



Pope Francis with child in refugee camp in the Central African Republic AFP/Getty

## Each of Them with a Name

*The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has estimated that there are, worldwide, almost **60 million** people who've been forced out of their homes, the highest number since the Second World War. Behind these statistics are people, each of them with a name, a face, a story, an inalienable dignity which is each of theirs as a child of God.*

*-Pope Francis*

*Address to the Members of the Jesuit Refugee Service*

## Tuesday June 20 is World Refugee Day. Show your solidarity.

Stand with the millions of people worldwide who've been forced out of their homes due to fear of persecution.

- 1) Sign the UN High Commission on Refugees' petition [www.unhcr.org/refugeeday/us/petition](http://www.unhcr.org/refugeeday/us/petition)
- 2) Call 1-844-4STAND5 (1-844-478-2635), the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' hotline to your Congressional reps, asking them to support welcoming more refugees to the U.S. and to increase funding to support refugees worldwide.
- 3) E-mail Congressional leaders through the USCCB's [justiceforimmigrants.org](http://justiceforimmigrants.org) web site with that same message.
- 4) Write a letter to the editor telling why you support increased refugee resettlement in the U.S.
- 5) Publicize your support on Facebook, Twitter and in person with your friends and colleagues.



*Syrian children in a refugee camp in Serbia*

Kira Horvath for CRS

**More than half of registered Syrian refugees are children**



*Good and gracious God, Show mercy to those who travel in danger, and lead them to a place of safety and peace. Comfort those who are alone and afraid because their families have been torn apart by violence and injustice.*

*As we reflect upon the difficult journey that the Holy Family faced as refugees in Egypt, help us to remember the suffering of all migrant families.*

*Through the intercession of Mary our Mother, and St. Joseph the Worker, her husband, we pray that all migrants may be reunited with their loved ones and find the meaningful work they seek.*

*Open our hearts*

*so that we may provide hospitality for all who come in search of refuge.*

*Give us the courage to welcome every stranger as Christ in our midst...*

from "World Refugee Day Toolkit"  
see [www.justiceforimmigrants.org](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org)

## **Catholic Statements on the Recent Court Decision that Stops the Executive Order on Refugee Resettlement and the Ban on People from Six Muslim-Majority Nations:**

### **From the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops:**

On June 12, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit largely affirmed a nationwide preliminary injunction against implementation of sections of the Administration's executive order that attempted to suspend and limit the U.S. refugee resettlement program and also attempted to ban the entry of people from six Muslim-majority countries.

A statement from Bishop Joe Vasquez of Austin, Texas, chair of the Committee on Migration regarding the Ninth Circuit ruling follows:

"I am heartened by the decision of the 9th Circuit to maintain the temporary halt implementing certain provisions of the March 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Order. Upholding the injunction will allow us to continue welcoming and serving refugees fleeing persecution. Together with my brother bishops, we believe it is possible to simultaneously provide for the security of our country and have a humane refugee policy that upholds our national heritage and moral responsibility. We remain dedicated to accompanying and supporting our brothers and sisters who for various reasons have been forced to leave their homeland. We follow the example of Pope Francis and pledge to them "a duty of justice, civility and solidarity."

### **From Catholic Charities USA:**

The opinion of the 9th Circuit provides a ray of hope to migrants and refugees in our country and stands in sharp contrast to the ongoing vilification of these communities as exemplified by a 157 percent increase in arrests of non-criminal immigrants in just the first three months of the new Administration...

From inventors and entrepreneurs to humanitarians and pastors - migrants and refugees have contributed to all facets of our country. Still today this positive contribution continues with refugees fleeing conflict and persecution, paying more in taxes to all levels of government than they receive in benefits today - as demonstrated by a working paper released by the National Bureau of Economic Research. It is a remarkable story of resilience when individuals face death and persecution one day and then become positive contributors to their new home in the days and weeks that follow.



## *Physician Assisted Suicide: Hope and Concern*

Earlier this year, parishes around our diocese collected nearly **12,000** petition signatures opposing legislation to legalize physician assisted suicide in New York State! What a tremendous affirmation of the dignity of human life!

As the legislative session winds down in Albany this month, it appears that this bill won't even make it out of committee. This is a great victory for vulnerable people facing terminal illness. Thank you for speaking out.

However, the New York State Court of Appeals is currently deliberating a case that could open the door for the legalization of physician assisted suicide without legislative action. Please pray that those deciding this case will have the wisdom to interpret the law for the Common Good and the protection of all life.

### **Justice & Peace Ministry Staff of Catholic Charities:**

**Monroe** 585-546-7220 Marvin Mich ext. 7021; MMich@cfrochester.org / Ruth Marchetti ext.7099; RMarchetti@cfrochester.org

**Chemung/Schuylers/Tioga** Kathy Dubel 607-734-9784 ext. 2135; KDubel@dor.org

**Cayuga/Ontario/ Seneca/Wayne/Yates Deacon** Greg Kiley 315-789-2235 ext. 124; GKiley@dor.org

**Tompkins** Laurie Konwinski 607-272-5062 ext. 12; LKonwinski@dor.org

**Livingston** Tabitha Brewster 585-658-4466 ext. 13; TBrewster@dor.org

**Steuben** Lynda Lowin 607-776-8085 ext. 217; LLowin@dor.org

**Diocesan Life Issues Coordinator:** Suzanne Stack 585-328-3210 ext. 1304; SStack@dor.org