



January 11, 2018

# This is National Migration Week

January 7 – 13, 2018



For nearly a half century, the Catholic Church in the United States has celebrated National Migration Week, which is an opportunity for the Church to reflect on the circumstances confronting migrants, including immigrants, refugees, children, and victims of human trafficking. The theme for National Migration Week 2018, “Many Journeys, One Family,” draws attention to the fact that each of our families has a migration story, some recent and others in the distant past. Regardless of where we are and where we came from, we remain part of the human family and are called to live in solidarity with one another.

Unfortunately, in our contemporary culture, we often fail to encounter migrants as persons, and instead look at them as unknown others, if we even notice them at all. We do not take the time to engage migrants in a meaningful way, as fellow children of God, but remain aloof to their presence and suspicious or fearful of them. During this National Migration Week, let us all take the opportunity to engage migrants as community members, neighbors, and friends.

~ *Justice for Immigrants website*

## Migration Facts:

### Immigration Reform Position:

The Catholic Bishops and the Catholic Church support humane immigration reform. We must reform our broken system that separates families and denies due process.

Facts: • Since 2010, 3.6 million immigrants have become naturalized U.S. citizens.

• Unauthorized immigrants also pay a wide range of taxes, including sales taxes where applicable and property taxes – directly if they own and indirectly if they rent. Estimates are that undocumented migrants pay \$11.64 billion every year in state and local taxes.

- In many cases, it can take over a decade for legal permanent residents to reunify with immediate family members from Mexico, the Philippines, and other countries (See Congressional Research Service). Refugee Protection Position: USCCB supports protection, humanitarian support, and durable solutions for refugees and other forcibly displaced people. USCCB's Migration and Refugee Services in collaboration with local Catholic Charities across the United States form the largest private, U.S. refugee resettlement network, and has helped welcome and resettle over one million refugees since 1975.



## National Migration Week Talking Points

- Catholics are called to stand with immigrants and refugees as our brothers and sisters. This is who we are. This is what we do.
- Pope Francis invites us to be part of a culture of encounter as we welcome, protect, integrate, and promote immigrants and refugees in our midst.
- For all people of the Catholic faith, we belong to the same Church no matter where we're from. We are one family, and the Catholic Church is always our home.
- For newcomers who are not of the Catholic faith, Catholics recognize their human dignity and welcome them as new neighbors and friends.
- In Pope Francis, we have a leader from Argentina, a country of immigrants. He is the son of immigrants and a native Spanish speaker. Issues for immigrants coming from Latin America to the United States are close to his heart.
- Immigration is about real people who are trying to find a better life and a new beginning. As Pope Francis stated, "Each migrant has a name, a face and a story."
- Welcoming immigrants is part of Catholic Social Teaching and reflects the Biblical tradition to welcome the stranger.
- The Catholic Church has been welcoming immigrants and refugees to the United States since the nation's founding and has been integral to helping them integrate into American culture.
- In addition to welcoming and caring for those in need, the Church continues to uphold the centrality of family reunification as a critical component of our immigration and refugee systems.
- Countries benefit from the contributions of immigrants and refugees.
- Forced displacement of people is at the highest level since World War II, with more than 65 million people displaced around the world and over 22 million refugees.
- Refugees are the most rigorously screened population coming into America. This screening happens before they ever set foot in our country. The United States has the most thorough background checks of immigrants of any nation in the world. The Administration recently determined that only 45,000 refugees could come to the United States in the coming year Fiscal Year 2018. That is the lowest refugee determination in U.S. history. We can and must do better by ensuring that all 45,000 be welcomed in 2018 and also that the U.S. welcome at least 75,000 refugees in 2019. To learn more about what you can do to welcome our neighbors, please visit: <https://justiceforimmigrants.org/2016site/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2018-NMW-Final-Toolkit.pdf>

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS**  
for the  
**THE 104th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2018**  
**14 January 2018**

*"Welcoming, protecting, promoting and  
integrating migrants and refugees"*

*Dear brothers and sisters!*

"You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God" (*Leviticus 19:34*).



Throughout the first years of my pontificate, I have repeatedly expressed my particular concern for the lamentable situation of many migrants and refugees fleeing from war, persecution, natural disasters and poverty. This situation is undoubtedly a "sign of the times" which I have tried to interpret, with the help of the Holy Spirit.



Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age (*Matthew 25:35-43*). The Lord entrusts to the Church's motherly love every person forced to leave their homeland in search of a better future. This solidarity must be concretely expressed at every stage of the migratory experience – from departure through journey to arrival and return. This is a great responsibility, which the Church intends to share with all believers and men and women of good will, who are called to

respond to the many challenges of contemporary migration with generosity, promptness, wisdom and foresight, each according to their own abilities.

In this regard, I wish to reaffirm that "our shared response may be articulated by four verbs: *to welcome, to protect, to promote and to integrate*".

To read the entire message of Pope Francis please visit:

[https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/papa-francesco\\_20170815\\_world-migrants-day-2018.html](https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/migration/documents/papa-francesco_20170815_world-migrants-day-2018.html)



## National Migration Week in Chicago and at the Border

Observance of National Migration Week in Chicago began with Mass at Holy Name Cathedral celebrated by Cardinal Blase J. Cupich.

The liturgy's theme, "Many Journeys, One Family," responds to Pope Francis' call for Catholics to be involved in the welcome, protection and integration of migrants and refugees worldwide and to stand in solidarity with them in departure, transit, arrival or return.

A number of Cabrini Retreat Center Kairos alumni spent the past week in pilgrimage doing just that at the US/Mexico border. These college students traveled with the Viatorian Community, along with Fr. Cory Brost, who is the Co-Director for the Viator House of Hospitality, a safe home for young immigrant men seeking asylum in the United States.



Pilgrims walking at the border stop to pray over empty water bottles left by migrants. After prayer, they placed full bottles of water at this location.

Jason Wilhite, a Cabrini Kairos alum participated and reflected on four key themes: *Humanize, Accompany, Complicate and Christianize*. "The four themes were lenses through which we were asked to view every experience. We need to understand migration is a complex issue and hearing every voice is the only way to come to common understanding and real change."

Listening and accompanying those at the border was a rich experience and included conversations with migrants, those ministering at the border and border guards. They reflected on the call of Pope Francis as well as many of the issues that impact migration including human trafficking and drug cartels. Jason expressed his gratitude that the

Cabrini Retreat Center continues to stay connected and supports the migrant journey. ~ submitted by Nancy Golen, Director, Cabrini Retreat Center

At the border wall, pilgrims – Cabrini Retreat Center Kairos alumni along with Br. John Eustace, CV, (I.), Jason Wilhite (3<sup>rd</sup> I.) and Sara Miklius (3<sup>rd</sup> r.) - with the Jesuit's Border Initiative.



# Cabrini Health Australia

## *shares a look at their Asylum Seeker Health Hub*



The Asylum Seeker & Refugee Health Hub (The Hub) provides access to a range of health services for people seeking asylum and newly arrived refugees.

To view a video detailing their service for this vulnerable population:

<http://www.cabrini.com.au/news-and-events/new-newsandmediacategory-4/>

*~ submitted by Christine Elmer, Cabrini Health*

---

### Good and gracious God,

We pray for all people who are migrating particularly those who are forced from their homes or separated from their families because of threats of violence and persecution.

We ask that you protect and keep them safe.

Although we come from different countries, and have our origins in different cultures, we were all created by you, and are made in your image, and therefore we all share an inalienable dignity that is deserving of respect.



Lord, we ask that you give us the strength to defend those who are marginalized, to give aid to those in need, to come to the defense of those who are poor or vulnerable, and to welcome those who are on the move into our homes and into our hearts.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. ~ Justice for Immigrants

From the Province Formation Team and the  
National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC)



**Let GOD**  
speak to your heart...

**Come and See Weekend**  
for men and women,  
21 - 45, who are  
wondering  
if God is calling them  
to religious life.

**February 2 - 4, 2018**

**Mount Saint Joseph Convent**  
9701 Germantown Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19118

3:00 - 6:00 Arrival on Friday with  
until 2:00PM on Sunday

Offering for the Weekend: \$60.00 (Deposit is 30.00).  
Spaces are limited.

For more information or to register for the weekend:  
Go to <https://vuc.formstack.com/forms/discernmentretreats>

**JESUS invites: "Come and follow me".**

Sponsored by an intercongregational team of vocation directors, the Delaware Valley Member Area of the National Religious Vocation Conference is hosting a discernment weekend for men and women ages 21-45 on February 2 – 4 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Convent in Philadelphia. The Missionary Sisters will be a part of the presenting team.

If you know any young man or woman who might be open to religious life as a vocational path, please encourage them to attend.

The cost of the weekend is \$60, but, NRVC will help to defray the cost.

**For more information, please contact Nancy Costello:**

[mscvocations@mothercabrini.org](mailto:mscvocations@mothercabrini.org)

610-902-1039





***"Human trafficking is a crime against humanity. We must unite our efforts to free victims and stop this crime that's become ever more aggressive, that threatens not just individuals, but the foundational values of society."***  
**~Pope Francis**

**The month of January is known in the U.S. as Human Trafficking Awareness Month, and today, January 11th, in particular is set aside as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day.**

#### **New ways for you to get involved:**

- Many major hotels now have or are working to create an ethical policy against commercial sexual exploitation of children, to train hotel staff to help identify human trafficking, and to partner with government and social service agencies. ECPAT (End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking – [www.ecpat.net](http://www.ecpat.net)) has developed an industry-wide Code of Conduct (The Code), a practical tool facilitating the protection of children's rights by the travel and tourism industries. Corporations who sign the Code agree to develop a corporate policy, train staff and publicly report on their efforts. Before you choose a hotel, ask them if they are part of this training.
- A new study, released in December, 2017, reveals the shocking extent of youth homelessness across the US. Because of their vulnerability and inadequate support, homeless children often go unnoticed, while quietly trafficked into forced labor or the commercial sex industry. Congress has the power to help prevent child trafficking by introducing, then passing, the Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act (RHYTPA) which, will be a step toward improving services and protections for youth at a high-risk of being trafficked and exploited. Half of all sex trafficking cases reported in the US last year involved victims who were between the ages of 12 and 17. CALL YOUR REPRESENTATIVE AND SENATORS through the US Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 asking for their support of RHYTPA!

*Please continue to pray!*

**PRAY FOR VICTIMS** - For their protection, healing and justice.

**PRAY FOR TRAFFICKERS** - For conviction, repentance, and salvation.

**PRAY FOR THOSE FIGHTING TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING** - For their courage and wisdom to end this crime.

**PRAY FOR GOVERNMENTS** - For implementation of just legislation.



# Prayer Requests

## ***A Family in Need***

Please pray for a family who is going to a court hearing today to resolve a complicated domestic matter involving the custody of young children. Pray that the judge will carefully examine all the facts of this case and appoint the most appropriate, stable and loving guardians for these children. Pray that the judge will be graced with wisdom, fairness and compassion and that justice will be served and the children will be placed in a loving, secure environment.

## ***Frances Bradley***

Cabrini University alumna Cassie Bradley Woestman '67 requests prayers for her sister Frances who suffered a stroke and may have sustained brain damage. Please keep Frances in your thoughts and prayers and pray for Cassie and her siblings as they oversee care for their sister.

## ***Ed***

Please keep Ed in your prayers and good thoughts. He had to be flown to Temple Hospital for brain bleeds earlier this week. He has ALS. Pray that all will be well.



## ***Sr. Yolanda Flores, MSC***

Sr. Yolanda was recently hospitalized and hopes to be discharged very soon. Please pray for her return to full health. She would be grateful for our prayers.

## ***Suzanne Gallagher***

Please pray for Suzanne, the sister of Claire Roth '69, Cabrini University alumna and trustee who currently is undergoing treatment. Pray for her strength, stamina and return to full health.

## ***Penny Gonzales***

Penny, a good friend of the Missionary Sisters, was recently hospitalized and is now at home recovering. She would be grateful for our prayerful support

## ***Sr. Tommasina Lanski, MSC***

You are asked to pray for Sr. Tommasina who is currently hospitalized and who will be anticipating surgery in the near future. Her spirits are good. She is grateful for our prayers and asks that we continue to remember her.

## ***Antoinette Masciolek***

Your prayers are asked for Antoinette, the sister of Mary Kay Burke '69, Cabrini University alumna and trustee, who is experiencing some health challenges at this time. Please pray that she will soon be feeling stronger.

## ***Michelle Morrison***

Prayers are requested for Michelle, the daughter of a dear friend of Cabrini University alum Maria Valente Breeser '73. Michelle, a mother of two young children, lost both legs as well as her fingers of both hands due to a severe infection several years ago. Michelle will soon be fitted with computerized legs since repeated attempts with traditional prosthetics have not worked well. Please pray that the new prosthetics will work and will provide the gift of mobility for Michelle.

## ***Monsignor Joseph Murray***

Please unite in prayer for Monsignor Murray of Our Mother of Divine Providence Parish in King of Prussia, PA. Monsignor is currently a resident at Regina Nursing Center. Please pray for his comfort and peace.