



Welcome the Stranger

**Statement by Cardinal Cupich
October 18, 2022**

“The sudden and unexpected influx of men, women and children seeking asylum in U.S. cities, including Chicago, over recent weeks has presented our community with significant challenges but also significant opportunities to share God’s message of compassion and joy. The plight of these asylum seekers, most of whom are fleeing violence, political oppression and crushing poverty in their home countries causes us concern, but I am convinced this is a moment for us to join together on a mission of love and mercy.”

Prayer

Loving Creator, full of love and mercy, I want to offer this prayer for my migrant siblings: Have mercy on them and protect them, as they suffer mistreatment and humiliation on their journeys, are labeled by many as dangerous, and marginalized for being foreigners. Make them respected and valued for their dignity. Touch with Your goodness the many that see them pass. Care for their families until they return to their homes, not with broken hearts, but with hopes fulfilled. Let it be so. (*Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants*)