

OCTOBER 11, 2010

On Monday, October 11th, as we remember our day of fast and prayer, we are invited to ***“see with the eyes of God and with women’s hearts, the distress of millions of immigrants and displaced persons, of children and women victims of human trafficking seeking a more human life.”*** (Chapter Document, 2007)

“Conscious of our own dignity and giftedness as women, we strive to respond to situations in which the dignity of women is violated.” (Sisters of Christian Charity Statement on Human Trafficking, Rome, 2008)

Reflections from Scripture

Do not deprive the immigrant or the orphan of justice, or take the cloak of the widow as a pledge. Remember that God’s people were slaves in Egypt and the Lord our God redeemed them from there. (Deuteronomy 24:17-18)

God tells us that the community is to have the same rules for citizens and immigrants living among us. This is a lasting ordinance for generations to come. Citizens and immigrants shall be the same before the Lord. (Numbers 15:15)

Reflections from the U.S. Catholic Bishops’ 5 Principles to Guide Immigration Policy

The U.S. Catholic Bishops have identified these five principles that should act as a guide for policymakers in creating immigration reform legislation:

1. Persons have the right to find opportunities in their homeland.
2. Persons have the right to migrate to support themselves and their families.
3. Sovereign nations have a right to control their borders, but they must also promote the common good.
4. Refugees and asylum seekers should be afforded protection.
5. The human rights and the human dignity of undocumented migrants should be respected.

*Explore these principles in more detail at: www.educationforjustice.org