



Catholic Campaign for Immigration Reform



Prayer for Advent for Immigrants (English)

Open us, open us up, O God,
to welcome the Marys and Josephs
we meet during this Advent season,
those who journey escaping from poverty,
oppression, persecution, war and violence.

May we recognize their human dignity.

Dismiss in us our fear, doubt and suspicion of them.

Break down the barriers in our hearts and minds, especially

For those who suffer the separation of family members one from another.

Help us by your grace,

-to banish fear from our hearts, that we may embrace
each of your children as our own brother and sister;

-to welcome immigrants and refugees with joy and generosity,
while responding to their many needs;

-to realize that you call all people to your holy mountain
to learn the ways of peace and justice;

-to share of your abundance as you spread a banquet before us.

May we witness to your love

as we celebrate the many gifts these people bring.

We recognize in this opening of our minds and hearts,

an opening into your love and oneness

reflected in You, the Trinity, Father, Son and Spirit.

Amen.

A paraphrase by the Sisters and Brothers of Immigrants taken from Migration and Refugee Services, USCCB