Sisters of Saint Joseph™
CHESTNUT HILL • PHILADELPHIA

A Corporate Stand in Solidarity with Immigrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers

From our founding in 17th-century France, the Sisters of Saint Joseph have sought to respond to the needs of the times with courage, creativity and compassion. Our earliest Sisters went out into their neighborhoods to serve God and the dear neighbor without distinction—especially those who were poor, sick, marginalized or forgotten. They crossed boundaries of class and culture, embodying a spirituality of love and unity.

In our day, we recognize that the plight of immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers is one of the defining moral challenges of our age. Families are torn apart, human dignity is denied, and fear of the "other" is used as a strategy to divide communities. In the midst of this reality, we hear again the Gospel invitation and our founders' call to become instruments of unioning love with God and with one another.

Compelled by our love for God and the dear neighbor, we commit ourselves to stand in solidarity with immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers here in the United States and throughout the world. We lament that countless human beings are being driven from their homelands because of poverty, lack of opportunity and employment, violence, war, persecution, and climate change caused by unjust global systems, many of which are directly influenced by U.S. policies. We decry the systemic racism and abuse of power which underlies and supports the inequality, exclusion and mistreatment of people of color and causes untold suffering to the human community.

We believe, as women of the Gospel, that the highest law is love. We pledge to use our resources and our prophetic voice to call on our elected leaders to advocate for just immigration reform and humane treatment of all those who are here in our country without legal status.

We urge one another to take personal steps, in loving prayer and action, to commit ourselves to ongoing education, advocacy and accompaniment of our immigrant neighbors.

We invite our Associates, Partners in Mission and all people of good will to stand with us as we commit to these principles and actions that will offer a future full of hope for all who are seeking welcome and a home in these United States.

We desire to live out this vision, encouraged and strengthened by our faith and our vowed commitment. We echo the sentiment of the US Catholic Bishops who wrote in their special pastoral message to immigrants: "We stand with you in your suffering, since when one member suffers, all suffer (1Cor.12:26). You are not alone!" (U.S. Bishops Special Pastoral Message to Immigrants, November 2025)

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