

In response to God's transforming grace
and the signs of the time
we dare to...

Remember the Immigrant



Lent 2010

Dear Sisters and Associates,

***“To take up our Lenten practice this year in the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
we face a unique challenge in this call to make room for God.
How might our various Lenten practices such as prayer, fasting, and almsgiving,
and our effort to empty ourselves so as to make room for God,
relate to the complex reality of immigration,
especially in the face of increasing hostility toward immigrants?
(Adapted. Cardinal Roger Mahony, “Making Room.” 2006)***

These words from Cardinal Mahony resonate with all Sisters of Saint Joseph and Associates as we live our call “to love our neighbor without distinction.” (Adapted. Consensus Statement)

The Immigration/Human Trafficking Committee of the Commission for Justice has prepared materials that will assist all of us as we engage in continuing reflection and conversation on the issue of Just Immigration Reform. Based on the liturgical year we offer the enclosed resources for the Lenten Season. As you reflect on these materials during these forty days of Lent, we ask you to consider - ***How can I/we make room for God? How can I/we open our hearts, open our arms, and open our doors in welcome to our immigrant brothers and sisters?***

We ask that you read, reflect and pray with the following:

- **“The Root Causes of Immigration”** by Rev. Thomas Smith, O.F. M. Conv. (Justice for Immigrants)
- **“Migration of the Desperate”** by Sister Marlene Perrotte (¡Viva Mercy! June, 2008)
- **“Get off the Fence”** by Joshua Hoyt (US Catholic, February, 2010)
- **Prayer - The Way of the Cross of an Immigrant** (Adapted, Houston Catholic Worker, April)

May this time of active reflection enable each of us to ponder the question: “Who is my neighbor?” May our hearts be open to hear Jesus’ call to attend to the last, littlest, lowest and least in society and in the Church. This Lenten season, let us join together committing our Lenten practices to making room for the stranger in our midst.

(Adapted from Cardinal Mahony, “Making Room”, 2006)

Gratefully,

The Immigration/ Human Trafficking Committee of the Commission for Justice