

“For I was ... a stranger and
you welcomed me.”

Matthew 25:35

Share the Journey prayer

Heavenly Father, Lord of all humanity,
Many are the journeys
your people have taken:
Abraham’s journey led from
fear to understanding;
Moses’ journey led from
bondage to liberty;
the disciples’ journey led from
death to new life.

Even today, your people journey —
immigrants and refugees,
pilgrims and nomads,
searching for hope,
searching for opportunity,
searching for peace,
searching for you.

Lord, I know that I too
am called to journey.
Yet too many times,
I have heard your call,
and my feet have remained unmoved.

Continue to call me
beyond my comfort and into encounter.
And when I meet
a companion on the road,
may we find you in each other’s embrace.
Let us share the journey.

We ask this through our
Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

What you can do

Millions of our neighbors are fleeing war, persecution and poverty. Join Pope Francis, open your heart and share the journey by walking with them in prayer and support.

Pray. We pray as individuals and as communities for migrants and refugees in our global Church. Find resources at seattlearchdiocese.org/STJ.

Learn. Pope Francis asks us to learn about migrants and refugees who hold a special place in God’s heart. Find resources at seattlearchdiocese.org/STJ.

Invite. Host a gathering for your local community that includes migrants and refugees, and invite speakers to share their stories.

Assist. Migrants and refugees need material support for transportation, legal fees, child care, shelter and simple household items. Consider organizing a day of service or a fundraiser.

Reach out. Minister to the local ethnic communities in your parish and provide pastoral care for migrants and refugees.

Encourage. Raise public awareness and support about ways parishes and schools can stand in solidarity with migrants and refugees.

Advocate. Contact your elected representatives at www.thewsc.org.

Give. Donate domestically at www.catholiccharitiesusa.org.
Donate overseas at www.crs.org.



JOIN Pope Francis
OPEN Your Heart
SHARE the Journey

 **Share the
Journey**

SeattleArchdiocese.org/STJ

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

From the first priests, bishops and religious — themselves immigrants — to the present day, our local Church has a history of welcoming immigrants and sharing the journey with migrant peoples. Our many vibrant and diverse Catholic cultural and ethnic communities underscore our history of hospitality.

On September 27, 2017, Pope Francis launched Share the Journey, a global campaign to support migrants and refugees around the world. We, the bishops of the Archdiocese of Seattle, ask all Catholics to join Pope Francis, open your hearts and share the journey with those who have left their home countries in search of a better life.

Following the Holy Father's announcement, we are making additional materials available to help you participate fully in this initiative. Our hope is that through prayer and action, we will answer the Gospel call to love our neighbors.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ *J. Peter Sartain*

Most Rev. J. Peter Sartain
Archbishop of Seattle

+ *Eusebio Elizondo*

Most Rev. Eusebio Elizondo, M.Sp.S.
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle

+ *Daniel Mueggenborg*

Most Rev. Daniel Mueggenborg
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle

The Archdiocese of Seattle: An ongoing ministry of welcome

1850: The Diocese of Nesqually is created to serve new arrivals, including Irish and French-Canadian immigrants.

1850-79: Missionary priests minister to Native Americans forced onto reservations.

1851: Mexican Catholics provide generous financial assistance to Bishop A.M.A. Blanchet for his immigrant diocese.

1900: The diocese ministers to a growing immigrant population — most arriving from Scandinavia, Great Britain, Canada and Germany — with pastoral life, educational and medical services.

1903: St. Frances Cabrini and the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart begin their ministry of service to Italian immigrants.

1920: Maryknoll fathers and sisters come to the Diocese of Seattle to provide pastoral care for Asian Catholics.

1930: Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church and School are established to serve Japanese and Filipino Catholics.

1941: To serve African-American youth, Bishop Gerald Shaughnessy establishes the St. Peter Claver Center.

1964: Archbishop Thomas Connolly leads the local church in support for housing desegregation ordinances in Seattle and Tacoma.

1970s and '80s: Archdiocese of Seattle parishes welcome refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

Today: The Church continues to welcome immigrants and refugees fleeing war, persecution and poverty.

Catholic teaching on immigrants and refugees

The Church's position on migration is rooted in the Gospel and Catholic social teaching.

- Persons have the right to find opportunities in their homeland.
- Persons have the right to migrate to support themselves and their families.
- Sovereign nations have the right to control their borders.
- Refugees and asylum seekers should be afforded protection.
- The human dignity and human rights of undocumented migrants should be respected.

Source: *Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope*, joint pastoral letter by the Catholic Bishops of Mexico and the United States, 2003

Catholic population within the archdiocese by race/ethnicity

