

February 2025

Dear Marianist Educators and Community Members,

As members of the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative's Immigrant Justice Team, we write to you with deep concern about the challenges facing immigrants and refugees in the United States. Our Catholic faith calls us to uphold the dignity of every human person and to advocate for just treatment of all, especially the most vulnerable among us.



The current immigration system leaves many in distress. Families are at risk of separation, asylum protections have been denied, and policies have harshly impacted the well-being of documented, as well as undocumented individuals, who have long contributed to our communities. Our U.S. Catholic Bishops have spoken out strongly on the need for humane immigration reform, urging us to act in solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters.

Blessed Chaminade so wisely said that we carefully seek for solutions in faith like a flowing stream to overcome obstacles in order to discern where the action of the Holy Spirit is leading. We write to you, our Marianist Family, to ask in the spirit of our blessed founder, and in faith and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit:

How Can Our Schools and Communities Respond?

1. **Educate and Advocate:** Integrate Catholic Social Teaching on immigration into curricula and community discussions. Encourage students to learn about the realities immigrants face and the contributions they make.
2. **Support and Protect:** Connect with local organizations that assist immigrants, offer legal aid, or provide "Know Your Rights" resources.
3. **Stand in Solidarity:** Speak out against unjust policies and support legislative reforms that uphold the dignity of immigrants and refugees.
4. **Accompany and Serve:** Volunteer with or establish programs that assist immigrant families within your school, parish, or community.

As Marianists, we are called to act with faith and courage, seeking just solutions that reflect the love of Christ. We encourage all Marianist schools and communities to prayerfully discern how they can take meaningful steps toward supporting immigrants and advocating for justice.

With hope and commitment,

The Marianist Social Justice Collaborative's Immigrant Justice Team

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What You Can Do:

Act:

Print & Distribute Know Your Rights Cards:

- <https://www.ilrc.org/red-cards>

Print and Display “This is a NO “Knock & Talk” Zone Placards:

- [No Knock & Talk Placard](#)

Volunteer to visit, write letters, provide support to families:

- <https://www.freedomforimmigrants.org/visitation-network>

Educate:

Visit these sites to learn more:

- [Lesson Plans and Teacher Resources](#)
- [MSJC's Immigrant Justice Video Series](#)
- [Know Your Rights: Resource Page](#)
- [Know Your Rights | Immigrants' Rights | ACLU](#)
- [Migration, Refugee Resettlement, and Mass Deportation: Moral, Human, and Policy Choices](#)
- [American Immigration Council: Map the Impact of Immigrants](#)
- [Detention Site Location Map](#)

What are Church leaders saying about this important topic?

- [Letter of the Holy Father Francis to the Bishops of the USA](#)
- [Setting the Record Straight by Cardinal Blase Cupich](#)
- [Remarks of Cardinal Blase Cupich](#)
- [Statement of Archbishop Broglio](#)
- [Statement of Bishop Seitz](#)

Pray:

Prayers for our Immigrant Neighbors:

- [Catholic Charities Prayer for Refugees and Migrants](#)
 - [Prayers for Immigrants and Refugees](#)
 - [USCCB Prayer for Migrants and Refugees](#)
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