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Representatives gather June 23 during the Region II encuentro held June 22-24 in Albany, New York. (CNS/AGC Media/Courtesy of Cesar Gonzalez)

by NCR Staff

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The four-year, nationwide consultations with the Hispanic Catholic community will culminate at the national V Encuentro Sept. 20-23 in Grapevine, Texas, as delegates from around the United States gather to form a collective, Hispanic Catholic voice — one that will be imperative to the future of the church.

### **On the show today:**

- Soli Salgado, staff writer for Global Sisters Report, often covering issues related to Hispanic communities and social justice.

### **Background reading:**

- A recent [consultation report shows](#) that there are 23,000 U.S.-born Hispanic Catholics for every U.S.-born Hispanic priest, and that 55 percent of Catholics younger than 14 are Hispanic.
- The *encuentro* gathering for the Archdiocese of Portland, Oregon, held in January 2018, [offered a new urgency](#) as attendees discussed the need for evangelization and invitation to make one church among Anglo and Latino congregants.
- Festive moments and open dialogue mixed with concrete goal-setting and strong calls to embrace those in need marked the [Los Angeles Archdiocese's V Encuentro](#) — a daylong gathering Jan. 27 of Hispanic leaders in the nation's largest and most concentrated population of Latino Catholics.
- Emerging themes at the [regional Midwest V Encuentro](#) included validation of small faith groups and the need for leadership development.
- Of the New York Archdiocese's 2.8 million Catholics, an estimated one-third to one-half of the people are of Latino background. At the archdiocese's *encuentro*, [attendees talked about keeping Catholic Latinos interested](#) as the key to the church's future.
- NCR covers the Hispanic Catholic church in our feature series [La Iglesia Hispana](#).

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