



FRANCISCAN FRIARS
Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Action Guide to Respond to the Signs of the Times around Immigration
as we “**welcome, protect and accompany migrants.**” (Synod, Priority 2) January 2025

Following from our [public statement](#) of January 29, 2025, we suggest four areas of response.

1. **Advocate:** This is must. Please let us know what type of response you get from your letters.
 - a. Write to your members of Congress to call for a significant change in the way this current effort of mass deportation is being carried out. [Here is a sample letter](#) you can send and here is how you can find your [Senators](#) and your [Representative](#).
 - b. Write your local leaders, either asking them to not cooperate locally with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or thanking them if they are already on record to not cooperate with ICE. [Here are two letters](#), based on the local leaders’ stance, that you can customize and send.
2. **Prayer:**
 - a. The USCCB has a [Prayer for Migrant Families](#) that could be used as an extra prayer during our morning and/or evening prayer
 - b. We encourage an inclusion of a prayer for our immigrant sisters and brothers during intercessory prayer opportunities.
3. **Accompaniment:**
 - a. Contact your local Diocese and/or Catholic Charities to find ways to work with them and others.
 - b. Connect with local lawyers, if you need local connections, CLINIC has a [list of local affiliates](#).
 - c. If you need more specific help, please reach out to Russ Testa in the JPIC Office rtesta@friars.us or 202-236-4085. (This includes Know Your Rights, what to do to prepare your church for potential raids...)
4. **Teach the communities you serve about the Church’s teaching on immigration:**
 - a. The U.S. Bishops Conference released a brief document on [Six Elements for Immigration Reform](#)
 - b. There are other teaching resources on [Justice for Immigrant’s website](#).
 - c. [JustFaith Ministries](#) has an excellent program on immigration.