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Archbishop Carlson Releases Pastoral Message During National Migration Week

National Migration Week Prayer Services to be held on Friday, January 13

ST. LOUIS – Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson, Archbishop of St. Louis, has issued a pastoral statement on immigration and reconciliation during National Migration Week to "reaffirm" his "pastoral commitment to accompany our immigrant and refugee families."

"As I have done on previous occasions, I call upon the faithful of the Archdiocese of St. Louis and the people of good will to join me in solidarity with our immigrant and refugee communities... May our commitment to walk with the immigrant and refugee be a light in the darkness for others to see and follow," the statement reads.

The Office of Hispanic Ministry of the Archdiocese of St. Louis invites people of all faiths to attend one of several prayer services on Friday, January 13, to join in solidarity with immigrants and refugees around the world. Times and locations of the prayer services, as well as Archbishop Carlson's entire message (English and Spanish) for National Migration Week 2017 can be found at archstl.org/hispanicministry.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) website says that "for nearly a half century, the Catholic Church in the United States has celebrated National Migration Week, which is an opportunity for the Church to reflect on the circumstances confronting migrants, including immigrants, refugees, children, and victims and survivors of human trafficking." More information can be found at <u>usccb.org</u>.

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