

Contact your representatives via social media & technology



Text 'RESIST' to 50409 to tell your U.S. senators that you want to #DefendDACA. Sends a fax to your representative for you.



Tweet any of the following:

[@yourrep], reject @POTUS's calls for a massive deportation force that will tear families apart. #HereToStay

I call on [@yourrep] to demand rational policy on immigration. Reverse @POTUS's executive orders now. #NoBanNoWall

We should be opening doors for immigrants and refugees, not locking them out. [@yourrep], stand up to @POTUS. #NoBanNoWall

No hate. No fear. Immigrants are welcome here. [@yourrep], end shameful executive orders on immigration now. #NoBanNoWall

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Spend time in prayer & meditating on the following scripture

Genesis 12.10

“Now there was a famine in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to reside there as an alien, for the famine was severe in the land.”

Genesis 23

Abraham is a stranger and an alien in the land of Canaan.

Genesis 46.1-7

Jacob moves his family to Egypt to escape the famine and reunite with Joseph.

Genesis 47.1-6

Joseph brings his brothers to Pharaoh and they are welcomed and given jobs.

Exodus 1.8-14

Joseph's generation is gone, and the Egyptians oppress the Israelites.

“Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor.”

Exodus 1.15-2.10

Pharaoh orders all the Hebrew boy babies to be killed, but Moses is hidden and is saved by Pharaoh's daughter.

Exodus 12.49

There shall be one law for the native & for the alien who resides among you.”

Exodus 22.21

Moses gives God's law: “You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien; for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.”

Leviticus 19.9-10; 23.22

Moses gives God's law: “You shall not strip your vineyards bare . . . leave them for the poor and the alien.”

Leviticus 19.33-34; 24.22

When the alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.”

Leviticus 24.23

Moses receives God's law: “With me you are but aliens and tenants.”

Numbers 9.14; 15.15-16

“ . . . you shall have one statute for both the resident alien and the native.”

Numbers 35 & Joshua 20

The Lord instructs Moses to give cities of refuge to Levites so that when the Israelites must flee into Canaan they may have cities of refuge given to them.

Deuteronomy 1.16

“Give the members of your community a fair hearing, and judge rightly between one person and another, whether citizen or resident alien.”

Deuteronomy 6.10-13

The people of Israel are made aware that the land had come to them as a gift from God and they were to remember that they were once aliens.

Deuteronomy 10.18-19

“For the Lord your God . . . loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.”

Deuteronomy 14.28-29

Deuteronomy 24.14

Deuteronomy 24.17-18

Deuteronomy 24.19-22

Deuteronomy 27.19

I Chronicles 22.1-2

I Chronicles 29.14-15

II Chronicles 2.17-18

Psalms 105

Psalms 146.9

Jeremiah 7.5-7

Jeremiah 22.3-5

Ezekiel 47.21-22

Zechariah 7.8-10

Malachi 3.5

Matthew 2.13-15

Matthew 25.31-46

Luke 3.11

Luke 4.16-21

Romans 12.13

Ephesians 2.11-22

Hebrews 13.1-2

James 2.5

James 2.14-17

I John 3.18

Tithing was begun, in part, for resident aliens.

“You shall not withhold the wages of poor and needy laborers, whether other Israelites or aliens who reside in your land . . .”

“You shall not deprive a resident alien . . . of justice.”

Leave sheaf, olives, grapes for the alien.

“Cursed be anyone who deprives the alien . . . of justice.”

Aliens were important in building the temple.

David praises God: “We are aliens and transients before you . . .”

Solomon took a census of all the aliens and assigned them work.

Remembering their sojourn: “When they were few in number, of little account, and strangers in it, wandering from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people, . . .”

“The Lord watches over the strangers . . .”

“If you do not oppress the alien...then I will dwell with you in this place . . .”

Do no wrong or violence to the alien.

The aliens shall be to you as citizens, and shall also be allotted an inheritance.

Do no oppress the alien.

The messenger will bear witness against those who thrust aside the alien.

Jesus and parents flee Herod’s search for the child.

“ . . . I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”

“Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none . . .”

“ . . . Bring good news to the poor . . . release to the captives . . . sight to the blind . . . let the oppressed go free.”

“Mark of the true Christian: “ . . . Extend hospitality to strangers . . .”

“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God.”

“ . . . show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels . . .”

“Has not God chosen the poor in the world . . .”

“What good is it . . . if you say you have faith but do not have works?”

“ . . . Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.”

learn about immigration

Request that St. John's host a workshop about immigration. Contact pastor Theresa.

Be mindful of intersectionality.

"Immigrant" is just one part of a person's identity. Many immigrants also identify as LGBTQ, people of color, women, Muslim and more. As a result, their experiences can vary greatly, even though conversations around immigration in the U.S. often focus on Mexican immigrants and the Latino experience.

Read about immigrant stories from the suggested book list:

- *The Accidental American* by Rinku Sen & Fekkak Mamdouh - how the largely immigrant food industry workforce managed to overcome divisions in the aftermath of 9/11 and form the Restaurant Opportunities Center of New York to fight for jobs and more equitable treatment.
- *Asylum Denied* by David Ngaruri Kenney & Philip G. Schrag - Kenney's story of his remarkable escape from Kenya to the United States and the obstacles he faced with possible deportation. Highlights the human costs associated with our immigration laws and suggests reforms that are desperately needed to help other victims of human rights violations.
- *Border* by Leon C. Metz - chronicles the nearly two-thousand-mile international line between the United States and Mexico, largely through the eyes of government agents, politicians, soldiers, revolutionaries, outlaws, Indians, engineers, immigrants, developers, illegal aliens, business people, and wayfarers looking for a job.
- *Uprooting Racism* by Paul Kivel - helps readers strategically intervene against racism in workplaces, institutions, public policy debates and everyday personal interactions.
- *Sweatshop Warriors* by Miriam Ching Yoon Louie - In-depth, accessible analyses of the immigration, labor, and trade policies that have collided to put immigrant women workers in the most dangerous, poorly paid jobs.
- *Bone* by Fae Myenne Ng - the hopes, grief, and quarrels of two generations of Chinese Americans in San Francisco's Chinatown. Mah, who has worked hard all her life in garment sweatshops, finally is able to own her baby-clothing store. Her husband, Leon, who used to be a merchant seaman, worked two shifts in ships' laundry rooms to provide for his family.
- *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie - a Nigerian woman, after coming to America, begins a hilarious blog, "Raceteenth or Various Observations About American Blacks (Those Formerly Known as Negroes) by a Non-American Black." Her high school sweetheart, Obinze, has a different immigrant experience as he tries to navigate life in London after his visa expires.
- *The Buddha in the Attic* by Julie Otsuka - about the Japanese "picture brides" who came to California in the wake of WWI, to marry men they had never met, to raise children in America, and to be, eventually, disappeared.

Read about immigrant stories from the suggested book list:

- *American Dervish* by Ayad Akhtar - Hayat, a young Pakistani-American born to secular Muslim parents, has his world rocked by the arrival of his mother's friend Mina and her son, who have fled Pakistan and Mina's abusive husband. Mina herself is caught between the new Western world she loves and the deep traditional faith she cherishes.
- *The Keeping Quilt* by Patricia Polacco (pre-K/K) - a quilt passed along from generation to generation of Russian Jewish immigrants — beginning with Great-Gramma Anna. The quilt is put to various uses, but the meaning behind it is constant: family.
- *The Name Jar* by Yangsook Choi (pre-K/K) - It's a familiar immigrant tale of having an unfamiliar name and feeling like an outsider — that is, until someone kind or brave or both makes a gesture of inclusion.
- *All the Way to America: The Story of a Big Italian Family and a Little Shovel* by Dan Yaccarino (ages 5-9) - An Italian-American immigrant story about a great-grandfather, who arrived at Ellis Island with little more than a shovel and some sage advice — both of which were kept and handed down to four generations.
- *Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote: A Migrant's Tale* by Duncan Tonatiuh (ages 5-9) - a young rabbit named Pancho eagerly awaits his papa's return who traveled north two years ago to find work in the great carrot and lettuce fields to earn money for his family. When Papa does not return, Pancho sets out to find him. He meets a coyote, who offers to help Pancho or does he?
- *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park (ages 9-12) - the story of two Sudanese children — Salva, a boy, and Nya, a girl — told from alternating points of view. Salva's story begins in 1985; Nya's in 2009. They later intersect, but, first, Salva's journey takes him to Rochester, New York, before returning to Sudan.
- *Inside Out and Back Again* by Thanhha Lai (ages 9-12) - her family's flight from Vietnam, after the fall of Saigon, to the strange lands of the American South.
- *Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town* by Warren St. John (ages 12-17) - Set in Clarkston, Georgia, this true story follows the Fugees, a youth soccer team with kids from war-torn areas of the Middle East, Africa, and Eastern Europe, and their indefatigable female coach.
- *Enrique's Journey: The True Story of a Boy Determined to Reunite with His Mother* by Sonia Nazario (ages 12-17) - captures the harrowing reality faced by the waves of immigrants fleeing crime and poverty in Central America — in this case, Honduras.
- *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan (ages 12-17) - a graphic novel, captures the strangeness of the immigrant experience without the use of words.

Join the Sanctuary Huddle

Want to get more involved?

- accompanying immigrant families to court hearings and providing emotional support
- attending trainings on being an observer for Immigration Crime Enforcement (ICE) raids or how to participate in a peace rally
- participating in rallies and/or visits to political officials
- discovering ways to involve St. John's partners, such as Teddy Bear Lift, where money was raised to supply teddy bears to refugee children in refugee camps

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