

ACTION, continued

- Be mindful of how we speak about immigrants
- Have your Church/Parish openly become/declare Itself as an Immigrant Welcoming Congregation
- Host and/or plan with neighboring parishes to have an evening on "Christians and Immigration Today"
- Participate in the prayer vigil at Broadview Detention Center on some Fridays
- Service to the immigrant community – service projects might include helping out in the field of education, Hotline, etc.
- Continue our work with the SVD-SSpS-SSpSAP Immigration Team

Resources:

- ◇ [Sisters and Brothers of Immigrants](#)
- ◇ [The Chicago New Sanctuary Movement](#)
- ◇ [ICIRR \(Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights\)](#)



We the **Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters** strive in collaboration with dedicated laity & clergy, to **live and proclaim the Gospel of God's love, justice & peace** by reverencing the **dignity of each person** & creating a **spirit of hospitality**.

With the strength of the Holy Spirit, we stand in **solidarity with immigrants, refugees & displaced persons of diverse cultures & traditions**, to **minister, & journey** together with them.



"Every person is precious and people are more important than things. The measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person." (Washington, DC: USCCB, 2003).

Brochure: An-
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Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters

PARACLETE PROVINCE

– *CORPORATE STANCE ON IMMIGRATION Pamphlet*



Northfield, IL

CORPORATE STANCE ON IMMIGRATION

"In our efforts to combat hunger, ignorance and the denial of human rights, we follow Catholic social teaching and the directives of the local Church." (Constitutions)

In January, 2003, the U.S. bishops issued the pastoral letter, **Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope.**

In that document, the U.S. bishops articulated five principles that govern how the Church responds to public policy proposals relating to immigration.

During this time when anti-immigrant sentiments, misinformation and hatred are finding a way into laws, policies and ways of dealings with immigrants, **we Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters believe it is especially urgent that we stand with immigrants and with those who share our passion for justice for immigrants.**

OUR COMMITMENT.

- **Pray** for immigrants, and have others become aware of immigration situations
- **Educate** others on immigration issues
- **Develop relationships** that are built on respect
- **Advocate**, act and serve with and for immigrants

PRAYER

- Attend prayer services/Holy hours for immigrants
- Pray for immigrants, immigration concerns and ministries

EDUCATION & AWARENESS

Learn about:

- Current immigration issues and realities Immigrants face
- How our faith approaches immigration

Know:

- The rights of Immigrants
- Laws (local, state and federal)
- How immigration is linked with social justice and the Gospel

How should I educate myself & others?

- Personal contact—listen to life experiences from an immigrant's perspective
- Watch documentaries about immigration
"Tony & Janina's American Wedding" (Ruthless Films)
- Read articles discussing immigration issues (lives of others)—not just about policies
- Attend discussions and presentations
- Learn a new language—learn about other cultures



ADVOCACY

- ◆ Lobbying, letter writing, e-mailing and networking for policy change are ways to support and impact immigrants—*Ex: Participate in a public rally, town hall meeting, etc. when possible*

ACTION/RELATIONSHIPS FOR TRANSFORMATION – Change of Attitude

- ◆ Identify with immigrants
- ◆ Overcome the "other" mentality of hatred and indifference: Respect and Kindness—welcoming attitude
- ◆ Become aware of language/correct and proper use of it (word choice) Ex: use of "undocumented person" instead of "illegal"

