

# Catholic Campaign for Immigration Reform

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**We, the Priests for Justice for Immigrants**, compelled by our conviction in faith and our respect for the dignity and sanctity of every human life, and saddened by the current Congressional leadership's passage of enforcement-only legislation which totally ignores the disheartened spirits of the immigrants among us who daily contribute their gifts to this country, continue to work to influence the public conversation regarding immigration policy, and to support responsible, respectful comprehensive immigration reform, inclusive of respectful, humane border controls.

We pledge to:

**Accompany our undocumented brothers and sisters** on their journey and to acknowledge that their current status is, in part, the result of a long-broken immigration system; we will listen and respond in faith to the tragic stories of families and individuals faced with terrible choices due to an unresolved immigration status;

**Educate our brothers and sisters** in parish leadership as well as all people of our parishes -- highlighting the contributions and struggles of our undocumented brothers and sisters through our preaching, through written and video materials, and through providing opportunities for the personal witness of undocumented workers;

**Increase awareness** that 98,000 known families are at immediate risk of separation/deportation and countless unknown families who might be torn apart and **Call for a Suspension of Any Non-Felony Deportations which would separate spouses, or separate children from parents or guardians**, until a comprehensive immigration policy is passed by Congress;

**Ask our brother priests** to celebrate the Eucharist during Respect Life Month (October), particularly on Sunday, October 29, 2006, with special emphasis on prayer to defend the rights of all families to be free of fear, to economic security, and to share in the rights that will maintain and support healthy family life.

