



**Meeting Date:**

**Location:** Virtual Zoom.

*Group: Saint Ignatius Catholic Community – is a Catholic Church in the Jesuit tradition located at the corner of Calvert Street and Madison Avenue in Baltimore City since 1856. Our parish community consists of over 900 registered families in addition to 2,000 to 4,000 viewers who celebrate our online Mass each week. Our Parish publishes an online magazine each week, "Parish the Thought" which has over 2,800 subscribers. For over twenty-five years, St. Ignatius parishioners have supported tuition free, high quality education for hundreds of students from underserved Baltimore City communities. We provide over 1,500 meals each month to community members in need through our Loaves and Fishes Ministry. Our Justice and Peace Committee focuses on education and advocating for institutional change needed to improve the lives of all citizens of Baltimore City with our committee efforts related to Racial Justice, Economic Justice, Immigration Justice, and Environmental Justice.*

Explore our website at [www.st-ignatius.net](http://www.st-ignatius.net) to learn more.

**Facilitator:** Candra Healy (Chair, J&P Committee )

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### **Delegation**

- Terrence Cavanagh - [tcavanagh@seiumddc.org](mailto:tcavanagh@seiumddc.org)
- Lorraine Cuddeback-Gedeon – [lvcuddeback@gmail.com](mailto:lvcuddeback@gmail.com)
- Vonetta Edwards – [immigration@st-ignatius.net](mailto:immigration@st-ignatius.net)
- Candra Healy – [candrahealy@st-ignatius.net](mailto:candrahealy@st-ignatius.net)
- Emily Bruce – [ejbruce02@gmail.com](mailto:ejbruce02@gmail.com)
- Kathleen Leslie – [Kathleen@kdlesielaw.com](mailto:Kathleen@kdlesielaw.com)

**Goal of our meeting: To seek immigration policies that meet the needs of and respect the humanity of immigrants. Request that the Biden Administration ends Title 42 and other egregious policies at the Southern Border. Efficiently process migrants currently waiting and restore policies that allow humane access to asylum processing. Support legislation that creates a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, DACA recipients and TPS holders.**

### **Discussion Points:**

#### **Asylum Processing at the Southern Border**

- Inappropriate use of Title 42 to restrict access to asylum processing.
- The atrocity of the Remain in Mexico policy also known as Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP)
- Efficient processing of asylum cases

### **Pathway to Citizenship**



- Almost half of the 1.2 million DACA recipients are essential workers.
- In MD there are approximately 8000 DACA recipients and 22,500 TPS recipients
- Over 63,900 MD immigrants would be eligible for protection under the Dream and Promise Act that has been introduced in the House.
- Ensure that the costs associated with filing the appropriate applications is affordable.

### **Asks - Bills to support and expected follow-up:**

#### **Asylum Processing at the Southern Border**

- **Request that the Biden administration reverse the Title 42 policy in place at the Southern Border and process asylum cases in a timely manner.**  
[Reverse Title 42 health policy that has been shown to have no legitimate basis in protecting the American public from COVID-19]
- **Support H.R. 1238 - To establish the Office of the Ombudsperson for Immigrant Children in Government Custody and for other purposes.**
- **Support H.R. 924 - Southern Border Communities Reimbursement Act**  
[Provide funding for humanitarian relief at the Southern Border of the US]
- **Do not Support H.R. 759 - Asylum Reform and Border Protection Act of 2021**  
[This directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to continue implementing the Remain In Mexico policy among other directives that are harmful to migrants and asylum seekers]

#### **Pathway to Citizenship**

- **Support H.R. 6 - American Dream and Promise Act 2021**  
[This would make DACA protections actual law and provide a pathway to citizenship for individuals brought to the US as children. It would also offer legal status to over 400,000 TPS holders]
- **Support H.R. 1177 – U.S. Citizen Act**  
To provide an earned path to citizenship, to address the root causes of migration and responsibly manage the southern border and to reform the immigrant visa system and for other purposes.
- **Support H.R. 454 - Protect Patriots Parents Act**  
[This would allow the spouses of those serving in the military to apply for a change in their immigration status]
- **Support H.R. 163 - Protect Patriots Spouse Act**  
[This would allow the parents of those serving in the military to apply for a change in their immigration status]
- **Introduce legislation that would make this process financially affordable for the millions of undocumented immigrants that need it.**  
[Legislation that would maintain application fees at the current levels and ensure that any additional applications would be financially feasible]