

### Introduction

**United in heart, voice, and conscience with believers throughout the world, let us lift up our prayers, asking especially for God’s help and compassion:**

That those in civil authority will ever remember that immigration is rooted in economic injustice, and that they will be graced to act against indifference to poverty and lack of equal earning opportunity, we pray to the Lord.

That we may be people of both faith and compassion, respecting basic human rights and living out the love of Christ for our brothers and sisters, we pray to the Lord.

That all Catholics may join to keep alive the hope that family reunification is not a possibility but a promise of life in the United States, we pray to the Lord.

That local Catholic churches stand united, in prayer and in welcome, to assist those families who are treated with a lack of dignity or who live in fear of deportation, we pray to the Lord.

That the Holy Spirit will bring fortitude to those who experience daily fear of reprisal and live in the shadows of a broken immigration system, we pray to the Lord.

That immigration reform will be comprehensive, achievable, and swift, we pray to the Lord.

That Catholics everywhere continue to advocate for basic benefits for the undocumented, and pray for a *just reform* that accepts and values the cultural gifts of all, we pray to the Lord.

That our borders will become places of *informed encounter* rather than *ill-intentioned engagement*: blocking entry to the violent and accepting those who seek a better life for their families, we pray to the Lord.

That Catholics will embrace all immigrants, “For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons...” (I Cor. 12:13) we pray to the Lord.

That kindness and concern for newcomers in our parishes be coupled with consistent efforts at cultural communication, we pray to the Lord.

### Concluding Prayer

**God our loving Father, you are justice for the oppressed and hope for the hopeless. Hear our prayers this day and instill in us ways to reach out in love and concern for all immigrants. May the Holy Spirit enflame the hearts of our leaders, and may their respect for family life shape a path to citizenship for those who desire to become full, contributing members of society. We ask all this in the name of Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary. Amen.**