



CATHOLIC LEGAL
IMMIGRATION
NETWORK, INC.



HOLIDAY PRAYERS FOR IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION

As immigrants and refugees arrive to the United States to begin their journey towards integration with their neighbors, communities around the nation will create new and diverse traditions, incorporating the different customs and practices to celebrate the holidays and each other. The Center for Immigrant Integration's prayer booklet is the perfect guide to keep our immigrant neighbors in our prayers today and always. Use the prayer booklet in your parish and community.

AN EASTER PRAYER

Lord,

*We join hands with our brothers and sisters
to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ.*

*As his rising from the dead breathes new life into our hearts,
so too should we breathe new life into those migrants
who knock at our country's gates.*

*Our fellow sisters and brothers in Christ are hungry, scared
and long for safety for their children
and for themselves.*

*These refugees seek healing and new life
in the cradle of rejuvenation our country provides.*

*Just as Jesus gave himself for us,
so too, should we consider sacrificing of ourselves
to welcome our new neighbors through our borders.*

*We honor their journey,
just as we honor Christ's journey
from a manger to the cross.*

*We pray that we can live our faith
by welcoming newcomers in our midst.*

Amen.



A MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER

Lord,

*On Mother's Day, we take time to give thanks
to the women who raised us, protected us,
and helped us become the people we are today.*

*As we reflect on our own mothers
and on our own families' stories
so too do we think of the mothers
who come to our country seeking
better opportunities for their children.*

*Much like Mary, the holy mother,
many women today seek refuge for their children
who face threats in their home countries.*

*We pray for a society
that accepts them with open arms
and welcomes them into our communities
and our hearts.*

*May they flourish and thrive as families,
just as they strengthen and enrich our society.*

*Lord, help us to remember
and appreciate mothers everywhere
as they work to create
stable and loving families
and a better world for all.*

Amen.



A FATHER'S DAY PRAYER

Lord,

We pause this Father's Day
to give thanks to the strong and faithful men
caring for their children each day.

Just as we honor and celebrate
the fathers in our own lives,
migrant men,
seeking better lives for their children,
are equally deserving of our prayers.

We pray for these fathers
who see family as sacred
and who cross rivers,
stand at borders
and suffer separation
in order to keep their children
and families safe.

We pray for human rights
to be respected the world over,
particularly workers' rights,
on this day celebrating the men
who work to support their families.

We are one human family
under the eyes of God.

This Father's Day,
We hold our fathers in
our hearts and prayers.

Amen.



A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Lord,

As we approach this Thanksgiving celebration of gratitude, we ask your guidance in extending a welcome to our tables and into our hearts to those who are newcomers to our land.

Help us to share the abundance of blessings you have bestowed upon us with our new neighbors and to promote goodwill among all peoples in our land. Show us how to learn about and celebrate the customs and traditions of those who have recently arrived.

We ask your guiding hand as we seek a culture of openness and welcome by promoting common values and respect for everyone. Help us to work alongside newcomers to create a welcoming and inclusive place to live out your call to family and community.

Thank you for your many gifts – food, family, our nation – and most especially thank you for the magnificent abundance of peoples and cultures we enjoy, a true reflection of people from around the world, all made in your image and brought together in this land.

Amen.



A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Lord,

As we come together this Christmas season to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we reflect on the migration flight so long ago of the Holy Family escaping the persecution of King Herod.

Let us now also consider the diverse group of migrant who come to our land from all parts of your divine creation.

Many come fleeing persecution or perilous conditions in their home country. These refugees seek safety within our borders. They hope to rebuild their lives in the peace and safety of our country.

We celebrate the power that immigration holds to reunite family members, strengthen communities and give opportunity to the poor and vulnerable

In your wisdom, you created a world full of diverse people, languages and cultures. We pray that Jesus' teachings of peace, compassion and solidarity may be expressed here and everywhere.

Amen.



Immigrant Integration results from an equal partnership between newcomers and the receiving community who work together to make their community more inclusive.

Find more resources at:

cliniclegal.org/issues/immigrant-integration