a pre-COP in Bogota in September with the theme "Peace with Nature," there will also be a diploma course with the ecumenical network "Arti-

ficers of Peace with Nature,” and on October 27 there will be a spiritual retreat with the theme “Faith for Biodiversity.”

Resource Management for a Church in Action. The virtual course workshop “Resource Management for a Church in Action”, held from July 1 to 5, gathered 63 participants and provided effective strategies to optimize resources and develop pastoral projects that generate a greater impact in the communities.

Meeting of the Coordinating Commission of the Inculturated Garifuna Pastoral of Central and North America (Pagaiceyna). In the meeting held on July 5, the prioritized aspects of the work plan were reviewed: a day of theological reflection to be held on the anniversary of the Garifuna Ecclesial Assembly, in alliance with Cebitepal; advances in the document for the initiative to promote the Afro Pastoral and the steps in the initiative for the formation of Caritas Garifuna.

The progress of the Native Peoples Commission. A document was prepared and presented as a contribution to the Synod. The articulation with the Episcopal Conferences, the liaison with the Indian Theology Commission, the strengthening of ties with the Indigenous Peoples of Ceama, and the relations with the Territorial Networks and some civil society organizations continued to be strengthened. Progress is being made in the process of configuring the commissions by region. It was also decided to take the memory of Latacunga to strengthen the strategic framework of the Commission and to give continuity to the Campaign of the Original Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Garifuna Pastoral Commission. At the July 5 meeting, progress was made in the process of integrating the commission of theologians and in the preparation of the July 20 virtual meeting to celebrate the third anniversary of the Garifuna Pastoral.

A rereading of Mary Magdalene through women’s eyes. Until August 8, Cebitepal offers the virtual course “Mary Magdalene: Re-reading Texts and Traditions from a Feminine Perspective”, which invites you to delve into a part of the history of the Christian faith that is as relevant as it is current. With the proposal to read the Bible ‘with a woman’s

eyes', the biblical spirituality course delves into the historical and theological reconstruction of Mary Magdalene, seeking to restore the truth about her life with Jesus and in the early Christian communities.

Expanded Dynamizing Commission of the Human Rights / Peace / Democracy Platform. At the July 8 meeting, the Strategic Framework document was presented, in which the four sub-commissions elaborated their proposals. It was reported on the registration of a side event for the COP 16 on Water, Land and Territory, incorporating popular organizations, especially those in the territories. It was considered necessary to generate actions that transmit the hope of this walk together and move on to articulated action, including the Water Campaign.

Ceilac Assembly on COP 16. Twenty-five assembly members participated in the July 9 meeting. The process carried out and the coordination with Church and civil society organizations through a dynamic commission were presented. They commented on the eco-parishes project and asked that this process be systematic and progressive, and that progress be made towards the creation of an Ecclesial Ministry for the Care of the Common Home. It was also requested to participate in the other COPs that are being planned, as well as in the activities of the Platform for Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue. A political-pastoral message will be elaborated and positioned.

Meeting of the Defenders Commission of the Human Rights / Peace / Democracy Platform. Held on July 9, it was analyzed that it is urgent to complete the mapping and to work in coordination with other platforms and networks. Organize the Institutional Directory. Training on digital security is going to be initiated and it is evaluated to move forward in three areas: social defenselessness, disarticulation of organizations, and impunity. In training, we must respond to what people are asking for and there may be two workshops, one in August on the Escazú document and another in February 2025 on security and artificial intelligence.

Meeting of the Ceprap Council. Held virtually on July 9, the meeting discussed the National Eucharistic Congress, the celebration of the Jubilee of Hope, and the Meeting of Platforms and Networks. Ceprap must continue to be an animator of the Church's articulation, seeking to coordinate with civil society to influence the States.

Meeting of the Family Pastoral Network of the Episcopal Conferences. The CGC explained the functioning of the Celam Library and it was proposed that there should be a more specific classification by different situations. On the other hand, it was decided to schedule webinars on topics of interest. A second meeting was also planned for 2026, oriented towards formation and with the possibility of being held by regions. The integration of the dynamic commission was discussed.

Face-to-face meeting of the Coordination Commission of the Episcopal Conference of Colombia on COP 16. Information was provided on the *side events* programmed, the Pre-COP, the need to organize a logistics commission, and the draft of an instructive document. A communication commission was formed to build a communication strategy and policy. Finally, the creation of a team of volunteers for various activities was considered.

Virtual meeting of the Episcopal Commissions for Catechesis. Held on July 10, it was suggested to send a motivational letter to the Episcopal Conferences on the importance of Christian initiation, so that the pastoral processes can be revitalized. The organization of a diploma course on Christian initiation from Cebitepal was analyzed and the importance of the processes coming from below and guaranteeing an itinerary was discussed, while it was proposed to generate a proposal-subsidies to celebrate the catechist's day. Finally, the need to start thinking about how to celebrate the Jubilee was recalled.

Meeting of the Animating Commission of the Women's Axis with the Team of the Ecuadorian Episcopal Conference, Caritas Ecuador and the Ecuadorian Conference of Religious. To continue the preparation of the First Meeting of Women of the Bolivarian Region, organized by the Animating Commission of the Axis Women in Society

and the Church of Celam, a meeting was held with the participation of Fr. Luis Enrique Umaña, assistant secretary of the Ecuadorian Episcopal Conference; Gloria Guevara, coordinator of Caritas Ecuador; and representatives of the Ecuadorian Conference of Religious. Progress was made in the construction of agreements for the logistical and methodological coordination of the Encounter to be held in November 2024.

Meeting with the Selacc Gender team. This was a space for fraternal dialogue held on July 27, in which the strategic plans of both processes were shared. The Selacc gender group works in two dimensions: (1) gender-based violence and gender equity: sensitization, advocacy and training; (2) mainstreaming: creating spaces, organization and participation in decision-making and systematization of the Caritas experience. It was agreed to start working on a common exercise within the framework of the “International Day for Women in the Agricultural Sector and their Contribution to the Right to Food: Women’s Leading Role in the Care of Creation”, to be held in October.

IV Meeting of Remam Women. Held on July 23, talents and gifts that each one of them has placed at the service of parishes, communities, families and the network since baptism were shared. Services that they recognize as privileges and opportunities, but that in the church and society are invisible. In the light of the Word and diverse experiences, they shared harvests, fruits, and achievements, as well as the shadows, difficulties, and obstacles they faced along the way. In conclusion, they recognized the need to have an integral ecology in catechesis and vocational formation and to open parish spaces for pastoral experiences based on ecology and women. There is sadness and rejection for the non-recognition of the female diaconate; but also, the conviction and commitment to continue the journey of transforming pains and realities towards the achievement of equality and equity, with courage, as full women, with resilience, with recognition, solidarity and commitment among women who support or make church.

Economies Platform Assembly. At the July 23 meeting, progress was made on the platform document that will be finalized by the end of August. The articulation commission shared the description of its proposal: “Formation and pastoral process of Latin American and Caribbean youth”, to create a network of Latin American youth linked to the Ceparap Platform of Economies, which can promote and multiply pastoral processes in their respective Episcopal Conferences. The activities of the other commissions were also shared: formation, communication and knowledge. Finally, a review of the data, collected in the letters sent, was requested to formalize the participation of the organizations in the platform.

Meeting of the Advocacy Commission of the Laudate Deum Route, on the way to COP 16. There has been an excellent participation of the various organizations that make up this commission of Ceilac. Each one of them is working on different training, awareness and advocacy activities. Some common strategies are already underway: materials prepared by the organizations that can be used by all; the document for advocacy that is prepared by the Commission of Experts; organizing a descriptive document of the existing organization and what the four commissions are doing (advocacy, document, communications and logistics).

Meeting of the Commission of Indigenous, Afro, and Garifuna Peoples of the Remam. It was a fruitful meeting that allowed dialogue around the experiences and challenges to live inculturation from the spiritualities of the diversity of peoples. In the case of Guatemala, it was an opportune moment for Remam and the commission to support this effort with ecology as a point of unity, to find the seeds of the Word in all cultures.

Meeting of the Commission of Indigenous, Afro and Garifuna Peoples. It took place within the framework of Remam’s strategic plan. Its objective was to generate a space for meetings, discernment, and proposal of the commission’s work plan, which will also serve as input for future projects, for the financing of the network and the consolidation

of the advanced work. The meeting made it possible to learn about the realities faced by the peoples and the pastoral ministries and to identify common points. The agreed work plan has the following objectives: (1) to promote socio-environmental justice from and with the face of the native, Garifuna and Afro-descendant peoples in Mesoamerica, for the care of life and the Common House; (2) to recognize and vindicate in practice the spirituality and self-determination of the peoples, which guarantees the protection and care of the land and territories for a dignified life. (3) to strengthen the ties of the ecclesial community-based processes based on synodality, in order to have political influence in civil society, government and church spaces, at the local, national, regional and international levels. (4) to empower the youth of Mesoamerica in the millenary cultures, so that from this identity they can take care of the common home, recognize themselves and act as subjects of rights. As main strategies: organization and articulation, training processes - education from the millenary cultures, participation /incidence.

III Meeting of the Women's Pastoral of the Archdiocese of Cusco. The meeting was focused on providing feedback on the action plan of the Pastoral Commission for Women, which is framed in the Global Plan of the Archdiocese from the area of Koinonia. Contributions were shared to strengthen the pastoral plan in the diagnosis, mission, goals and activities, from the foundations provided in the work material. The pastoral keys, condition and position of women and men in society were discussed to illuminate and support the reflections, together with the subsidies that have been made in the framework of the Virtual Formation cycle of the Animating Commission of the Axis Women in the Church and Society.

First Meeting of Native Youth of Mesoamerica. The initiative arose from the dialogue between the people responsible for the indigenous or native pastoral of Mexico and Panama, to open a space to listen to the Mesoamerican youth about their situation. A joint initiative was agreed between Ceparap, the Episcopal Dimension for the Pastoral Care of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Mexicans and the National Commission for Indigenous Pastoral Care of Panama, to convene young people from

the 8 countries and start listening to them. Thirty young people from 6 countries participated and shared their social and ecclesial processes and realities. A core team of young people was formed to design and develop the process to strengthen the generational relay and the voice and representation of Indigenous youth from their own identity in church processes.

Assembly of the Justice and Peace Network of the Patria Grande. Progress was made in the preparation of the September face-to-face meeting, agreeing on the topics to be presented: political situation, democracy and justice in the countries, impacts of climate change and the disappearance of decent work. Other topics to be analyzed during the meeting are: the evaluation of the work of the network and how to continue with the popular movements. The opening to other groups such as trade unions, SMEs, etc. was also discussed. Actions for the Network were through Democracy Observatory, analysis and projections of the work done in Ceilac and how to integrate the grassroots and communities. Analysis and projections of the work done by the Peace, Democracy and Human Rights Platform. Relations with Jupax Europe, Dicastery for the Service of Integral Human Development, Cepar, and others. During August they will meet by region to prepare the presentations. They will make a program proposal that includes these elements and present it to the ad hoc team.

Messages

Final Message of the XXI Latin American Meeting of National Youth Pastoral Leaders

“And he drew near, and touched the bier; and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, arise” (Luke 7:14).

“I am speaking to you, stand up!” is the motto that has brought together national leaders from 18 bishops’ conferences, representatives of specific pastoral ministries, movements, networks, international organizations and Celam at the XXI Latin American Meeting of National Youth Pastoral Leaders in Asunción, Paraguay, from July 15 to 19, 2024.

We accepted this challenge to approach in communion with the different realities of Latin America and the Caribbean, to listen, discern and generate a conversion in our way of doing Youth Ministry. We were all challenged by the different realities of today’s world, and we feel called to be protagonists in evangelization, not only with words but with concrete actions that reflect the love and joy of the Gospel.

Through community discernment and spiritual conversation, we have been able to make an option for concrete actions that allow us to continue building the Civilization of Love, touching the suffering flesh of God’s people. Our Church must take on the present challenges of marginality, social injustice, climate crisis and lack of articulation to accompany everyone, everyone, everyone, as Pope Francis says.

Thanks to the process of listening to new faces and realities, the following were defined as strategic needs: (1) fostering the encounter with Christ and evangelization; (2) the promotion of tools to accompany and welcome the pluralities existing in the young world; (3) integral formation; (4) the use of social networks for digital evangelization

and; (5) the integration of social, economic and environmental issues in our pastoral processes for sustainable development.

It is necessary to overcome fear and comfort, to practice empathy and active listening to live the Gospel, build bridges with the other, and remember that human dignity must be a transversal axis that puts the peripheries at the center. The youth that accompanies the Youth Ministry of our continent must go beyond the walls of our temples. We are deeply grateful for the welcome of the Paraguayan people, their dedication, love and service have made it possible to reap the fruits of this meeting. It is time for “Jajapo” which in Guarani means “let’s do”.

Under the protection of the Virgin of Caacupé, let us walk together towards a popular, prophetic, missionary and synodal youth ministry.

See you on the road!

Publications

Progress and setbacks in the human, social and environmental development of societies in Latin America and the Caribbean (2022-2023)



The analysis of the state of Latin America and the Caribbean presented in this report renews the concern and the impetus to continue demanding structural changes in the face of the inequalities and exclusions that our region has historically experienced, which in turn continue to exist and deepen despite the end of the Covid-19 pandemic. Data from international organizations and think tanks, which are compiled in this document, show that the central governments of the countries of the region could not overcome the serious effects of COVID-19. It is evident that, if we maintain the current structures, inequity and the discarding of people will continue to deepen, as well as the damage to our common home.

In this analysis, we will find data regarding the consequences, still in force, of the health crisis that originated in 2020, and at the same time, the actions implemented by the States to prevent the disaster from being much worse. However, it is evident that this action did not manage

to improve the quantity and quality of jobs; on the contrary, labor informality rates and inflation increased, aggravating access to different services and/or basic human rights.

This Working Paper was prepared within the framework of a grant agreement between Celam and the Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina-Observatorio de la Deuda Social Argentina, to whom the intellectual property belongs jointly. Its purpose is to document the implementation of the research project: Progress and setbacks in the human, social and environmental development of Latin American and Caribbean societies (2022-2023).

DOWNLOAD THE DOCUMENT.

[ENGLISH](#)

[PORTUGUESE](#)

[ENGLISH](#)

New migration contexts since the pandemic: a statistical overview in Latin America and the Caribbean

As we read this new report on migration in Latin America and the Caribbean, which complements and updates the 2022 report, we observe with pain and shame, the regional reality. We know, at the same time, that it has been studied with rigorous academic rigor. But, also and simultaneously, we can express with satisfaction the contribution of at least four major policy proposals for decision-makers and for society to accept them in conscience and adopt measures aimed at overcoming the conditions in which we have submerged Christ himself, whose face we see in every man, every woman, every child and adolescent migrant.



In 2022 our CPG's Socio Anthropological and Pastoral Observatory contributed ethnographic information, based on field data collected in 16 countries, in its qualitative study on migration in times of pandemic. Two years later, we observed that the pandemic did not stop migration flows, but rather reconfigured their dynamics. Border closures generated humanitarian crises.

[Download the study here.](#)

Episcopal appointments

- July 3rd: Pope Francis appointed Archbishop Oscar Roberto Domínguez Couttolenc, M.G., metropolitan archbishop of the Archdiocese of Tulancingo (Mexico), transferring him from the Diocese of Ecatepec.
- July 3rd: Pope Francis appointed Bishop Juan Pedro Juárez Meléndez, bishop of Tula, Hidalgo, Mexico, as apostolic administrator of the diocese of Atalcomulco (Mexico).
- July 4th: Pope Francis appointed Archbishop Jaime Calderón Calderón, until now bishop of Tapachula, as metropolitan archbishop of León (Mexico).
- July 5th: Pope Francis appointed as bishop of the diocese of Quibdó (Colombia) Father Wiston Mosquera Moreno, of the clergy of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Cali (Colombia), until now vicar general and pastor of the Cathedral of St. Peter the Apostle.
- July 5th: Pope Francis appointed Father William Prieto Daza, of the clergy of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Villavicencio (Colombia), until now pastor of Nuestra Señora del Carmen in Restrepo, as bishop of the diocese of San Vicente del Caguán (Colombia).
- July 9th: Pope Francis appointed Archbishop Mark Gerard Miles, titular archbishop of Città Ducale, until now apostolic nuncio to Benin and Togo, as apostolic nuncio to Costa Rica.
- July 10th: Pope Francis appointed as apostolic administrator sede vacante et ad nutum Sanctæ Sedis of the Eparchy of Our Lady of the Martyrs of Lebanon in Mexico of the Maronites, Rev. Elie Mikhael, until now pastor of Saint Anthony Maronite Parish in Lawrence, Massachusetts (USA).

- July 11th: Pope Francis appointed Bishop Orlando Olave Villanoba as bishop of Ocaña (Colombia), transferring him from the diocese of Tumaco.
- July 11th: Pope Francis appointed Bishop Valdemir Vicente Andrade Santos as bishop of the diocese of Juazeiro (Brazil), transferring him from the titular Episcopal See of Castabala and the office of auxiliary of Fortaleza.
- July 22nd: Pope Francis appointed Monsignor Vicente Bokalic Iglíc, C.M., until now bishop of the same see, as first archbishop of Santiago del Estero (Argentina), granting him the title of Primate of Argentina, until now exercised by the archbishop pro tempore of Buenos Aires.
- July 29th: Pope Francis appointed Bishop Edmilson Tadeu Canavarros dos Santos, S.D.B., auxiliary bishop of Manaus, Brazil, as Apostolic Administrator of Itacoatiara, Amazonas, Brazil.

Resignations

- July 1st: Pope Francis accepted the resignation from the pastoral government of the Territorial Prelature of Caravelí (Peru), presented by Bishop Reinhold Nann.
- July 3rd: Pope Francis accepted the resignation from the pastoral government of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Tulancingo (Mexico), presented by Bishop Domingo Diaz Martinez.
- July 3rd: The Holy Father accepted the resignation from the pastoral government of the diocese of Atalcomulco (Mexico), presented by Bishop Juan Odilón Martínez García.
- July 4th: Pope Francis accepted the resignation from the pastoral government of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Leon (Mexico), presented by Bishop Alfonso Cortes Contreras.
- July 10th: Pope Francis accepted the resignation from the pastoral government of the Eparchy of Our Lady of the Martyrs of Le-

banon in Mexico of the Maronites (Mexico) presented by Msgr. Georges M. Saad Abi Younes, O.L.M.

- July 20th: Pope Francis accepted the resignation from the pastoral government of the Apostolic Vicariate of Tierradentro (Colombia), presented by Bishop Oscar Augusto Múnera Ochoa.

Deaths

- José de Jesús Nuñez Vilorio, bishop emeritus of Ciudad Guayana, Venezuela.

Invitations and announcements

Synodal Theology Congress will also be available in social networks



Approximately 200 participants attended the Synodal Theological Congress held from August 9-11. Also, about 50 universities were officially represented at the Congress. The transmission of the main sessions of the Congress are available through Celam's social networks.

The program included presentations and panels with the participation of prominent theologians from Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, a space for the presentation of 33 scientific communications on different aspects of synodality in the life of the Church.

Celam has considered that the circumstances for its convocation have responded to the need to identify the proper contribution of the theological-pastoral reflection of the continent concerning the call to build a constitutively synodal and missionary Church, for which it is appropriate to bring together all the theological institutions of the region in the framework of the discernment process to be carried out during the intermediate phase between the two sessions of the XVI Assembly of the Synod of Bishops “For a Synodal Church: communion, participation, mission”.

The organization of this Congress is led in academic terms by the Theological and Pastoral Reflection Team of Celam and counts with the participation of the four Celam Centers. The call has been open and broad.

The texts will be published in two volumes and will be delivered to the Synod Fathers and Mothers at the next Synod assembly in October.

Meeting of participants in the second session of the Synod Assembly

The preparatory meeting for the Latin American and Caribbean participants of the second session of the XVI Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will be held at the Celam headquarters from August 12 to 14.

During the three days of work, the *Instrumentum laboris* presented by the Secretariat of the Synod will be addressed, under the methodology of conversation in the Spirit and considering the contributions formulated by the Episcopal Conferences and other continental contributions.

Several theologians will illuminate each part of the working document with their reflections and will seek to reach a consensus on proposals to be presented during the deliberations of the Synod Assembly.

Luis Marín de San Martín, undersecretary of the Synod Secretariat, will also participate and will present the work perspectives for the next Assembly.

Second Meeting of those responsible for the prevention of Abuse of the Episcopal Conferences of Latin America and the Caribbean

It will be held at the Celam headquarters in Bogota from September 3 to 5, 2024. Two representatives of the prevention commissions of the Episcopal Conferences (the responsible bishop and a member of the team) and members of commissions of other continental ecclesial organizations (CLAR, Caritas, etc.) have been summoned.

Organizers: CELAM, Latin American and Caribbean Network for the Culture of Care and the Episcopal Conference of Colombia.

Upcoming courses and diplomas

Spiritual Conversation Workshop

In the virtual workshop, Cebitepal opens registration for “The Conversation in the Spirit for the Strengthening of the Synodal Church”. The proposal is to explore the context of the synod on synodality and deepen the concepts of ‘disputing’, ‘discussing’, ‘dialoguing’, and ‘conversing’, every Tuesday in August.

Registration: <https://bit.ly/4cLI2KS>

Church and synodality

Topics such as synodality in Sacred Scripture and theology in the light of the Second Vatican Council will be some of the issues addressed in the Virtual Diploma Course “Church and Synodality”, from August 1 to 26.

Information: bit.ly/3L5Q8Sp

Itinerary and vocational deepening for presbyters

In virtual modality, the course “Itinerary and Vocational Deepening for priests” will be held from August 5 to 30. It aims to work on priestly spirituality with an emphasis on the sacraments, preaching, devotions and the identity of the priest: Trinitarian, Christological, pneumatologically and ecclesiological.

Registration: <http://bit.ly/3VZu7uQ>

Mental Health: Pastoral and Public Policy Emergencies

To understand the dimension of human mental health, the virtual course “Mental Health: Pastoral and Public Policy Emergencies” addresses the great topic of public policies in the American continent. It will take place from August 5 to 30.

Registration: <https://bit.ly/4eBf1Tr>

New paths for catechesis

“Opening Paths in Latin America and the Caribbean for a New Catechesis in the light of the Directory for Catechesis” is the virtual diploma course for which registration is now open. It will be held from August 5 to 30.

Registration: <https://bit.ly/4eO7VLz>

4th Escuchatorio “El camino es colectivo: la huella de los mártires” (“The road is collective: the footprint of the martyrs”)

In the form of a synchronous virtual meeting, “The Way is Collective: The Footprint of the Martyrs” is the theme of the 4th Listening Session promoted by the BECs in collaboration with Cebitepal. The footprint of the martyrs and witnesses, the collective commitment of the communities, has today the name of synodality. We want to listen to the martyr stories of Our America to continue deepening our ‘journey together’. The way and the way out is collective, as the martyrs remind us.

Free registration: <https://bit.ly/45ZjETy>

Marriage annulment

With a 30% discount, from September 2 to 30, Cebitepal will hold a training course for pastoral agents: “pastoral service for marriage annulment processes”. Aimed at family pastoral agents and ecclesiastical

courts, this formative space offers a successful experience in the application of the Magisterium of *Amoris Laetitia*.

Registration: <https://bit.ly/4b4M9jG>

Psychoactive substance use disorder training

Cebitepal, the OAS, and Plapa are conducting the training course “Prevention, Treatment and Recovery of Psychoactive Substance Use Disorders”, aimed at faith-based organizations, Catholic leaders and those working in this area. It will be eight weeks in asynchronous virtual modality, starting on October 2.

Registration until August 15: <https://bit.ly/463lhiQ>

Pastoral Theological Update for Bishops

The Cebitepal Formation Center is preparing the second edition of the “Pastoral Theological Update for Bishops” course, which will be held from November 4 to 8 at the CELAM headquarters in Bogota.

Limited vacancies and free of charge: <https://bit.ly/3W6kxGY>

Agreements signed

Institution	Object
Antonino Balles- trazzi Peñalosa - Chile	Jointly organized by the parties to carry out the on-line diploma course on documentary filmmaking in a socio-pastoral context and to monitor and technically support the elaboration of the documentaries of the research being developed by Oducal within the framework of the action-research project “fighting against the invisibility of the poorest of the poor”, through the implementation of the diploma course with people from the universities that are conducting the research, to train and monitor the stages of creation, formal analysis and realization, providing methodological, aesthetic and technological tools that allow a contemporary and plausible approach to the documentary discourse.
Episcopal Conference of Honduras	Formation of family pastoral agents and spiritual advisors, working together in areas of common interest, to undertake cooperation based on the establishment of mutually beneficial relationships in the areas of teaching, research and linkage with the environment in continuing education and postgraduate programs.
OpenSky Information S.A.S - Colombia	Provide technology infrastructure service for Koha and OJS, on AWS EC2 cloud servers (long-term reserved instance service), technical support and SSL certificate (Lets Encrypt) for one year.
Episcopal Commission for Social Action CEAS - Peru	Update and publish in digital version the popular versions of 16 documents published by the CEAS and Cevalam will cover the costs of their preparation.

To see and participate again

Celam, through the Center for Communication, makes available the recordings of the events and material produced during July:

- II Day of theological reflection of the Garifuna peoples: <https://youtu.be/-HhSLyUcfc0>
- Meeting #4 Foundations for Masculinities: <https://youtu.be/U7tpUWmUwik>
- Masterclass: Safe environments in catechesis: <https://youtu.be/0Wd0H-Yer2s>

Celam DNA emissions:

- July 6: Colombian bishops with new directive, protection of minors and Br. Gloria Cecilia Narvaez. <https://youtu.be/kj4XQWb-2Ybs>
- July 13: Celam Delegation visits the UN <https://youtu.be/jy-60n4AMPYI>
- July 20: Religious Life of the Continent refines communication strategies in “crisis contexts”. <https://youtu.be/2nW1239IrG8>
- July 27: “Missionary Testimonies” in Latin America and the Caribbean. <https://youtu.be/UsJR8fmauKU>

Special covers:

- Meeting of digital missionaries in Colombia (“[Hechos 29](https://adn.celam.org/concluye-hechos-29-con-una-invitecion-a-pasar-de-la-conectividad-a-las-relaciones-autenticas-en-el-entorno-digital/)”) <https://adn.celam.org/concluye-hechos-29-con-una-invitecion-a-pasar-de-la-conectividad-a-las-relaciones-autenticas-en-el-entorno-digital/>
- Meeting of Afro-descendant Catholic women <https://adn.celam.org/pastoral-afro-presenta-la-red-de-lideresas-afrodescendientes-catolicas-de-las-americas-lacam/>
- National Missionary Congress Colombia <https://adn.celam.org/colombia-renueva-su-compromiso-de-vivencia-del-evangelio-a-100-anos-de-mision/>
- Experience of communicators in the Darien <https://adn.celam.org/red-clamor-pide-generar-politicas-de-estado-que-favorezcan-a-los-migrante-en-audiencia-publica-ante-congresistas-colombianos/>

Visit our ADN Celam news portal with updated interface at www.adn.celam.org.

Receive ADN Celam newsletters on Whatsapp or Telegram at: <https://bit.ly/3HcXLDU>

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