



WELCOMING IMMIGRANTS: PRAYER AND CONVERSATION REFLECTING ANGELS UNAWARES

Loyola University Chicago and the Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants (ICDI) have partnered together to acknowledge our mutual responsibility to ensure the God-given dignity and human rights of immigrants. On September 23rd, communities across the country will come together to advocate for those who have been adversely affected by the immigration system. This Day of Action is coordinated by Detention Watch Network, which was founded by the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. and continues to uplift Jesuit Apostolic Preferences by walking with the excluded.

We will come together to remind ourselves of the Angels Unawares statue that embodies the teachings of many religions, including our Jesuit Catholic ones, on the importance of welcoming the stranger and celebrating the contributions of migrants and refugees to our society. The piece depicts more than 140 immigrants from across history and across the globe, densely packed onto a boat with the Holy Family, and is based on Hebrews 13:2: “Be welcoming to strangers, many have entertained angels unawares.”

In the past year, the number of people in detention has increased, along with the risk of contracting COVID-19 while in detention. We stand in solidarity with those negatively affected by the immigration system, and pledge to welcome anyone seeking asylum, safety or a community.

Thursday, September 23, 2021
Madonna Della Strada Chapel
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

All participants must be vaccinated and wear masks while on campus.



Calls to Action:

As communities continue to push for affirmative relief and a path to citizenship, we also need urgent action to end deportations, shut down detention centers, and to call for release of all people in immigration detention. These are ways you can take action:

For Everyone.

- **Reflect on today's event:** How does my faith connect to immigrant justice? Take some time to reflect on your own personal faith journey and how that guides your choices when taking part in an immigrant justice movement.
- **Get Involved with Detention Center Visitation (ICDI Program):** ICDI conducts jail visitation to those who are currently detained in Illinois. www.icdichicago.org/volunteer
 - **Volunteer for virtual detention center visitations (For Spanish Speakers)** - You will be paired up with someone who is detained and meet with them virtually for 1 hr per week.
 - **Write letters to those who are detained** - Letters in English and Spanish will be sent to those who are detained to let them know we are thinking of them and care about them.
 - **Donate for Commissary** - People who are detained need to pay for basic necessities. Commissary allows them to pay for hygienic items such as soap and shampoo, and to make calls to their loved ones, family members, and lawyers.
- **Encourage others to support immigrant rights:** sign the petition by the Detention Watch Network's National Day of Action. There are also ongoing opportunities to call/email/tweet representatives to advocate for the end of detention and deportations.

For Loyola Students.

- The Student Diversity and Multicultural Affairs (SDMA)'s **Undocumented Student Program** is a campus wide initiative designed to foster Rambler community, build awareness on issues related to undocumented student experiences at Loyola, bolster on-campus support for and the inclusion of undocumented students. Follow on Instagram @luc_usp.
- **Undocumented and Proud (UP)** - UP is a closed-brave space for undocumented students. This space is designed to build solidarity, support, and joy. If you are looking for a space that will center and celebrate your resilience, please email diversity@luc.edu to get connected to this space.
- **Share the Dream Ally Trainings** - The SDMA Director and USP Interns facilitate Share the Dream Ally Trainings to deepen awareness and commitment to supporting undocumented students on-campus and through out the Chicago area. Upon completing the training, participants receive a placard that recognizes them as allies and as points of support for undocumented students on campus. Register at this link <https://forms.office.com/r/w8hpgrDqcS> (in person location will be provided after registration)
 - September 29th, October 13th, and November 3rd from 4:30pm - 6:00pm

Additional volunteer and internship opportunities:

- <https://rccchicago.org/volunteer/>
- https://centroromero.org/about_us/volunteer/
- <https://www.girlforward.org/volunteer>
- <https://www.refugeeone.org>
- <https://www.exodusworldservice.org>
- <https://www.catholiccharities.net>
- <https://www.stida.org>
- <https://www.rccchicago.org>
- <https://www.ecachicago.org>

HASHTAGS: #CommunitiesNotCages #FreeThemAll #WeAreHome