



January 1 – 7, 2024

What's Happening

GOP Gov. Abbott signs border bill that makes entering TX illegally state crime - CNN

Only 1% of newly arrived migrants in Chicago have received work permits - CBS News

CA becomes first state to offer health insurance to undocumented immigrants - ABC News

Northern Mexico: More than 11,000 migrants waiting amid border surge - CNN

US describe 'productive' mtg with Mexico as Biden feels pressure over migrant crisis - CNN

Legal border crossing in tiny AZ town has been closed indefinitely because there are too many migrants - NBC News

Immigrant rights groups sue TX in attempt to halt new immigration law allowing arrest of migrants - The Texas Tribune

Mexico to challenge Texas' new 'inhumane' migration law, president says - Reuters

As border extremism goes mainstream, vigilante groups take a starring role - LA Times

New refugee program lets Americans choose who to sponsor - Reuters

Action One: Prayer

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this Earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the Earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen. (from Pope Francis)

Action Two: Calls/Letters

NATIONAL LEVEL - Urge Congress to reject harmful changes to immigration law as a condition for supplemental funding - [https://www.votervoice.net/JFI/Campaigns/109841/Respond?ct=t\(ACTION_ALERT_12_21_2023\)](https://www.votervoice.net/JFI/Campaigns/109841/Respond?ct=t(ACTION_ALERT_12_21_2023))

NATIONAL LEVEL - Urge Congress to fund refugee and newcomer inclusion - <https://cwsglobal.org/action-alerts/take-action-urge-congress-to-fund-refugee-newcomer-inclusion-and-restore-needed-services-for-ukrainian-and-afghan-neighbors/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=bf6255be-6ec9-4356-a9bd-241dfc6f3993>

NATIONAL LEVEL – Tell Congress to pass permanent protections for immigrant youth: <https://act.niic.org/page/46080/action/1?ea.tracking.id=web>

NATIONAL LEVEL - Tell Congress to support asylum seeker work authorization act -

https://act.hias.org/page/54296/action/1?en_txn6=MR-EM-FY23-07-asylum_ban_2023-advo-full_file-1&utm_medium=email&utm_source=EngagingNetworks&utm_campaign=230707_Asylum-Seeker-Work-Authorization_Action_Remainder&utm_content=230707+Asylum-Seeker-Work-Authorization+Action+Remainder&ea.url.id=1865401&forwarded=true

NATIONAL LEVEL - Oppose dangerous changes to US asylum law - <https://www.jesuits.org/our-work/justice-and-ecology/take-action-2/asylum/>

NATIONAL LEVEL - Tell the Senate to defend asylum - <https://www.maryknollogc.org/action/tell-senate-defend-asylum>

NATIONAL LEVEL -Take action to stop border militarization - <https://afsc.org/action/take-action-stop-border-militarization>

NATIONAL LEVEL - Tell your Senators to reject any deal that links asylum to foreign aid - https://act.nilc.org/page/61129/action/1?supporter.appealCode=20231215_EG_AsylumNO_NILC&ea.url.id=2200493&forwarded=true

NATIONAL LEVEL - Tell your Senators to support meaningful, bipartisan immigration reform <https://p2a.co/R7DD4en>

NATIONAL LEVEL - Urge Congress to pass the Afghan Adjustment Act to protect Afghans <https://cswglobal.org/action-alerts/take-action-urge-congress-to-pass-the-afghan-adjustment-act-to-protect-afghans-at-risk/>

NATIONAL LEVEL - Tell your Senators to support the Afghan Adjustment Act. <https://lutheranimmigrationrefugeeservice.quorum.us/campaign/49442/>

NATIONAL LEVEL - Sign the petition telling Biden to reunite immigrant families now. <https://www.change.org/p/president-biden-please-reunite-families-now>

NATIONAL LEVEL - Ask Biden/DHS Mayorkas to designate/ re-designate TPS for Ethiopia, Syria, Pakistan and Democratic Rep of the Congo.

https://act.nilc.org/page/57272/petition/1?supporter.appealCode=20230925_EG_Migration_NILC&ea.url.id=2009673&forwarded=true

NATIONAL LEVEL - Urge the Biden admin and legislators to formally end family detention. <https://lutheranimmigrationrefugeeservice.quorum.us/campaign/46496/>

Action Three: Education

Attorneys and immigrants brace for new Texas state law - <https://www.npr.org/2023/12/18/1219790874/texas-immigration-law-abbott-mexico-border-crossing-illegal>

As migration increased in 2023, so did pressures on church's ministry - <https://cathstan.org/news/us-world/as-migration-increased-in-2023-so-did-pressures-on-the-church-s-ministry>

4 things to know about TX's new law letting police arrest migrants who illegally enter the US <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/4-things-to-know-about-texas-new-law-letting-police-arrest-migrants-who-illegally-enter-the-u-s>

Where migrant children are living and often working in the US -

https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2023/12/28/us/migrants-children-data.html?unlocked_article_code=1.JU0.6Z6V.zrdO46JjiRgE&hpgpr=ar-abar&smid=url-share

CA becomes first state to offer health insurance to undocumented immigrants -

https://abcnews.go.com/Health/california-1st-state-offer-health-insurance-undocumented-immigrants/story?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=dhfacebook&utm_content=app.dashhudson.com/abcnews/library/media/363597017&id=105986377

Action Four: Action

ONGOING: BROADVIEW ONLINE FRIDAY ROSARY: The Rosary prayer is conducted every Friday at 715 am CT for our immigrant sisters and brothers in detention, deportation and their families. The prayer is led by Sr JoAnn Persch, RSM and Pat Murphy, RSM. If anyone want to connect in Zoom or participate in person, they can contact Sr. JoAnn Persch at 773-597-5394 or jpmrsm2@gmail.com

ICDI Monthly meetings: Monthly meetings-first Thursday of every month at 12:00pm CT. These meetings begin with a small interfaith reflection and continue with our ICDI staff giving program updates. Register here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsde2spiotHtJBQ97mO9XQRns5BwinisjJ>

Action Five: Social Media: (@Sen/Rep) Congress is negotiating a spending bill that includes extreme anti-immigrant proposals and would gut our asylum system. Asylum is a right — our elected leaders must hold the line to protect asylum seekers. **Thank you for your efforts!**