

A Litany for Episcopal Action on DACA Week

Composed by The Rev. Canon Dr. Winfred Vergara

As children of God, let us join in prayer for migrants and immigrants, especially the DACA recipients (Deferred Actions for Children Arrivals) in this country and for our country:

Almighty and ever-living God, who through your well-beloved Son has given us the promise of abundant life on earth and eternal life in heaven, and who through the Holy Spirit has given us comfort and strength, we pray for all the migrants and immigrants especially the Dreamers in this country, the United States. We pray that You give them assurance that You will never leave them nor forsake them as they seek Your blessings in this land. Lord, in Your mercy

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Lord, Dreamers were brought to this country by their parents when they were children. The past government administration had given them work authorization and temporary relief from deportation but the current government administration rescinded the DACA program and the matter has come before the Supreme Court for ruling. Lord, this is the only country that Dreamers consider home. Turn the hearts of the justices of the Supreme Court that instead of ruling for their deportation, they would rule in favor of their protection. Lord, in your mercy

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

In these times of the CORONA Virus pandemic, we pray that you keep them safe and protected from any infection that may cause them harm or death. We pray for their families, the parents and their children and all those who care for them. We pray also for those who are homeless, jobless and those who have no one to care for them. Lord, in your mercy.

HEAR OUR PRAYER

In these times of civil unrest and crying out for justice, we pray that immigrant rights be included in the common struggle for justice, equality and prosperity. We pray that their hope of becoming integral parts of American society will be fulfilled in our time. Lord in your mercy.

HEAR OUR PRAYER

We also pray for those who are here in this country through the Temporary Protected Status (TPS). Many of them are Salvadorans, Hondurans, Haitians, Liberians and Tibetans who came to these country fleeing persecutions or because they were displaced victims of calamities. We pray that the Supreme Court rules in favor of their continued stay and welfare. Lord in your mercy

HEAR OUR PRAYER.

We seek your divine protection for refugee children who are often alone, afraid and vulnerable to being exploited especially by human traffickers. Give us courage to stand up in their defense against those who would do them harm. Lord, in your mercy,

HEAR OUR PRAYER

Grant us courage and wisdom to defend the poor, the oppressed and the marginalized in this country. Grant us the spirit of collaboration and solidarity with all those who are seeking a change in the systemic

racism, inequality and social injustices plaguing this country. Break down the walls of our separation from You, O God and from one another. Lord, in your mercy

HEAR OUR PRAYER

Guide the leaders of this nation, especially the President of the United States, the members of Congress, the Senate and the Supreme Court; governors and legislators, judges and all those who make and enforce the law of the land. Turn their hearts for love and mercy, for justice and compassion. Give them wisdom that they may make right, just and reasonable decisions. Make them bridge-builders and advocates of peace and justice and not wall makers of hatred, bigotry and prejudice. Lord, in your mercy

HEAR OUR PRAYER

From the vision of the framers of the United States Constitution, this country was destined to become a shining example of "*E Pluribus Unum*," of "from many to one." While it was first referred to the unity of many different states, it has also become a rallying for the "unity in diversity" from the many nations that have come to this country. From many nations in the world, from many cultures of the earth, and from many dreams of humanity, the hope for the "United States" is be a single people--- ruled by peace, feasting in freedom ---and respecting the dignity of every human being. Help us all to embrace this vision of our common humanity that we may become indeed a beacon of hope for the world. All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

AMEN.