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

January 14, 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:

Migrants have human rights and dignity

Daily reflection:

(from: Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity; USCCB)

"Unity in diversity is the vision that we bishops offer to our people as they welcome the new immigrants and refugees who come to our shores... (Some) come as refugees and immigrants on the edge of survival; large numbers join families already here; others arrive without proper documents. (We need to) welcome these new immigrants and help them join our communities in ways that are respectful of their cultures and in ways that mutually enrich the immigrants and the receiving Church." We believe that people have the right to move to a new place to sustain their lives and protect their families. The United States is a nation of immigrants, whether our families came here last year, or on a slave ship, or if our families came here hundreds of years ago.

Daily call to action:

We come from many cultures, we have different ways of doing things. Still, we have the same rights. Our human dignity makes us *one*! Today let us pray for the grace to welcome anyone who we encounter, no matter our differences.

Intercessions/ our prayer for our world:

For the pope and all Church leaders, that they will bring the love of God to all nations.

For people in poor countries, that leaders around the world will offer resources and assistance.

For everyone who has left their home to start a new life, that they will find the welcoming love of God in the people they encounter.

For our community, that we will always celebrate our many cultures and know that while we are many, we are also one.

Blessing: (the prayer of Aaron over the people of God: 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.