

Celebrating 30 years of SSJ Justice Ministry: 1979/80 - 2009/10

September, 2009

Dear Sisters and Associates,

At the conclusion of Chapter 2009 we affirmed this question as the fruit of our Chapter and as an invitation to continuing conversation and transformation;

**In response to God's transforming grace and the signs of the times
how do I/we dare to live these SSJ values?**

Contemplative life stance

Right Relationship

Courageous risk-taking

Self-emptying, inclusive love



Aware that our broken immigration system is one of the signs of our times, the Human Trafficking/Immigration Committee of the Commission for Justice has prepared materials that will assist all of us as we engage in continuing reflection and conversation on this issue together and live our SSJ values in advocating for humane immigration reform.

In the coming months these discussion materials will be sent electronically to the local community and associate group justice Contacts and also be available on the Justice page of our website. We are suggesting a liturgical year timeline for use of these materials as follows:

Ordinary Time (Fall 2009)

- ♥ Reflection/Discussion Session I: Myths of Immigration
- ♥ Short blurb on immigration for you to include in your parish bulletin

Advent (December 2009)

- ♥ Reflection/Discussion questions based on Advent Lectionary readings
- ♥ Blurb for parish bulletin

Epiphany (January, 2010)

- ♥ Materials provided for National Migration Week

Lent (Spring 2010)

- ♥ Reflection/Discussion Session II: Root Causes of Immigration

Pentecost (May 2010)

- ♥ Reflection/Discussion Session III: Greater Justice for Immigrants – Taking Action
- ♥ Bulletin Blurb for Parish bulletin

In the coming months the issue of immigration will continue to be in the national spotlight. May this time of active reflection and conversation enable each of us to embrace the message of Paul to the Galatians, "...there are no more distinctions between Jew and Greek, slave and free, male and female, but all of you are one in Christ Jesus" and advocate for the legislation that "recognizes the rights of migrants and their families and to respect for their human dignity," (John Paul II, "Ecclesia in America," 1999, #65)

Gratefully,

The Immigration/Human Trafficking Committee of the Commission for Justice