

<p>The <b>Immigration Ministry</b> 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 compassionate immigration reform that will preserve human dignity and preserve families.</p>			<p><b>14 Ash Wednesday.</b> <i>“If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.”</i> [Psalm 95:8] We begin our holy Lenten journey with immigrants and refugees, with whole hearts dedicated in love.</p>			<p><b>15</b> From today's First Reading: <i>“Choose life... by loving the Lord your God.”</i> [Dt 30:15-20]. Spread God's love in our world and speak up to defend the rights of immigrants when you witness hostile acts and hear hateful speech.</p>			<p><b>16</b> Read [Is 58:1-9a] and pray for all those who will be deported today, and for their families who remain in this country and face an uncertain future.</p>			<p><b>17</b> <i>“Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth.”</i> [Ps. 86:11] That we may walk alongside with our immigrant sisters and brothers in God's path of love, acceptance and mercy.</p>								
<p><b>FEBRUARY</b></p>																				
<p><b>18 1st Sunday of Lent.</b> Read [Mk 1:12-15]: <i>“This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”</i></p>			<p><b>19</b> Reflect on this from today's Gospel [Mt 25:31-46]. May we see the face of Christ in those detained in their homes and deported.</p>			<p><b>20</b> Jesus taught his disciples the Lord's Prayer [Mt 6:7] Pause one minute after saying, <i>“Our Father”</i> and think about who are your sisters and brothers in our world.</p>			<p><b>21</b> Today's 1st reading: <i>“God may relent and forgive... so that we shall not perish”</i> [Jon 3-10]. Pray that those who have uttered hateful words toward immigrants will repent and change their ways.</p>			<p><b>22</b> Today's readings: <i>“Tend the flock of God in your midst... as God would have it”</i> [1Pt 5:1-4]. Speak to your Pastor: What can your community do to ease the anxieties of immigrants and refugees?</p>			<p><b>23</b> Reflect on [Mt 5:20-26]. How can we reconcile with our immigrant brothers and sisters who face discrimination?</p>			<p><b>24</b> Consider these words of Jesus: <i>“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you”</i> [Mt 5:44]. Pick a government official or media personality who has attacked immigrants and refugees and pray for them daily.</p>		
<p><b>25 2nd Sunday of Lent.</b> In today's first reading, God tells Abraham, as he begins his Migration journey, <i>“All the nations of the earth will find blessing in you.”</i> How are people from other nations a blessing to us and to our communities?</p>			<p><b>26</b> Today's Gospel: <i>“Give and gifts will be given to you”</i> [Lk 6:36-38] Reflect on Cardinal Cupich's words during National Migration Week 2018 <i>“Our lives only mean something if we give ourselves to others”</i>.</p>			<p><b>27</b> Read [Mt 23:12]. Pray for immigrants who dedicate their lives to make our country a better place: those who provide services, who clean our hotels and houses, cook and serve our food, maintain our lawns and gardens.</p>			<p><b>28</b> <i>“In a spirit of compassion, let us embrace all those fleeing from war and hunger, or forced by discrimination, persecution, poverty and environmental degradation to leave their homelands.”</i> Read Pope Francis' Message World Day of Peace 2018.</p>			<p><b>1</b> Pope Francis launched <i>Share the Journey</i> a global campaign" to dispel widespread fear of newcomers and to raise awareness of why so many people are compelled to leave their homes at this time in history. Visit <a href="http://sharethejourney.org">sharethejourney.org</a></p>			<p><b>2</b> Pray the sorrowful mysteries; remember the young people, the Dreamers who live in fear and painful uncertainty due to their status.</p>			<p><b>3</b> <i>“He was lost and has been found!”</i> [Lk 15:32] Assist young immigrants to be welcomed as God's children. Contact Congress and ask to insure the safety and protection of unaccompanied refugee children, visit <a href="http://www.congress.gov/contact-us">www.congress.gov/contact-us</a></p>		
<p><b>4 3rd Sunday of Lent.</b> <i>“Many began to believe in his name when they saw the signs he was doing.”</i> [Jn 2:13-25]. Reflect on today's Gospel and visit <a href="http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org">www.justiceforimmigrants.org</a></p>			<p><b>5</b> <i>“I hope in the LORD, I trust in his word”</i> [Ps 130:5,7] Let us live in solidarity and accompany each other with words of hope and encouragement.</p>			<p><b>6</b> <i>“Teach me your paths, guide me in your truth.”</i> [Ps 25:4-5] Pray for those who journey for safety and food. May God guide us to welcome them.</p>			<p><b>7</b> Mt 5:17-19 Jesus came to fulfill the law. Work for legislation that embodies Catholic social teaching and basic human rights. <a href="http://www.cliniclegal.org">www.cliniclegal.org</a></p>			<p><b>8</b> <i>“They walked in the hardness of their hearts and turned their backs”</i> [Jer 7:24] Pray for those with hardened hearts that they may hear the stories and voices of the immigrants.</p>			<p><b>9</b> <i>“Love your neighbor as yourself”</i> [Mk 12:31]. Learn the journey of your own immigrant family. Pray for all who journey to this country.</p>			<p><b>10</b> <i>“The one who humbles himself will be exalted.”</i> [Lk 18:14] Consider what people go through in order to find safety and provide for their family. Explore Pope Francis' #sharethejourney in social media.</p>		
<p><b>11 4th Sunday of Lent.</b> Reflect on John 9:1-41: In this Gospel, Jesus restores the sight of the man born blind. In what ways have we been blind to the plight of immigrants? Let us ask God for guidance. Contact 202.224.3121</p>			<p><b>12</b> Today's Reading: <i>“No longer shall the sound of weeping be heard there”</i> [Is 65:19] Pray that the Dreamers, brought here as children, do not weep for lives deported and dreams ended.</p>			<p><b>13</b> Today's Gospel: Jesus said to him, <i>“Rise, take up your mat, and walk.”</i> [Jn 5:8] His friends carried him to the one who would heal him. Call your rep to bring an end to deportations at 202.224.3121</p>			<p><b>14</b> <i>“I will never forget you”</i> [Is 49:15] Tell Congress to take the lead in proposing and passing compassionate Immigration Reform. Pray for separated families.</p>			<p><b>15</b> <i>“But you have never heard his voice nor seen his form”</i> [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><b>16</b> <i>“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; and those who are crushed in spirit he saves.”</i> [Ps 34:19] Accompany the broken hearted immigrant families in prayer today.</p>			<p><b>17 Feast of St. Patrick.</b> <i>“Let the malice of the wicked come to an end.”</i> [Ps7:8] St. Patrick turned a malice against him into a holy calling. How will you turn the malice against immigrants into a holy calling?</p>		
<p><b>18 5th Sunday of Lent.</b> Station 1: Jesus is Condemned. Reflect on Jn. 8:1-11: As Jesus revives and restores life to his dear friend, Lazarus, let us revive our hopes for future immigration reform that we may all live in dignity, justice and peace.</p>			<p><b>19 Feast of St. Joseph.</b> Station 2: Jesus accepts his cross. Pray for DACA recipients and their families. Call 888.410.0619.</p>			<p><b>20</b> Station 3: Jesus falls the first time. <i>“Why have you brought us up from Egypt to die in the wilderness?”</i> [Nm 21:5] Pray for those who have died while crossing the desert or the ocean in pursuit of a better life. <a href="http://www.crs.org">www.crs.org</a></p>			<p><b>21</b> Station 4: Jesus meets his grieving mother. So many mothers dreamed of a better life for their children, but have grieved for the pain of separation. Call your elected officials to end separation of families.</p>			<p><b>22</b> Station 5: Simon helps Jesus bear the cross. Pray for those who share the burden that immigrants bear, through accompaniment, prayer and time <a href="http://www.immigrantjustice.org">www.immigrantjustice.org</a></p>			<p><b>23</b> Station 6: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus. Pray for those being arrested for deportation. May they find in us the same compassion that was shown to Jesus.</p>			<p><b>24</b> Station 7: Jesus falls the second time. <i>“I will turn their mourning into joy, I will console and gladden them after their sorrows.”</i> [Jer 31:13]. Pray for those who have been forced to abandon their families and homes, that their families may be reunified. Visit <a href="http://www.ICDChicago.org">www.ICDChicago.org</a></p>		
<p><b>25 Palm Sunday.</b> Reflect on Mt 21:1-11: As Jesus enters Jerusalem, his friends fear what the week will bring. Let us pray for immigrants and refugees who enter our country anxious about an unknown future.</p>			<p><b>26</b> Station 8: Jesus comforts the women. Pray for all mothers who have been separated from their children through detention, deportation and changes in immigration law.</p>			<p><b>27</b> Station 9: Jesus falls a third time. Learn the journey of an immigrant. How many times did he/she fall? Ask your representative: Support Immigration reform and oppose regulations that separate families 888.410.0619.</p>			<p><b>28</b> Station 10: Jesus is stripped of his garments. Support <i>Pastoral Migratoria</i> that responds to the immigrants stripped of dignity. Learn more at <a href="http://www.catholicsandimmigrants.org">www.catholicsandimmigrants.org</a></p>			<p><b>29 Holy Thursday:</b> <i>“If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet.”</i> [Jn 13:14] Go to <a href="http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org">www.justiceforimmigrants.org</a> for ways to serve as Jesus.</p>			<p><b>30 Good Friday.</b> Station 12: Jesus dies on the cross. Many immigrants experience the crucifixion of deportation. Pray for them all.</p>			<p><b>31 Holy Saturday:</b> Station 13: Jesus is taken from the cross. Station 14: Jesus is laid in the tomb On this day, Jesus lies silent. Pray for those silently hiding in the shadows, waiting for immigration reform.</p>		
<p><b>1 EASTER Sunday!</b> Christ is risen! Alleluia! May the risen Christ renew our hope for immigration reform! Alleluia!</p>			<p><b>2 Easter Monday.</b> Viator House offer respite to recently released immigrants. Learn more: <a href="http://viatorhouseofhospitality.com/">http://viatorhouseofhospitality.com/</a></p>			<p>* Broadview Detention Center 1930 Beach Street, Broadview, IL 60155</p>														
<p>For more information, visit: <a href="http://www.catholicsandimmigrants.org">www.catholicsandimmigrants.org</a></p>																				
<p>APRIL</p>																				



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Since 2006, we have 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 the DREAM Act.

### Pray

God of all families, cultures, and nations you invite all of us to work together by accepting one another, appreciating one another, and valuing the gifts that each immigrant and refugee bring to us. Teach us to hold one another in love and respect. Today you invite all people—especially our young DREAMers—to bring their gifts and allow them to grow for the good of all. Help us to welcome and appreciate each other in our parish communities. We pray this in Christ our Lord. AMEN.

### Fast

One day a week during Lent eat one simple meal consisting of rice and beans to commemorate Christ's fasting during the wilderness and to empathize with immigrants coming to our country "hungry" for a better and dignified life.

### Act

During Lent, please email your elected officials to work towards a permanent and compassionate solution for DREAMers and their families. Visit the USCCB website to send an electronic postcard at:

**<https://justiceforimmigrants.org/take-action/action-alerts/>**



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Visit: [www.catholicsandimmigrants.org](http://www.catholicsandimmigrants.org)

For more information contact:

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## IMMIGRATION MINISTRY

# Lenten Calendar | 2018

