



Migration is Beautiful

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October 21/22, 2017

before and after all the Masses—tables in the back of church

Millions of our brothers and sisters are “on the move” because of war, civil unrest, terror, crushing poverty and climate change. Not all of them make it safely to a new home. Before and after the Masses the weekend of October 21/22 parishioners (of all ages!) are invited to fold origami butterflies as a way of

+ standing in solidarity with all migrants

+ celebrating the beauty and dignity of their lives

and

+ remembering the danger and harshness of their journey.

Local artist and SFX parishioner Andy Julo will use these paper symbols of struggle and hope to create a hanging sculpture that will be installed in our worship space during the month of November, the Month of Remembrance.”

#sharethejourney is a project of Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities USA, Caritas Internationalis, and Migration and Refugees Services—USCCB to encourage migrants and host communities to share together the communities’ stories of migration. Go to www.sharejourney.org to learn more.

What is migration?

Humanity has always been on the move. People have always packed up their lives – to find work, friends and family, food, shelter, safety.

It's nothing new.

So why are some people now so scared of the 'stranger'?

Migration has brought huge benefits to many people – new languages, number systems, crops, music, inventions, ways of thinking.

What problems do migrants face?

Migration now is also bringing suffering – restrictive laws, separated families, inflamed political rhetoric, walls between us, as brothers and sisters. Does it really need to be this way?

Migrants are sometimes demonized for stealing jobs from locals, for taking excessive welfare benefits, for being foreign –the 'other'.

Research and statistics often show that widely-held negative perceptions around migration are off the mark.

The positive impact of migrants

We embrace the heritage of vibrant diversity and welcome. If we meet, greet, get to know one another, we will conquer the fear. Instead we will find understanding.

Together, we can change hearts and minds.



“We must strive and ask for the grace
to create a culture of encounter...

that restores to each person his or her own dignity.”

– Pope Francis