



Land Acknowledgement Statement

Passed by the CBA Members during the 2025 Business Meeting

The Catholic Biblical Association of America acknowledges the Indigenous Peoples across what is now North America, the traditional custodians of each of the lands on which the CBA operates, and its members gather.

As a community dedicated to the study of Scripture, we recognize the various ways biblical texts have been used to justify colonization, assimilation, genocide, and the forced separation of Indigenous Peoples from sacred homelands. We acknowledge the role of the Bible in the suppression and erasure of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge, including religious practices, languages, and Oral Traditions. These structures of colonialism, in which Christian individuals and institutions have been complicit, continue to affect the lives of Indigenous Peoples and must be rejected.

We affirm the Catholic Church's commitment to work with and listen to Indigenous Peoples as "principal dialogue partners" (Laudato Si' §146), and we commit to honoring Indigenous communities, culture, sovereignty, and sacred connection to ancestral lands.