



Discussion and Prayer in Celebration of

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

St. Ignatius Justice and Peace Committee, Immigration Subcommittee

St. Ignatius Catholic Community

Baltimore, MD




Agenda



- Introduction
- What is World Day of Migrants and Refugees?
- Backgrounder on the current state of migration
- Justice & Peace Committee work in the area of immigration
- Prayer
- Discussion



World Day of Migrants and Refugees

- The Church has been celebrating the World Day of Migrants and Refugees since 1914.
 - It is an occasion to:
 - Express concern for different vulnerable people on the move
 - Pray for them as they face many challenges
 - Increase awareness about the opportunities that migration offers
- 



2021: *Toward an Ever Wider “We”*

- Pope Francis' message for World Day
- The “we” willed by God is broken and fragmented, wounded and disfigured.
- This becomes evident in moments of great crisis; the “we,” both in the wider world and within the Church, is crumbling and cracking due to myopic and aggressive forms of nationalism (referencing *Fratelli Tutti*, 11, 105).
- The highest price is being paid by those who most easily become viewed as others: foreigners, migrants, the marginalized, those living on the existential peripheries.
- Pope Francis calls for a church that is more catholic (universal), embracing all in the “we.”
- Today's migration movements offer an opportunity for us to overcome our fears and let ourselves be enriched by the diversity of each person's gifts.

Home

by: Warsan Shire



***No one leaves home unless
home is the mouth of a shark***





Backgrounder

- ▶ 82 million+ displaced people globally
- ▶ Migrant | Refugee | Asylee | Internally Displaced Person (IDP)
- ▶ Current Crises *impacting* and *providing opportunity* for the US:
 - ▶ Southern Border
 - ▶ Afghanistan
 - ▶ Globally, through Refugee Resettlement Process
- ▶ The truth about the benefits of immigrants
 - ▶ Positive impact on culture
 - ▶ Positive impact on economy
- ▶ Dispelling negative myths
 - ▶ Lower crime rates than those born in the US
 - ▶ No discernible terrorism threat; biggest threat? US white terrorism.
 - ▶ Extreme vetting



Opportunities

- Justice and Peace Committee: Advocacy and Education
- Other Opportunities:
 - Direct Work with migrants and refugees: immigration@st-ignatius.net
 - Support of organizations that serve
 - [Prayer](#)



Prayer





Prayer of Pope Francis

Holy, beloved Father,
your Son Jesus taught us
that there is great rejoicing in heaven
whenever someone lost is found,
whenever someone excluded, rejected or discarded
is gathered into our “we”,
which thus becomes ever wider.
We ask you to grant the followers of Jesus,
and all people of good will,
the grace to do your will on earth.
Bless each act of welcome and outreach
that draws those in exile
into the “we” of community and of the Church,
so that our earth may truly become
what you yourself created it to be:
the common home of all our brothers and sisters.

Amen.

Discussion





Thank you!

For Presentation:

Kathleen@kdleslielaw.com

For more information on
Immigration Subcommittee &
serving Afghan family:

immigration@st-ignatius.net

