



January 22 - 28, 2024

What's Happening

- Chicago scrambles to shelter migrants as TX Gov refuses to stop migrant drop-offs - CNN**
- Asylum seekers face new requirement to find their own interpreters - Cronkite News**
- IL to offer funds to local govts supporting arriving migrants - Our Quad Cities**
- Humanitarian parole a sticking point in immigration talks - AP**
- TX refuses to comply with Biden admin's cease and desist letter about border access - NBC**
- House, Senate pass short-term bill averting govt shutdown until March - Wash Post**
- TX bus company sues Chicago over migrant bus drop off rules - Chicago Sun Times**
- Storm causes evacuation of New York City migrant encampment - AP**
- New York, Chicago team up to press feds for migrant funding flexibility - Politico**
- Trump pledges to end birthright citizenship on first day in office - The Hill**
- Record 3 million cases stuck in immigration court - AP**
- Texas groups want to block Texas immigration law - ketr.org**
- Migrant work permits now on the table in Senate border negotiations - Politico**

Action One: Prayer

O God, of Mercy and Compassion, open our heart to your grace. We ask You to: Bless us with courage to embrace nonviolence in our everyday lives. Bless us with vision to seek alternatives when violence appears as the only solution. Encourage us to look deeply at our own complicity that allows violence to continue in our own hearts and in our world. Bless us with insight to see the roots of violence inherent in mercy's critical concerns. Bless us with the tenacity to stay committed to the struggle to shape a more peaceful, nonviolent world for all your people. O good and gracious God, source of all life, all creation is charged with your Divine Energy. Grant us the strength and courage, we pray, for a radical transformation of our lives and a deeper realization of your Kingdom among us. Amen. (from Sisters of Mercy)

Action Two: Calls/Letters

NATIONAL LEVEL - Sign the petition - seeking asylum is a human right.

https://actionnetwork.org/forms/sign-the-petition-seeking-asylum-is-a-human-right?source=2024Asylum_DK&redirect=https%3A%2F%2Fsecure.actblue.com%2Fdonate%2Fdckll2024%3Frefcode%3D20240116SWAsylum&link_id=2&can_id=03b6cd570a93aeb040c5391b4bcd3e28&email_referrer=email_2173391&email_subject=sign-if-you-agree-seeking-asylum-is-a-human-right-that-must-be-protected&refcodeEmailReferrer=email_2173391

NATIONAL LEVEL - Tell Congress you support immigration reform that respect religious liberty. <https://www.votervoice.net/JFI/Campaigns/110431/Respond>

NATIONAL LEVEL - Urge Biden and Congress to reject anti-asylum provisions in ongoing funding negotiations. <https://cwsglobal.org/action-alerts/take-action-urge-the-biden-administration-and-congress-to-reject-extreme-anti-asylum-provisions-amid-ongoing-negotiations/>

NATIONAL LEVEL -Email your legislators urging them to protect family immigration. <https://advancingjustice-ajc.quorum.us/campaign/43496/>

NATIONAL LEVEL -- Reject billions to ICE and CBP and safeguard asylum. <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/government-shutdown-averted>

NATIONAL LEVEL - Asylum protecting people seeking safety, we must save it. <https://networklobby.org/advocacy-action/?vsrc=%2fCampaigns%2f110129%2fRespond>

NATIONAL LEVEL - Tell MOC there are meaningful alternatives to look at for changes to immigration policy. https://immigrationjustice.quorum.us/campaign/54917/?utm_campaign=everyaction&utm_medium=email&utm_source=ta-240111&emci=085d4ff5-d9af-ee11-bea1-0022482237da&emdi=3b84bc02-9db0-ee11-bea1-0022482237da&ceid=9493976

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

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 - 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>

Action Three: Education

Migrants struggle in Chicago to find jobs - https://www.union-bulletin.com/news/national/out-of-work-and-running-out-of-time-migrants-struggle-to-find-jobs-in-chicago/article_a9758a08-71b0-5e78-b9fa-41819b64af70.html

Mexico unlikely to support congressional immigration plans - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/stuartanderson/2024/01/10/congress-should-check-with-mexico-on-immigration-plans/?sh=2a4b3cc93db8>

A conductor invited refugees who never played instruments to join his orchestra. It changed his life - <https://www.cnn.com/2024/01/13/europe/dream-orchestra-sweden-cec>

Chicago pastors help the city grapple with flood of migrants - <https://religionnews.com/2024/01/17/chicago-pastors-help-the-city-grapple-with-flood-of-migrants/>

Texas transportation company sues Chicago for migrant bus restrictions - <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/texas-transportation-company-sues-chicago-005100014.html?guccounter=1>

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/tZwsde2spioHtJBQ97mO9XQRns5BwjnisjJ>

Action Five: Social Media: (@Sen) No matter what games politicians play to divide and distract us all – the truth remains that immigrants are essential and always will be.

Thank you for your efforts!