

AN EIGHT PART ADVENT AND EPIPHANY DEVOTIONAL JOURNEY

## WALKING TOWARD HOPE

DEVELOPED BY
INTERFAITH IMMIGRATION COALITION PARTNERS

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<u> Christ Church Cathedral</u>

We invite you to consider placing your tabletop nativity set inside a cage, surrounding it with wire, or making a large outdoor display with fencing to remember immigrant or refugee families now enduring detention and displacement. Be inspired by the display of Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis - installed since family separation began last summer! Images related to each devotion's theme are also provided on pages 20 and 21. Print these out on large mailing labels or other sticky paper to affix to your display in the first four weeks. Then place the images near your nativity on and following Christmas Eve, to help recall the daily challenges faced by migrants seeking hope. On Christmas Eve, be sure to remove any barrier around your nativity to celebrate the power of Christ's birth to overcome oppression.



## WEEK ONE - WALKING AWAY FROM FAMILY DETENTION

**Jeremiah 33:16** "In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'"

Reflection - Jeremiah's ragged but determined voice called out from a prison cell with a prophecy that wasn't "alternative facts"-- but was a vision of a transformed reality that was to come forth through God's power. Hope would break in, Jeremiah claimed, to overtake the complete devastation his audience had been experiencing since they'd lost their land and been sent into exile following the Babylonian takeover of 587 BCE. The situation of Israel and Judah was dire, their heirs to the throne of David had been lost, and the march of the armies of Nebuchadnezzar was promising corpses in the streets. In his prophecy, safety would replace dangers, their families would be defended, their community would be restored, and their homes would be protected. The promise of God's righteousness would win out over fear and violence. Such a promise remains a motivating dream for immigrant families today as they escape gang violence, threats from cartels, and hopeless work opportunities to make dangerous journeys in desperate hopes of finding safety.

Story - \*\_\_\_\_\_ (anonymous for protection) prayed she would find safety in the U.S. when she fled with her 6 year old son and 16 year old sister to escape violence and threats of murder by gang members in El Salvador. Instead, they all were placed for months in a family detention center in Artesia, New Mexico, where she reported in this online opinion article for the June 25, 2018 NY Times titled "What My 6 Year Old Son and I Endured in Family Detention" - "It was no place for human beings, let alone for families with small children....The day to day conditions were horrible...and we weren't provided with snacks for our children between meals....We waited days for medical attention...(and) there was no legal assistance available to inform us our rights." From experience, \*\_\_\_\_\_ knows well that the administration's announced policy to end family separation, which instead puts parents and children in family detention, "is not a solution. It just exchanges one form of trauma for another."



Art by Rev. Héctor J. Hernández Marcial - Malanga Art Studio

### **Action and Resources -**

1. This Friday is the deadline by which Congress must vote to approve its funding decisions, including funds related to immigrant detention and deportation. See <a href="here">here</a> for how you can contact your legislators to request they instead support <a href="alternatives to detention">alternatives to detention</a> and reduce family detention, and sign on as <a href="faith leaders">faith leaders</a> or <a href="organizations">organizations</a> to urge decreases in enforcement funding that harms families. Call your legislators at: 1-866-940-2439 to urge them to reduce funding for immigrant detentions and deportations!

- 2. Help raise awareness about the <u>negative impacts of family detention</u> on immigrant parents and children by placing Holy Family figures, or other items related children and parents, inside a fence in a prominent outdoor location. Read <u>here</u> why Christ Church Episcopal began their outdoor display against family separation and detention last July.
- 3. Continue to learn and share more from prominent <u>medical</u> and <u>psychological</u> groups about the negative impacts of extended family detention, and <u>raise your voice</u> in your local community and media to ensure children are held only for the shortest time and in the least restrictive environments possible.
- 4. Support a lawyer from your faith community to volunteer short-term legal assistance to families in detention, through programs such as the <u>CARA Family Detention Project</u>. Or, contact legal assistance groups such as <u>CLINIC</u> or the <u>Immigration Justice Campaign</u> for more ways to offer legal support.

**Prayer** - Loving Lord of Life, we pray for immigrant families in this moment who are detained, hungry, lonely, confused, and seeking hope. May you grant to them a vision of life beyond barriers, that they might truly experience a home again that offers safety beyond threats, hope beyond harm, and love beyond locked gates. And give any of us privileged to live freely the courage and will to do all we can to offer healing and end family detention. AMEN.



Faith leaders and children act and pray in Russell Senate Rotunda against family separation and detention.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Put the image for Week 1 on your wire or cage surrounding your nativity.

## WEEK TWO - RESISTING NEGATIVE RULES & EXCLUSIONS

Baruch 5: 5-7 "Up, Jerusalem! ... Look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west...led away on foot by their enemies they left you: but God will bring them back to you."

**Reflection -** Yes, God will bring them back to us as the prophet Baruch reminds us in this second week of Advent. But some seem resistant to human cries for protection. Building on the traumatic separation of families at the border, some in the administration are trying to block immigrant families from having a permanent, secure future in the United States and scare them away from seeking access to health care, nutrition, and housing programs. Our lives in this country should be defined by how we contribute to our communities, not by how much money we have. The new "public charge," or better "wealth test," regulation puts the wealthy ahead of people who have waited years for a green card. This proposed policy could not be further away from the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast we celebrate this week on Dec. 12th. Placed in the heart of Advent, this celebration reminds us that the lowly, the poor, the ones who count for nothing in human eyes--very much like Juan Diego, the poor peasant to whom Mary chose to appear-- are the people she



favors. God doesnot look at our wealth to declare us worthy to belong to the kingdom. Yet our immigration policies would like to look into the pockets of immigrants, before welcoming them into the United States of America. Like John the Baptist we need to go in our streets and proclaim again even louder this time: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths...and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

**Story** - Clara came from Nicaragua to visit her cousins in the U.S. when she was 16. Soon after arriving, Hurricane Mitch ravaged her hometown and several family members were killed or displaced. She stayed in the U.S. because she had nowhere safe to which to return, and in 2001 she was granted Temporary Protected Status (TPS). Not able to finish school, Clara worked for many years as a hotel housekeeper. In November 2017, the government announced they would be ending TPS for Nicaraguans. Clara and her partner of many years decided to get married. Clara is pregnant and is enrolled in Medicaid because she lives in Ohio, a state that provides health coverage to lawfully residing pregnant women. Clara's husband wants to sponsor Clara for a green card before her TPS expires in January 2019 but fears that using health coverage during her pregnancy will cause a problem. Clara's public charge test under the proposed rule: Receiving Medicaid for 12 months or longer in the 3 years prior to her application for a green card would be a heavily weighed negative factor held against Clara. However, it would not count against her if she was only enrolled before the effective date of the final rule. - Protecting Immigrant Families

- 1. Educate yourself on the "Public Charge" rule. Who does it affect the most? Use this <u>Interfaith</u> <u>Public Charge Toolkit</u> to help you learn more about the proposed rule.
- 2. Watch and share this new <u>interfaith video</u> to become energized to share your views on the proposed rule BEFORE the end of December 10th. Go again to the toolkit above to know how to prepare and submit your comments.
- 3. The proposed public charge ruling targets low-income immigrants and views them primarily as potential financial assets to the United States--but that lens is at odds with God's respect for the dignity of all creatures. Engage someone in a conversation about the Public Charge rule, and encourage others to submit their comments, too!



Prayer - Blessed are You, Lord Jesus Christ. You crossed every border between Divinity and humanity to make your home with us. Help us to welcome you in newcomers, migrants and refugees. Blessed are You, God of all nations. You bless our land richly with goods of creation and with people made in your image. Help us to be good stewards and peacemakers, who live as your children. Blessed are You, Holy Spirit. You work in the hearts of all to bring about harmony and goodwill. Strengthen us to welcome those from other lands,

cultures, religions, that we may live in human solidarity and in hope. God of all people, grant us vision to see your presence in our midst, especially in our immigrant sisters and brothers. Give us courage to open the door to our neighbors and grace to build a society of justice. - Pax Christi

<sup>\*\*</sup>Put the image for Week 2 on your wire or cage surrounding your nativity.

### WEEK THREE - WELCOMING ASYLUM SEEKERS

**Philippians 4:6-7** - "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. **Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God**. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

**Reflection** - The apostle Paul instructs us to trust God in the face of overwhelming challenges. Asylum seekers do just that when they undertake the long and dangerous journey to seek safety in the United States. In doing so, they also put their faith in us to receive them with the kindness and compassion asked of us by the Lord, for we too were once strangers in the land of Egypt.

**Story** - Alberto and Carlos' father, a Honduran police officer, was murdered by gang members. Other police officers worried about retaliation, so they never looked into his death. They did encourage Alberto and Carlos' mother to leave the country, warning that she, too, could be killed.

Their mother made the hard decision to flee to the U.S., and left the boys with their grandmother. The boys and their grandmother tried to hide from the gang members. But the gangs continued to find them. Finally, their mother couldn't take it anymore and sent for them to come to the United States. Alberto and Carlos made the long journey across half of Central America and Mexico alone.

They were detained at the border, but eventually placed in the care of Catholic Charities Atlanta. Catholic Charities reconnected the boys with their mom and provided additional services to the family, including helping them receive political asylum.



Before they could send for the grandmother, her body was found locked inside a burned-out shed. Alberto and Carlos' mother still tears up when she talks about their grandmother, but she is thankful for her family's fresh start in the U.S. - <u>Las Posadas Navideñas - CLINIC</u>



1. Las Posadas Navideñas are a Latin American tradition in which communities gather together to recreate Mary and Joseph's search for shelter. They're also a great way to spark dialogue about immigration issues by drawing parallels between the Holy Family's search for shelter and that of migrants seeking safety. Consider attending one, like the Catholic Legal Immigration Network's in

Washington, D.C., or organizing your own. Hosting one outside a legislative building adds additional emphasis to the responsibility we have to provide a space for immigrants, just as the innkeeper opened his doors to Mary and Joseph on the eve of Jesus' birth.

2. Volunteer with a local non-profit immigration legal service provider that helps immigrants seeking asylum. To locate one near you, visit <u>CLINIC's Directory</u>.

**Prayer** - Lord, we ask that you watch over our brothers and sisters making their way towards us with weary feet and hopeful hearts. May we open our own to receive them and provide the comfort you have asked us to give them. Amen.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Put the image for Week 3 on your wire or cage surrounding your nativity.

## WEEK FOUR - DEFENDING FAMILIES FACING DEPORTATION

**Micah 5:2,4** "You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah, too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel... his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace."



Reflection - Our God is surely a God of surprises. You never know whose gifts God will raise up for the community or who among us might be God's instrument of healing. Will we spot the greatness of God in our Haitian neighbor? Will we recognize God's goodness in the Salvadoran grandmother, the Honduran banker, the Sudanese doctor, or the Liberian teacher? Look closely, listen carefully, they have come to lead us to the Prince Peace.

**Story -** Isabel is a 50-year-old grandmother. Originally from El Salvador, she is a recipient of Temporary

Protected Status (TPS). TPS was established by Congress in 1990 and is intended to protect people like her from being returned to their home countries because those countries have become unsafe. Many, like Isabel, have been in the U.S. for decades. They have established families, launched businesses, and enriched our communities.

Isabel and her two young children came to the U.S. in 2001, reuniting with relatives in Massachusetts. After an earthquake ravaged her native El Salvador, TPS allowed the family to put down roots in the U.S. Isabel built a family-run bakery before moving on to work in local government. Her children, now grown, have enrolled in local universities and have built their own families. Now Isabel has three grandchildren, all U.S. citizens. If TPS for El Salvador is terminated, it would literally tear her family apart, a reality that has hit Isabel's eight-year-old granddaughter especially hard. She recently wrote a letter to President Trump asking him not to deport her grandmother and father. - CLINIC

### **Action and Resources -**

As people of faith we are called to protect the stranger and stand with those in need. This fourth Sunday of advent we are particularly mindful of

those threatened by the administration's decision to terminate their TPS status, deport them, and destroy their families.



- 1. Learn More About TPS -
  - 1. Justice for Immigrants "Temporary Protected Status"
  - 2. CNN "What is Temporary Protected Status" video
  - 3. Download and share the Interfaith Toolkit to Defend TPS
- 2. Voice your support for TPS recipients:
  - 1. Call your Members of Congress (202-224-3121) and urge them to support TPS holders and #SaveTPS.
  - 2. Write an Op-Ed or Letter-to-the-Editor (download the <u>Interfaith Toolkit</u> for samples) and educate your neighbors about the threat to TPS families in our communities.

**Prayer** - Good and gracious God, we thank you for the many ways you reveal yourself to us—in the kindness of a grandmother, the generosity of a neighbor, the comfort of a friend. Give us eyes to see your goodness in the faces of our immigrant neighbors and ears to hear the good news of your word made flesh in those recipients of temporary protection who are now threatened by our government. Give us the strength to walk with them as together we seek the prince of peace.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Put the image for Week 4 on your wire or cage surrounding your nativity.

## CHRISTMAS EVE - CELEBRATING REUNIONS & PROTECTIONS

**Luke 2: 8-12** - "In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

**Reflection** - Seized by terror, the shepherds who lived in the fields had never seen anything like it – unexpected, unknown, uncontrollable was the inbreaking of God on that night. The answer to the shepherd's fear is the angel's announcement that a Savior, the Messiah is born – God is with us! And the sign of God's presence will be found in a child, lying in a manger. So much of our daily lives brings us face to face with events that are unexpected, new challenges for which we are unprepared, and a sense of having little control. On this night, the fear in our hearts is met with the good news that God is with us. God comes to us anew as we celebrate the birth of the Christ child of Bethlehem. And in the faces of the children around us, we see the Good News of hope and promise.



Tracy Outlaw, Lutheran Social Services, SW

Story - In response to a court order, children who had been separated from their families under the "Zero-Tolerance" immigration policy were reunited, beginning in July, 2018. As those families transitioned from the traumatic experience of separation, they were met by friendly volunteers, child welfare experts, and trauma-informed case workers. A stuffed animal was placed in the hands of every young child; school age children received back packs; parents received clean clothes; temporary shelter and meals were provided; and ongoing needs were assessed as plans were made for transportation to the family's final

destination in the United States. One mother remarked, "When I was separated from my son, I prayed for an angel. I never knew that God would send so many." In September, one father wrote to a volunteer to say he hoped one day his little girl would grow up to be like the volunteers who helped them when they were released.

- 1. View the <u>Atlantic's</u> photo essay and stories of children being reunited with their parents.
- 2. <u>Click here to send a letter</u> to your members of Congress asking them to support child welfare protections.



Tracy Outlaw, Lutheran Social Services, SW

**Prayer** - Almighty God, as we celebrate the fulfillment of your promise to be present in the midst of your people, release us from the fear that holds human hearts and human communities in terror. Lead us to the manger to find you in the Christ child; turn us to the children in our midst to find your presence there. Bring joy to families who are safe and together; surround those who watch and wait with your love and abiding care. Amen.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Remove any cage or wire surrounding your nativity on Christmas Eve night. Then, put the image for Christmas Eve hope near your nativity set.

## HOLY INNOCENTS -ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION

**Matthew 2:16** "When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi."



Marco Dormino - UNICEF

Reflection - The Holy Innocents, small children killed by Herod after Jesus' birth, had done nothing to provoke the king's rage. Herod was in a power struggle that weakened him politically and turned his anger and fear against the vulnerable families of Bethlehem. Like Joseph and Mary fleeing Herod's wrath, many parents seeking asylum are fleeing for their children's sake. They're forced to run from one country whose leaders have made raising children fundamentally unsafe to the United States, only to find themselves separated from their children, or

inappropriately housed in prison-like detention facilities with them, as American leadership turns their anger and fear toward today's most vulnerable families.

**Story** - \*Maricella (named changed for protection) entered the U.S. near San Diego on Christmas Eve. At the time, she was several months pregnant, and had travelled thousands of miles from Guatemala together with her two-year-old son, husband, and mother-in-law. Like many migrants, the family first tried to seek asylum through an official border checkpoint; but being denied entrance, they were pushed into more dangerous territory to enter. Their life in Guatemala had become filled with perpetual threats from gangs which pressured her mother-in-law to abuse her role in a financial

institution to launder funds for them. When she consistently refused to be dishonest, the gangs followed the family as they attempted to avert the threats by moving from town to town. Upon entrance, the family was separated, as the mother-in-law was detained in California, the father was sent to a detention center in southern Georgia, and Maricella and the children were sent to live with a family member in the Washington, D.C. area. Currently, faith partners are assisting all three to pursue separate asylum claims, with three separate lawyers, in their three separate locations—as the family desperately hopes to re-unify, stabilize, and work in the year ahead.



<u>Fibonacci Blu</u>

- 1. Join with people of faith and conscience to <u>sign on</u> to a national "Pledge to Stand in Solidarity with People Seeking Asylum." Add your name, and you'll receive additional ways you can advocate to help build support for families fleeing violence to seek protection—and to help family members of all ages get into the US safely and out of detention as soon as possible.
- 2. As children whose parents are detained face great pain, perhaps even more so do children detained alone and unaccompanied, away from their parents. Read <a href="here">here</a> how the Tornillo detention camp for children has expanded to five times its original size in recent months. Most are children who crossed into the US alone, and some were separated from caretakers.
- 3. Urge your legislators to support much less costly and humane Alternatives to Detention. Learn more <u>here</u> about alternatives, and about how you can engage to be a human presence to individuals and families who are detained.

**Prayer** - O God, today we remember the slaughter of the holy innocents of Bethlehem by King Herod. Help us to recognize and receive all the victims of tyranny with mercy and welcome and to frustrate the plans of evil rulers, and establish your rule of justice, love, and peace; by your great might and through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Put the image for Holy Innocents near your nativity set.

# THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY - ROOT CAUSES OF REFUGEES

**Luke 2:48** - "When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him 'Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety.'"

Reflection - The teenaged Jesus stayed behind in the temple in Jerusalem, heedless of the anxiety it would cause his parents when they missed him in the caravan. After they searched for three days and found him, and his mother reprimanded him, he went home "and was obedient to them." In 2018, thousands of children have been separated from their immigrant parents, not by choice, but by U.S. policies. Many refugee families have also been separated, with one parent having received asylum in the U.S. while the rest of the family is stranded in a refugee camp in another country.



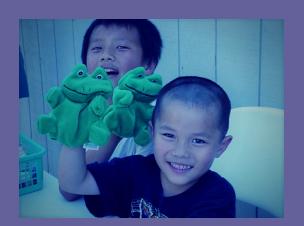
Today's "holy families" long to be reunited and experience the relief and joy that the Holy Family experienced centuries ago.

Today's immigrants and refugees migrate for similar reasons, though immigrants choose to leave their home countries to escape violence and extreme poverty, While refugees are forced to leave by internal wars and conflicts, U.S. anti-immigrant and anti-refugee policies fail to acknowledge the desperation and the root causes of WHY families and individuals migrate from their countries. They are not terrorists; they are men, women and children whose stories call for humane and compassionate responses.

**Story** - Stories abound of resettled refugees in the U.S. who contribute in many ways to their new country. For example, between 2000 and 2014 refugees and immigrants in Lancaster, PA helped create or preserve over 1,000 manufacturing jobs that would have disappeared or moved. An exiled Bhutanese refugee in Columbus, OH, while he worked another job, opened a restaurant featuring South Asian food. An Uzbekistan Turk who fled a massacre in Russia worked hard at different jobs in Charlottesville, VA before purchasing an auto repair shop which has high approval ratings and provides jobs. In 2017, an 18 year old Somali refugee in Milwaukee published a book of personal refugee narratives because, as she said, "Some people don't understand the sacrifices that immigrants make."

- 1. See this <u>blog</u> to hear responses of refugees and religious leaders to the named "Presidential Determination" goal number of only 30,000 refugees for the Oct. 2018-Sept. 2019 fiscal year; the smallest goal number ever. Then, keep track of how many refugees are (or are not yet) being allowed to enter the U.S. each month, and learn additional facts and stories about how you can support refugees in this time on the <u>Refugee Council USA website</u>.
- 2. Join with the partners in the "We Are All America" movement who are continuing to encourage the US to resettle 75,000 refugees during this fiscal year. Click here to learn more.
- 3. Stay updated about various challenges of refugees around the world through the UN Refugee Agency's <u>Refugee Brief</u>.

**Prayer -** Holy Family of Nazareth, you experienced the fear and anxiety of being refugees in Egypt, as well as gratitude for safety and welcome. Watch over refugees today seeking safety and a new home in the USA. We pray that we may be a more welcoming nation to those exiled from their countries.



<sup>\*\*</sup>Put the image for Refugees near your nativity set.

# EPIPHANY/ DIA DE REYES - WALKING TOGETHER AT THE BORDER

**Isaiah 60:1, 5** "Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you....Then...your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because...the wealth of the nations shall come to you."



Reflection - Indeed the glory of the Lord had come upon the people that had long waited for a deliverer. But it came in an unexpected form - a baby born to unprivileged parents. Yet it was predicted that people and nations would come and be gathered to witness this insane incarnation. And for those who accepted God in a an unexpected form there was hope. There was hope for those that could see God in the life of the persecuted refugee child. There was hope for those who would follow his unlikely ways. God will continue to reveal himself/herself in

unexpected places through unexpected people. As we witness migrant families arriving at the southern border may we wonder what hope they are bringing. How is God revealing himself through them?

**Story** - Rosa Irene Gomez Diaz had waited over two hours on the bridge to seek entrance into the United States. Though she would have preferred to remain far away at home in Honduras with her children, instead she waited with them in the hot sun near to the U.S. border, in prayerful hopes to be allowed to seek asylum that could grant them ongoing safety. Her husband had been killed by gangs months before, and she carried with her documentation of his death from a news report of his brutal murder. She also carried a police report she'd filed following his death--when the gangs refused to leave her alone, demanding a "war tax" and following her and her children from town to town. Now, she could only say, "God has the final word," and hope for an opportunity to find welcome in the United States just north of the border. (Story from "Asylum: Beyond the Border Crisis" by Kevin Clancy, Kate Grumke, and Jennifer Smart, July 23, 2018.) Click here to read more and watch Rosa's story.

- 1. Go <u>here</u> to see just a few of the concrete ways to see how you can offer to host migrant families who otherwise would remain in indefinite detention, and learn how to help grassroots partners meet direct needs of migrants at or near the border. Also, look <u>here</u> for links to targeted alerts from your own faith group to find specific ways your faith community is directing actions!
- 2. See many ways in our <u>Interfaith Caravan/Asylum Toolkit</u> you can bear public and prayerful witness in support of asylum seekers at or near the border, and please consider signing on to this letter as <u>faith leaders</u> or <u>organizations</u> to uphold persons seeking protections.
- 3. Go here to the Facebook site of <u>The Inn Project</u> in Tucson, AZ. to get a sense of what is happening all along the border, as communities of faith seek to help recently entered migrants find a safe way to their next destination, as they prepare for and await their immigration court asylum appointments.

Prayer - God whose love knows no bounds or borders, and who made all peoples of the world in your holy image, may you give grace in this moment to migrants still on journeys. May each of their steps take them nearer to hope. May their families find the security they so courageously seek. May each shelter worker along the pathway be renewed with strength and resources to offer hospitality. And may our arms - whether near or from a distance -



continue to discern ways to reach out to build pathways to safety for each individual and family. Build our generosity of support and our conviction to stand in solidarity with all pursuing protection for the most vulnerable among us; and be the Epiphany Light to our world that guides all in their walking toward hope.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Put the image for Epiphany near your nativity set.

### WITH GRATITUDE

Thanks to all who contributed to this team project, including Helen Salita (Sojourners) for design and all writers:

Sharon Stanley-Rea (Disciples of Christ)
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<sup>\*\*</sup>Below, print out pages 20 - 21 on full size mailing labels or on other sticky paper. Affix the images on your cage display (for the first four devotions) and another location near your nativity (for the final four devotions) to remember immigrants and refugees walking toward hope this Advent and Epiphany season.

### PHOTO PAGES

Please see a photo that corresponds with each devotion on the accompanying pages. You are invited to print out the photos on mailing label/sticker paper. Affix the images as you wish to your wire cage, or print and post them near your nativity to remember the lives of refugees and immigrants as you approach the birth of Christ in this season.



Week 1



Week 2



Week 3



Week 4



Christmas Eve



Holy Innocents



Refugees



Epiphany