

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN CRISIS (JUNE 16-17, 2018)

Provided initially on Father's Day weekend, these intercessions are to be used during this time of crisis, as families are being separated at the border of the U.S. Many children are being taken from their parents for an indeterminate amount of time. As Catholics, we need to respond especially in prayer. Please continue to use **one or several of these invocations** at all parish Masses, as the crisis continues. The Prayer of the Faithful is always used at Mass to ask God for what we need.

Introduction/Introducción

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:

Unidos en una sola voz, corazón, y conciencia con todos creyentes en el mundo, elevamos nuestras oraciones, pidiendo especialmente por la ayuda y la compasión de Dios:

1. On this Father's Day, we pray for all fathers and mothers fleeing from violence, who have been separated from their children on the way. May they receive the assistance they need on their difficult journey and re-unite as a family, **we pray to the Lord.**
2. For refugee children who are innocent victims of border violence, that God will provide comfort and protection to them, **we pray to the Lord.**
3. For families who have been separated due to unjust and immoral border practices, that they may know the God's comfort and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in this time of crisis, **we pray to the Lord.**
4. For Bishop Mark Seitz of El Paso, and for the flock that he guides: that their compassion may be abundant and their loving assistance be provided to families suffering separation, **we pray to the Lord.**
5. 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.**

Para que las disposiciones legales cuales *imponen restricciones de inmigración y no honran la reforma migratoria* sean rechazadas por las autoridades civiles, **roguemos al Señor.**

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

Para que la reforma migratoria sea comprensiva, realizable, y pronto, **roguemos al Señor.**

7. 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.**

Para que todos Católicos se esfuercen para conservar la esperanza que la reunificación de familias no sea una posibilidad sino una promesa de vida en los Estados Unidos, **roguemos al Señor.**

8. 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.**

Para que todas las iglesias Católicas locales estén unidas en la oración y en el acogido de las familias quienes son tratadas sin dignidad o que viven en temor a ser deportados, **roguemos al Señor.**

9. 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.**

10. That all families who are detained at the border, especially those children who are separated from their parents, may not lose hope and be reunited swiftly, **we pray to the Lord.**

11. For U.S. and world leaders, that they might quickly cooperate to end the strife and persecution that creates refugee crisis, and that they will provide care and protection for those who are forced to flee their homes, hoping to build new lives, **we pray to the Lord.**

Concluding Prayer/Oración

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.

Dios nuestro Padre amoroso, eres la justicia para los oprimidos y la esperanza para los que no la tienen. Escucha nuestras oraciones este día y crea en nosotros maneras para brindar el amor y cuidado para todos los inmigrantes. Que el Espíritu Santo enciende los corazones de nuestros líderes, y que su respeto por la vida familiar dé paso a la ciudadanía para aquellos quienes desean ser miembros contribuyentes de nuestra sociedad. Te lo pedimos por Jesucristo, Hijo de Dios e hijo de María. Amén.