

Justice, Peace and Life

January 2018



Share the Journey ✨
#sharejourney

In September, Pope Francis launched **Share the Journey**, a two-year campaign of action and awareness raising to strengthen relationships between migrants and refugees and the rest of the human community.

It's meant to inspire us to see people on the move with humanity, to open our hearts and minds, to change our perceptions.

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of the Philippines says, "Through 'Share the Journey' we're making a simple suggestion to people: get in touch with a real migrant. Look them in the eyes, listen to why they left their homes, how their journey's been, see the real people behind the numbers and scare stories.

"This time of greater interconnection is an invitation to each and every one of us to look at how we can be more united."

*"...the future is, most of all, in the hands of those people who recognize the other as a "you" and themselves as part of an "us."
-Pope Francis*

Standing with Immigrants in the U.S.

In the Diocese of Rochester, Bishop Matano and our Diocesan Public Policy Committee are calling on parishes to take part in Share the Journey.

In concert with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, we'll be speaking out in support of the **DREAM Act** (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act).

The Catholic Church and many other people of good will have long been standing with the "Dreamers". These are young people brought to this country without documents as children. They grew up here, speak English, are part of the culture and consider themselves Americans. America is their home.

For these young people who are in school or have graduated from high school, are in good standing with the law, and go through specific and rigorous background checks, this legislation would provide permanent residency status. This means they could not be deported and could work legally. This is their dream— a stable, decent life without fear of being ripped away from their families.



Share the Journey is a global Catholic campaign of compassion and support for migrants and refugees.

Diocesan Public Policy Weekend: February 10/11

Stand with the DREAMers. Let's make this year's petition-signature collection drive a huge success. Lots of signatures will help to convince the Members of Congress from our diocese to support the DREAM Act. Our petition reads:

We members of the Catholic community in the Diocese of Rochester join with our United States Catholic Bishops to urge you to support the DREAM Act of 2017 (S.1615/H.R.3440) because we believe in the sacredness of the human person and in protecting the life and dignity of every human being.

The young people affected by The Dream Act, who were brought to the United States as children, are contributors to our economy, academic standouts in our universities, and leaders in our parishes.

They should not be forced to live in constant fear that they will be deported and separated from their families.

It is both our moral duty and in our nation's best interest to protect them and help them reach their God-given potential.

This petition, plus bulletin notices, prayers of the faithful for Mass and pulpit announcements will be posted on the diocesan web site www.dor.org under "Public Policy".



Raise Your Voice Today!

Even before Public Policy weekend, we need you to **advocate now in support of the DREAM Act. Sign** the petition on the U.S. Catholic Bishops web site:

www.justiceforimmigrants.org

Then **call** your Congressional representative. Capitol switchboard: (202) 224-3121

Listen to Immigrants

Share the Journey calls us to listen to the migrants and understand their situations. Look up "Catholic Extension Dream Act" on www.youtube.com to hear the stories of DREAMers.



Celebrate Dr. King's Vision- Work for Peace and Justice

"Anyone who lives inside the United States can never be considered an outsider anywhere within its bounds."

-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
January 15 1929– April 4, 1968

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