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.

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]

7:15 a.m. Interfaith Prayer Vigil at the Broadview Detention Center.

10 1st Sunday of Lent. Let 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]

11 from the 14th Sunday of the Year, pray for those immigrants who have appeared before the Immigration Office. [See Mt. 25:31-46]

Encourage your pastor to recognize newly arrived families at your Mass and give them a welcome basket and follow up to ensure they are well provided for.

12 “If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will forgive you.” [See Mt. 6:14-15] Reflect how you can forgive those with whom you disagree or have offended on immigration issues.

13 “Like a neighbor, the immigrant community is sent to preach repentance to a people who have lost their way. [See Jn. 5:1-10]. Reflect how immigrants are missionaries to this country.

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.

15 “Go first and be reconciled with your brother!” [See Mt. 5:25-26]. Reflect on the need for reconciliation between immigrants and non-immigrants in this country.

16 “Cease doing evil; learn to do good!” [See Is. 1:16-17] Receive the sacrament of Reconciliation and do penance for those who abuse immigrants.

17 2nd Sunday of Lent. St. Patrick’s Day. Reflect on the mystery of life and in a hospitable way hold an Easter party with immigrant newcomers to your community.

For more information about the Immigration Ministry, including resources, speakers, donations, and opportunities to get involved visit: catholicsandinmigrants.org

21 Holy Thursday. Station 1: Jesus is taken to the court of the high priest. Reflect on the suffering and personal belief of ministry and share in the grief of the Church for his sons and daughters.

Station 2: Jesus is handed over to the court of the high priest. Pray for the health and mental well-being of immigrants in these stressful times.

18 Good Friday. Station 12: Jesus dies on the cross. Attend and offer your parish liturgy in solidarity with the suffering of immigrants who are arrested and abused while in detention centers.

Station 13: Jesus is taken to the court of the high priest. Reflect on the suffering and personal belief of ministry and share in the grief of the Church for his sons and daughters.

22 Easter Monday. Celebrate the mystery of life and in a hospitable way hold an Easter party with immigrant newcomers to your community.

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*Broadview Detention Center 1930 Beach Street Broadview, IL 60155
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 Respites 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 (ccswv.org).

To learn more, visit catholicsandimmigrants.org or on Facebook at office.for.immigrant.affairs/