The Bible ...
with its stories about human life and faith numbers among the greatest writings of humanity. As God’s Word its message of life and hope is addressed to all human beings and cultures.

The Catholic Biblical Federation ...
was founded by Pope Paul VI to implement the Second Vatican Council’s instructions to make Holy Scripture accessible to as many people as possible (Constitution Dei Verbum, Chapter VI). The Catholic Biblical Federation sees as its central task the Council’s concern to restore the Word of God to its place at the center of the life of the Church.

As advocate of the Bible in the Church, the Catholic Biblical Federation supports the bishops in their task of bringing a biblically oriented pastoral approach to realization, so that God’s Word can become the source of life and hope for our times.

The Catholic Biblical Federation promotes an use of the Bible that takes seriously the different contexts of life, faith and community in which people find themselves. Its activities take their orientation from everyday life in various regions and cultures.
For man does not live by bread alone
The Administrative Board of the Catholic Biblical Federation is, in accordance with Vatican law, the legal entity of the Federation as registered organization in Vatican, and as such bears the responsibility for all legal and financial matters of the Federation in accordance with the current law of the Vatican State.

Based on the principle of subsidiarity, the Catholic Biblical Federation is divided into seven regions: Africa, Latin America, North America, Asia, Europe, and Middle East. Some of these regions are further subdivided into subregions.

The regional and subregional coordinators have the task of promoting biblical pastoral ministry in their regions and coordinating it with the support of the General Secretariat. All the coordinators work on a voluntary basis.

The General Secretariat is responsible for the overall management of the Federation's activities.

Administrative Board
- Dr. J. P. K. O. R. N. I. O. N. (Secretary General, Argentina)
- Dr. G. G. O. S. (General Treasurer, Italy)
- Dr. O. B. O. L. V. O. V. O. S. (Treasurer, Germany)

Countries represented: 126

Members: 386 (96 Full Members, 240 Associate Members)

Founded: April 16, 1969

Affiliation Holy See

Comité de Coordination pour le Promouvoir de la Vie chrétienne

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, Manila, Philippines

Segretariato Generale

00120 Città del Vaticano

www.c-b-f.org
The Catholic Biblical Federation was established by Pope Paul VI in 1969 to foster and promote an awareness of the unique significance of Sacred Scripture at all levels of ecclesial life. With its roots tracing back to the Second Vatican Council it sees itself as the advocate of the Bible in the Catholic Church.

Rooted in the Catholic Church and in close cooperation with the Pope and bishops, the Catholic Biblical Federation avows itself to ecumenical and interconfessional dialogue. It promotes tolerance and respect for other cultures and religions and is actively engaged on behalf of peace and justice.

Through its commitment to the Gospel, the Catholic Biblical Federation plays an active role in building a world in which the values of love of God and love of neighbor, of justice and responsibility are the core of political, social and personal activity.

And nothing of justice and responsibility are the
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The Catholic Biblical Federation represents the world-
their daily lives.
experience the life-giving message of the Bible in
world are committed to insuring that people can

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Pope Paul VI in 1969 to foster and promote an

Vision

Man does not live
by bread alone

The Bible numbers among the greatest writings of humanity.

The Bible numbers among the greatest writings of humanity.
A vibrant network for the Bible

Structures

The Catholic Biblical Federation is an “international public organization” according to the Code of Canon Law (can. 312 § 1 n. 1 CIC / can. 575 § 1 n. 3 CCEO). In Vatican, it takes the legal form of a registered, non-profit organization (public canonical juridical person) whose activities pursue socially beneficial and ecclesiastical goals.

Members

The Federation has two categories of members: full members (at present 98) are Bishops’ Conferences or those Catholic organizations which function as the Bishops’ Conference’s action arm for biblical pastoral ministry in a given country and that have sought membership. Associated members (at present 240) can be any other Catholic organization engaged in the fields of biblical pastoral ministry, biblical studies or Bible translation and that has been accepted as a member by the CBF Steering Committee.

Three-fourths of the member institutions are located in so-called “developing countries”.

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is elected by the Plenary Assembly. It is the highest organ in the period between Plenary Assemblies and it is obligated to implement their decisions and to nominate office-holders. Each region is served by at least one representative in the Steering Committee.

President

The President is the presiding officer of the Federation. He is a prelate, elected by the Steering Committee, his name being presented to the Holy See for confirmation. His term of office is six years renewable.

CBF President (since 2015) is Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle (Philippines), Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelisation.

General Secretary

The General Secretary is elected by the Steering Committee and is responsible for the implementation and realization of the goals and tasks of the Federation. With the support of an international team in the General Secretariat and in collaboration with the coordinators of the individual regions he promotes and coordinates the work of the Federation.

CBF General Secretary (since 2014) is Fr. Jan J. Stefanów SVD.

Plenary Assembly

The governing body of the Federation is the Plenary Assembly. It is a delegates’ conference of full members and associate members held regularly every six years. The Plenary Assembly sets the guidelines for the work of the Federation for the following six years. It also elects the members of the Steering Committee. The Plenary Assembly offers CBF members the opportunity to meet on a worldwide scale. It is the place for exchange and reflection beyond regional and continental borders.

The last Plenary Assembly was held in 2023 in Mar del Plata (Argentina)
“Easy access to Sacred Scripture should be provided for all the Christian faithful” (Constitution Dei Verbum, paragraph 22). This vision of the Second Vatican Council has marked the work and self-understanding of the Catholic Biblical Federation from the time of its founding by Pope Paul VI on April 16, 1969, till today.

1965 The Second Vatican Council recommends: “Easy access to Sacred Scripture should be provided for all the Christian faithful.” (Dei Verbum, paragraph 22)

1966 Pope Paul VI entrusts the President of the Secretariat for Christian Unity, Cardinal Augustin Bea, with the implementation of the conciliar recommendations.

1969 Upon the suggestion of Catholic Biblical Associations, the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity founds the World Catholic Federation for the Biblical Apostolate (WCFBA) which in 1990 simplifies its name to Catholic Biblical Federation (CBF).


1972 First Plenary Assembly held in Vienna, Austria. Theme: “Bible and Liturgy”.
President: Cardinal Franz König, Vienna, Austria.

1978 Second Plenary Assembly held in Malta. Theme: “Biblical Spirituality”.
President: Cardinal Paul Zoungrana, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

1984 Third Plenary Assembly held in Bangalore, India. Theme: “God’s Prophetic People”.
President: Bishop Alberto Ablondi, Livorno, Italy.

1985 The Constitution of the Federation is approved by the Holy See in accordance with the norms of the new Code of Canon Law.


1996 Fifth Plenary Assembly held in Hong Kong. Theme: “Word of God – Source of Life”.
President: Bishop Wilhelm Egger, Bolzano-Bressanone, Italy.

1997 The new Constitution of the Federation is approved by the Holy See in accordance with the norms of the Code of Canon Law.


2005 On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Dogmatic Constitution Dei Verbum the Federation and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity jointly organize the international congress “Sacred Scripture in the Life of the Church” in Rome.


2015 Ninth Plenary Assembly in Nemi, Italy. Theme: “Sacred Scriptures - Source of Evangelization”.

2023 Tenth Plenary Assembly in Mar del Plata, Argentina. Theme: “Proclaiming the Word – gift of Life for a fragile World (Rom 8:22-23)”.
Public relations and fundraising

Cooperation with funding agencies

Webpage, Internet activities and electronic media
Handbooks, reports, documentation
CEF Newsletter
Spanish and German
De Vrijenm (Published in English, French, Italian, biblical pastoral periodical "Publications"

Ecumenism and interreligious dialogue

Support and coordination of the activities

The General Secretariat in Rome with its Inter-

services
Education of Internet resources and online
Production of audio and TV programs
Running of publishing houses
Publications of periodicals, handbooks, teaching

Media work

Violence
Communities in conflict/gundamentalism and
cooperation with other Churches and religions
Pastoral projects
Carrying out of interconfessional translations and

Ecumenism and interreligious dialogue

Coordination and organization of pastoral ministry worldwide

Communication and networking

Sunday International De Vrijenm Courses
Through special projects, e.g. Evangelical Bible
Through initiatives and coordination support
Coordination of meetings at local, regional and supra-
level

Cooperation, church organizing (e.g. NGBs, etc.)
International and regional (localities, etc.)
Exchanges of experience with other ecclesial
Reigons
Organization of meetings at all levels within the

Friends of the Catholic Biblical Federation

Fundraising

Through assistance with public relations and

through the monitoring and evaluation of projects

Through the General Secretary's personal contacts

Cordial, personal, financial support

of member institutions

His prime areas of engagement are:
exchanges of information, experiences and resources
individual regions and coordinates the worldwide
ecumenical team supports the member institutions in

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Friends of the Catholic Biblical Federation
The Catholic Biblical Federation (CBF) is a worldwide fellowship of international, national and local institutions engaged in the field of biblical pastoral ministry, biblical studies and Bible translation.

**Tasks and goals**

- **Bible translation**
  - Translation and further education of published translations
  - Publication and distribution of affordable Bible editions
  - Revision of existing translations
  - Translation of the Bible into local languages and cultures

- **Biblical studies and hermeneutics**
  - Positions in the discussion on current values in society
  - Promotion of the biblical-Christian image of man
  - Promotion of dialogue between scientific-academic and biblical studies
  - Organization of meetings and conferences relating to biblical studies

- **Religious education and training**
  - Religious education in schools, colleges, Churches and communities, and at grass-roots level
  - Planning and running of Bible courses in schools and parishes
  - Voluntary collaboration for biblical pastoral training and ongoing formation for Bible translators

- **Areas of pastoral ministry**
  - Commitment to a biblical foundation of all pastoral work
  - Development of materials, course programs and seminars
  - Planning and implementation of Bible courses and seminars
  - Religious education of Bible study and educational tools

The Catholic Biblical Federation (CBF) is a worldwide fellowship of biblical pastoral ministry, biblical studies and Bible translation.

Tasks and goals

Besides translation of the Bible into local languages, the CBF is engaged in various kinds of activities, among others:

- Involvement in various kinds of activities, among others:
- The publishing and distribution of affordable Bible editions
- The training and further education of published translations
- The promotion of dialogue between scientific-academic and biblical studies
- The organization of meetings and conferences relating to biblical studies

the primary task of the Catholic Biblical Federation is to promote a biblical foundation of all pastoral work and to support the translation of the Bible into local languages. The CBF is committed to a biblical foundation of all pastoral work and to support the translation of the Bible into local languages. The CBF is committed to a biblical foundation of all pastoral work and to support the translation of the Bible into local languages.

Christian values need to be strengthened and rediscovered as a foundation for communal living. The Christian value system is the premise for universal human rights and for the protection of religious minorities. The Christian value system is the premise for universal human rights and for the protection of religious minorities.

With its commitment to the Gospel, the Catholic Biblical Federation is aware that today, at the beginning of the 21st century, Christian values need to be strengthened and rediscovered as a foundation for communal living. The CBF is committed to a biblical foundation of all pastoral work and to support the translation of the Bible into local languages.

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