

<p>The Immigration Ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago invites everyone—individuals, classrooms, and parishes—to use this calendar during the Lenten season to nourish a deeper compassion and a lived spirituality of following Christ in these difficult times. Let us be challenged to see the face of Christ in all those we call a stranger, to see the suffering of Christ in immigrants and refugees, and to work toward comprehensive immigration reform that will preserve human dignity and preserve families.</p>		<p>6 Ash Wednesday: Begin this Lent with ashes and fasting to lament the devastation of sin, personal and social, that causes the alienation of immigrants. “Rend your hearts, not your garments.” [See Jl. 2:12-18]</p> <p>MARCH</p>		<p>7 In accepting the Cross, Jesus suffers in solidarity with the immigrant community and all humanity. Offer up your discomforts today in union with them.</p>		<p>8 This rather is the fasting that I wish... sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed” [See Is. 58:1-9a] Join in prayer for detained immigrants.</p> <p>7:15 a.m. Interfaith Prayer Vigil at the Broadview Detention Center*</p>		<p>9 “I have not come to call the righteous to repentance, but the sinners” [see Lk. 5:27-32] Consider that to eliminate the injustices oppressing immigrants, we must first eliminate the injustice in our own hearts.</p>					
<p>10 1st Sunday of Lent. At Mass, consider how immigrants in the USA today can relate with the Hebrews who migrated to Egypt, first seeking refuge, but soon finding themselves victimized despite success. [See Dt. 26:4-10]</p>		<p>11 “Lord when did we see you a stranger and welcome you?” [See Mt. 25:31-46] Encourage your pastor to recognize newly arrived families at mass, give them a welcome basket and follow up to ensure they are well provided for.</p>		<p>12 “If you forgive men their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you.” [See Mt. 6:7-15] Reflect how you can forgive those with whom you disagree or have offended on immigration issues.</p>		<p>13 Like Jonah, the immigrant community is sent to preach repentance to a people who have lost their way. [See Jnh. 3:1-10] Reflect how immigrants are missionaries to this country.</p>		<p>14 Queen Esther bravely advocated for her oppressed people in a hostile land and won their protection. [See Est. C. 12, 14-16, 23-25] Visit your legislators to support comprehensive immigration reform.</p>		<p>15 “Go first and be reconciled with your brother.” [See Mt. 5:20-26] Reflect on the need for reconciliation between immigrants and non-immigrants in this country.</p> <p>7:15 a.m. Interfaith Prayer Vigil at the Broadview Detention Center*</p>		<p>16 “Cease doing evil; learn to do good.” [See Is. 1:16-18]. Receive the sacrament of Reconciliation and do penance for those who abuse immigrants.</p>	
<p>17 2nd Sunday of Lent. St. Patrick’s Day. “Rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength!” [See Neh. 8:9, 10] Celebrate the Mass with joy, confident that in God’s timing, He will bring about justice for immigrants.</p>		<p>18 “Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.” [See Rom. 12:1-2] Educate yourself and your community on immigration issues by having a guest speaker from the Archdiocesan office.</p>		<p>19 “What good is it to profess faith without practicing it?” [See Jm. 2:14-18] Make a donation to the Immigration Ministry to support direct aid to the local immigrant community.</p>		<p>20 “In everything you do, act without grumbling or arguing.” [See Phil. 2:12b-16] When discussing immigration issues, strive for dialogue in peace, not shouting down the other.</p>		<p>21 “Draw close to God, and he will draw close to you” [See Jm. 4:7-10]. Take time to pray in silence and ask God what you can do for the immigrant community.</p>		<p>22 “Through his suffering, my servant shall justify many” [See Is. 53:11b-12]. Reflect how Christ takes responsibility for the hardships and redemption of immigrants.</p> <p>7:15 a.m. Interfaith Prayer Vigil at the Broadview Detention Center*</p>		<p>23 “Come now, let us set things right, says the Lord.” [See Is. 1:16-18] Write to your government representatives, urging them to support comprehensive immigration reform.</p>	
<p>24 3rd Sunday of Lent. “Now is the day of salvation!” [See 2 Cor. 6:1-4a] Pray for the salvation of all the world, especially those immigrants who wander far from God.</p>		<p>25 “I bore you up on eagle wings and brought you here to myself.” [See Ex. 19:4-6a] Reflect on your own migrant journey to where you are now and see God’s guiding hand in your life.</p>		<p>26 “Return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, weeping and mourning.” [See Jl. 2:12-13] Fast from some food today and give the money saved to your parish’s ministry for immigrants.</p>		<p>27 [See Mt. 5:17-19] Jesus came to fulfill the law. Work for legislation that embodies Catholic social teaching and basic human rights. Visit cliniclegal.org</p>		<p>28 “But you have never heard his voice nor seen his form” [See Jn. 5:31-47] Pray that people will open their hearts to hear God in the voice of the immigrant and see Christ in their eyes.</p>		<p>29 Pray the sorrowful mysteries of the rosary for the Dreamers who live in fear and painful uncertainty due to their status.</p> <p>7:15 a.m. Interfaith Prayer Vigil at the Broadview Detention Center*</p>		<p>30 “The one who humbles himself will be exalted” [See Lk. 14:11] Learn about the difficult path immigrants take. Explore Pope Francis’ #sharethejourney in social media.</p>	
<p>31 4th Sunday of Lent. “Run so as to win!” [See 1 Cor. 9:24-27] Make a resolution to finish strong with your Lenten devotions for immigrants. We are over halfway to Easter!</p>		<p>1 “A royal official, hearing that Jesus had come to Galilee, begged him to heal his son who lay ill in Capernaum” [See Gospel]. Pray for the health and mental wellbeing of immigrants in these stressful times.</p> <p>APRIL</p>		<p>2 “The man who cured me told me to pick up my sleeping mat and go in peace.” [See Gospel] Thank God for his healing hand in the lives of many immigrants.</p>		<p>3 “By myself, says the Lord, I can do nothing.” [See Gospel] Volunteer at your parish to help welcome immigrants into the full life of the community.</p>		<p>4 “They walked in the hardness of their hearts and turned their backs” [See Jer. 7:24]. Repent of your own hardness of heart towards others, especially immigrants in most need of mercy.</p>		<p>5 “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; and those who are crushed in spirit he saves.” [See Ps. 34:19] Pray a rosary for the families of detained immigrants.</p> <p>7:15 a.m. Interfaith Prayer Vigil at the Broadview Detention Center*</p>		<p>6 “Let the malice of the wicked come to an end” [See Ps. 7:8]. How will you turn malice against immigrants into a calling?</p>	
<p>7 5th Sunday of Lent. Station 1: Jesus is condemned. Learn the push and pull factors of immigration and why many immigrants decide to come to this country.</p>		<p>8 Station 2: Jesus accepts his cross. Pray for those immigrants who have recently left home in search of a better life.</p>		<p>9 Station 3: Jesus falls the first time. Pray for the families of immigrants who continue to suffer violence and instability in their countries of origin.</p>		<p>10 Station 4: Jesus meets his grieving mother. Learn the stories of immigrants in your community and share in the grief of the Church for her sons and daughters.</p>		<p>11 Station 5: Simon helps Jesus carry the cross. Consider becoming an Immigration Parish Coordinator (IPC) or PM Agent to support your local immigrant community. Contact the Immigration Ministry for more info.</p>		<p>12 Station 6: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus. Visit a detention center to pray for and accompany detained immigrants.</p> <p>7:15 a.m. Interfaith Prayer Vigil at Broadview Detention Center*</p>		<p>13 Station 7: Jesus falls the second time. Pray for the immigrants who have arrived in this country, only to be confronted with discrimination and hardship.</p>	
<p>14 Palm Sunday. Reflect on the presence of Christ among the men and women recently arriving from Central America in the caravans, and pray for their reception with dignity.</p>		<p>15 Station 8: Jesus comforts the women. Pray for all mothers, fathers and children who have been separated from each other at the border.</p>		<p>16 Station 9: Jesus falls a third time. Reflect on the endurance of immigrants despite how many times immigration reform has failed in this country.</p>		<p>17 Station 10: Jesus is stripped of his garments. In detention centers, immigrants are forced to wear uniforms and are sometimes released without proper clothing for the weather. Donate coats to be delivered to detainees.</p>		<p>18 Holy Thursday. Station 11: Jesus is nailed to the cross. Attend your parish’s liturgy in solidarity with the suffering of immigrants who are arrested and abused while in detention.</p>		<p>19 Good Friday. Station 12: Jesus dies on the cross. Attend and offer your parish liturgy for the eternal peace of the many immigrants who have died while in detention centers.</p> <p>7:15 a.m. Interfaith Prayer Vigil at the Broadview Detention Center*</p>		<p>20 Station 13: Jesus is taken down from the cross. Station 14: Jesus in the tomb. Pray for Mary’s intercession for an end to the unjust detention and abuse of migrants around the world.</p>	
<p>21 Easter Sunday! Jesus is alive! Alleluia! Just as Christ conquered the grave, may his resurrection bring about the victory of a just and fair immigration legal system.</p>		<p>22 Easter Monday. Celebrate the mystery of life and in a hospitable way by holding an Easter party with immigrant newcomers to your community.</p>		<p>For more information about the Immigration Ministry, including resources, speakers, donations, and opportunities to get involved visit: catholicsandimmigrants.org</p>								<p>*Broadview Detention Center 1930 Beach Street Broadview, IL 60155</p>	



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Since 2006, the Immigration Ministry has provided a Lenten Calendar asking all Catholics to accompany immigrants on their journey for justice. This year, please pray, fast, and act in support of integrating the migrants and refugees from the Central American caravans.

PRAY

We pray to you, God the Father of all peoples,
You who called your chosen ones out of Egypt,
And guided them through the desert with bread from heaven.
Protect the migrant families who are coming to this nation with your mercy.
You gave to us your only Son, Jesus the refugee,
Who preferred the way of the cross above all else,
And rose from the tomb, transcending death.
Bring new spiritual life to the migrants on their journey.
With Him, you sent the Holy Spirit to accompany
Us, your children, throughout the whole world,
To proclaim justice and mercy for sinners.
Help us every day to welcome those whom you send as missionaries. Amen.

FAST

On Fridays during Lent, abstain from meat and eat one simple meal of rice and beans to commemorate Christ's fasting in the wilderness and to empathize with the immigrants coming to our country "hungry" for a better and dignified life.

ACT

During Lent, volunteer and serve immigrant families at the border and in family detention. Consider giving to or volunteering with one of the Catholic Respite Centers on the border such as Annunciation House in El Paso (annunciationhouse.org), Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley (catholiccharitiesrgv.org/Home.aspx), or Catholic Community Service (ccsww.org).

To learn more, visit us at catholicsandimmigrants.org or on Facebook at [office.for.immigrant.affairs/](https://www.facebook.com/office.for.immigrant.affairs/)



IMMIGRATION MINISTRY

LENTEN CALENDAR | 2019

