

# DIOCESE OF SAN BERNARDINO



## OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With today's announcement that President Donald Trump will rescind the DACA Program I want to express my prayer and solidarity with the many hundreds of thousands of young people who will be affected by this terrible decision.

To the Dreamers, be assured that we are with you, the Church is with you and stands ready to serve you and accompany you in this time of fear and uncertainty. You have shown great fortitude and commitment throughout your lives in pursuit of your dreams in the country that you call home. While it is sad that this land of opportunity has not afforded a legal one for you yet, your Spirit-filled response to this great trial has been an inspiration for all of us.

President Trump's decision to eliminate DACA shows a continuation of the politics of division and discrimination that has characterized our country these past years. President Trump has acknowledged publicly the plight of the Dreamers, yet in this decision they are set on a path of peril. It now falls to the Legislative branch of our government to craft a long-term comprehensive reform of what most would agree is a broken immigration system in our nation. Let us pray for our Congressional Representatives and Senators that they can put aside partisanship and politics in favor of a just and compassionate solution to a challenge we have faced for many years; a solution that allows families to remain together, respects the human rights and dignity of every person, and, at the same time, keeps our country safe and secure.

When we look at the Sacred Scriptures we know that the journey of the immigrant has always been difficult, from the Israelites to the Holy Family. But God has given a special strength of faith and a hope to the immigrant and this has greatly enriched the United States and the world. Despite the pain of each new generation, we remain a nation of immigrants. It is now time for our lawmakers to carry this mantle in their work of public policy – for the benefit of all.

We are a nation of laws and we are also a nation of compassion, hospitality, inclusion and integrity. May we always claim our identity that all of us are children of God and brothers and sisters to each other. May God bless our nation.

1201 East Highland Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92404

◆ Telephone: (909) 475-5110 ◆ Fax: (909) 475-5109 ◆ Email: [bpoffice@sbdioocese.org](mailto:bpoffice@sbdioocese.org)