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

January 9, 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:

(Vincent DePaul and refugees)

During St. Vincent's life, France experienced almost endless warfare. War creates refugees and starvation. In 1639 Vincent began organizing relief for refugees and those suffering from famine. One of his assistants, Brother Mathieu Regnard, made 53 trips, crossing enemy lines in disguise, for the relief of those in war zones. He often brought people back with him. Vincent wrote, "He brought in a hundred last month, among whom were forty-six young women ... He fed them and accompanied them right into this city where the greater number have already been placed."

Daily decision for action...

We don't have to cross enemy lines to reach out to people seeking a safe and secure life. What we learn from St. Vincent is that it takes both individual effort and organized systems to make a lasting difference.

What can we do as individuals to assist immigrants and refugees?

How can we help organizations and ministries that assist immigrants and refugees?

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!