



## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDING BISHOP

Reformed Catholic Church  
[www.reformedcatholic.org](http://www.reformedcatholic.org)

19 E. Eldridge Street  
Manchester, CT 06040  
562-708-7198

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January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the spirit of our shared faith and the call to compassion that binds us as a Christian community, we write to address the increased need for just and humane policies toward persons who have immigrated to the United States. This issue, deeply embedded in our history and progress both as a nation and as a Christian community, requires our earnest attention and thoughtful reflection based on scriptural principles.

As followers of Christ, we are compelled to view every person with divine love, worthy of just and compassionate treatment. Jesus himself was a refugee, born in a manger and later fleeing to Egypt to escape persecution (Matthew 2:13-15). His teachings and actions consistently reinforced our obligation to welcome the stranger and to offer solace and support to those in need. Our faith commands us to embrace the vulnerable and to advocate for justice and dignity for all, regardless of their status, origin, or skin color.

The United States of America is a nation of immigrants. Our growth as a strong nation has been made possible because of the immeasurable talents and contributions of immigrants up to this very day. By and large, today's immigrants are forced from their homelands because of economic disparities, political instability, and/or environmental changes. Each migrant's story is unique, filled with both hope and hardship.

Immigration policies and enforcement must first recognize the human faces behind the statistics. It is essential for political leaders to weigh legitimate concerns about national security with the moral-ethical imperative to provide refuge and support to those fleeing dire circumstances, creating equitable policies and practices free from any racial, ethnic, or gender-based discrimination. Balancing these imperatives requires courage and compassion, if leaders are to legitimately claim that their actions are guided by Christian values.

Just treatment of migrant populations must be characterized by policies and practices that:

1. **Protect the Vulnerable:** Ensure that refugees and asylum seekers are provided with safe haven and support as they seek to rebuild their lives.
2. **Promote Family Unity:** Advocate for policies that keep families together, recognizing that family is a fundamental unit of society and a core element of human dignity.
3. **Support Integration:** Facilitate the integration of immigrants into society through access to education, employment, and community resources, enabling them to contribute fully and thrive.



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4. **Address Root Causes:** Work collaboratively to address the underlying causes of migration, such as poverty, conflict, and environmental degradation, in order to create conditions where people can build secure and prosperous lives in their own countries.
5. **Keep and Protect DACA Participants:** Those young immigrants who have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

As members of the Reformed Catholic Church, we are called to embody Christ's love through our actions and advocacy. We can contribute to the creation of just and compassionate immigration policies by:

1. **Education and Awareness:** Engage in education and dialogue about immigration issues within our local communities to foster a deeper understanding and empathy.
2. **Direct Support:** Offer practical assistance to immigrants and refugees through local outreach programs, shelters, and support networks.
3. **Advocacy:** Advocate for just and compassionate immigration policies at local, national, and international levels, working alongside organizations that promote human rights and social justice through participation in direct actions and by making our concerns known to our elected representatives.
4. **Prayer and Reflection:** Pray for all those affected by immigration—migrants, refugees, their loved ones who remain behind in their countries of origin, and those in positions of power—and reflect on how we can be instruments of peace and justice in this vital area of concern.

Our faith compels us to see the face of Christ in every person, including those who come to our shores seeking a better life. Let us respond with hearts full of grace and hands ready to work for justice. May our actions be a testament to the transformative power of love and the enduring promise of God's reign.

In Christ's Peace and Love,

The Bishops and Board of Directors of the Reformed Catholic Church