

MANY FACES IN GOD'S HOUSE

#1 - Exodus 22:20 "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt."

#2 - Exodus 23:9 "You must not oppress the stranger; you know how a stranger feels for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt."

#3 - Leviticus 19:33-34 "If a stranger lives with you in your land, do not molest him. You must count him as one of your countrymen and love him as yourself--for you were once strangers yourselves in Egypt. I am Yahweh your God."

#4 - I Kings 8:41-43. "And the foreigner too, not belonging to your people Israel, if he comes from a distant country for the sake of your name--for men will hear of your name, of your mighty hand and outstretched arm--if he comes and prays in this Temple, hear from heaven where your home is, and grant all the foreigner asks, so that all the peoples of the earth may come to know your name and, like your people Israel, revere you, and know that your name is given to the Temple I have built."

#5 - Isaiah 2:2 "The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem:
In the days to come
The mountain of the Temple of Yahweh
Shall tower above the mountains
And be lifted higher than the hills
All the nations will stream to it,
Peoples without number will come to it..."

#6 - Isaiah 56:6-7 "Foreigners who have attached themselves to Yahweh to serve him and to love his name and be his servants....these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

#7 - Revelation 5:9 "...you brought men for God of every race, language, people and nation..."

#8 - Revelation 7:9-10 "After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, "Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

#9 - In a landmark pastoral letter issued by the Catholic bishops of Mexico and the United States, *Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope*, the bishops acknowledge that the current immigration system is badly in need of reform and that a comprehensive approach to fixing it is required. The bishops offer a comprehensive set of recommendations for changing U.S. laws and policies to reflect the principles contained in Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching and to bring about a more humane and just immigration system in the United States. "Justice for Immigrants" USCCB

#10 - Many migrants are compelled to leave their homes out of economic necessity in order to provide even the most basic of needs for themselves and their families. The [USA and Mexican] bishops call for international efforts designed to create conditions in which people do not have to leave their homes out of necessity. Trade, international economic aid, debt relief, and other types of economic policies should be pursued that result in people not having to migrate in desperation in order to survive. "Justice for Immigrants" USCCB

#11 - U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents must endure many years of separation from close family members who they want to join them in the United States. The backlog of available visas for family members results in waits of five, ten, fifteen, and more years for a visa to become available. The [USA and Mexican] bishops call for a reduction of the pending backlog and more visas available for family reunification purposes. Source: "Justice for Immigrants" United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

#12 - The U.S. economy depends upon the labor provided by migrants. Therefore, many migrants come to the United States to fill jobs. The [USA and Mexican] bishops acknowledge this reality and call for a more rationale and humane system by which laborers from other countries can enter the country legally to fill positions in the labor force, including on a temporary basis. Because the U.S. experience with temporary workers programs has been fraught with abuses, the bishops call for a temporary worker program that includes [proposals that will be listed in succeeding bulletins]. Source: "Justice for Immigrants" United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

#13 - The [USA and Mexican] bishops call for a temporary worker program that includes:

- Path to permanent residency which is achievable/verifiable
 - Family unity which allows immediate family members to join worker
- "Justice for Immigrants" USCCB

August 29, 2010

The [USA and Mexican] bishops call for a temporary worker program that includes:

- Job portability which allows workers to change employers
- Labor protections which apply to U.S. workers

"Justice for Immigrants" USCCB

September 5, 2010

The [USA and Mexican] bishops call for a temporary worker program that includes:

- Enforcement mechanisms and resources to enforce worker's rights
- Wages and benefits which do not undercut domestic workers

"Justice for Immigrants" USCCB

September 12, 2010

The [USA and Mexican] bishops call for a temporary worker program that includes:

- Mobility between U.S. and homeland and within U.S.
- Labor-market test to ensure U.S. workers are not harmed

"Justice for Immigrants" USCCB

September 19, 2010

For those in this country without proper immigration documentation, opportunities should be provided for them to obtain legalization if they can demonstrate good moral character and have built up equities in this country. Such an "earned" legalization should be achievable and independently verifiable. "Justice for Immigrants" USCCB

September 26, 2010

In recent years, immigrants have been subject to laws and policies that debase our country's fundamental commitment to individual liberties and due process. These laws and policies, including detention for months without charges, secret hearings, and ethnic profiling, signal a sea of change in our government's policies and attitudes towards immigrants. We are a nation with a long, rich tradition of welcoming newcomers. Government policies that unfairly and inappropriately confuse immigration with terrorism do not make us safer, tarnish our heritage, and damage our standing abroad. The [USA and Mexican] bishops urge our government to revisit these laws and to make the appropriate changes consistent with due process rights. "Justice for

Immigrants” USCCB

October 3, 2010

Also in this context, the [USA and Mexican] bishops call for reforming our system for responding to asylum seekers and considering their claims. Today, asylum seekers must meet a very high bar for demonstrating their claim for asylum and are incarcerated in the meantime. The bishops believe that our nation can both protect its citizens from terrorists and remain a safe haven for legitimate asylum seekers fleeing persecution. “Justice for Immigrants” USCCB