



do justice • love tenderly • walk humbly with God Micah 6:8

January 7, 2025

We begin all of our prayer in the presence of our loving Creator; because we are all created in the very image and likeness of God!

As a Christian community, we know this:

We must welcome migrants, refugees, & asylum seekers.

Daily reflection:

(Catholic Social Teaching)

Catholic Social Teaching has its modern roots in Pope Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum*. It addresses many problems in the post-Industrial world including migration, saying that people, "*would cling to the country in which they were born, for no one would exchange his country for a foreign land if his own afforded him the means of living a decent and happy life.*" Pope Leo even sent Mother Cabrini to care for immigrants. People migrate for many reasons, but Catholic Social Teaching has always taught that welcoming refugees and migrants is about human dignity – the image and likeness of God in each person.

Daily decision for action...

Many of us have stories of how/why our families came to this country.

Share one of those stories with someone today. Ask them about their family's stories. The more we all share our stories, the more compassion we all will feel for those who seek a new life.

Intercessions/ our prayer for our world:

For Christians everywhere, that we might find light, peace, and hope so we can be a star to guide people to Christ.

For a swift end to all war and conflict, and for safety for all who flee violence.

For those who are threatened by rulers of nations, may they find a path of safety and a place to call home.

For all who are unhoused and anyone who suffers the effects of severe weather, may they find safety and warmth.

Blessing: *(the prayer of Aaron upon the people: Num. 6:23b–26)*

May the Lord bless you and keep you!

May the Lord let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!

May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!

And we say together with all of the people of God:

Amen!