



STATEMENT

The bishops, priests and people of God of The Old Catholic Church, Province of the United States (TOCCUSA) join with our sisters and brothers of faith throughout our country and around our world in voicing our strong opposition to the current immigration policies of the United States government separating children from their parents and loved ones in the name of stronger border enforcement.

We read in the Scriptures: “People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples scolded them, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.’”

We are outraged at the human rights violations of these children and their families, and feel we must act accordingly.

We affirm the family as a foundational societal structure to support human community and understand the household as an estate blessed by God. The security of the family provides critical mental, physical and emotional support to the development and wellbeing of children. Our congregations are a conglomeration of immigrant families and first nations people, some of us have been here longer than others, yet length of time does not change the fact that the majority of us are immigrants. Tearing children away from parents who have made a dangerous journey, as did many of our ancestors, to provide a safe and sufficient life for them is unnecessarily cruel and detrimental to the well-being of parents and children.

We encourage you to continue to lift all families and children in your daily prayer. If your heart is moved with compassion for the children who are being separated from their families, we urge you to contact our law makers and encourage them to pass legislation that will stop the separation of children from their families.

We urge you to call your own US Senators and House of Representatives and as well as all the members of the Senate and House of Representatives Judiciary Committees to pass the HUMANE ENFORCEMENT AND LEGAL PROTECTIONS (HELP) FOR SEPARATED CHILDREN ACT in the US House (H.R. 5950) and US Senate (S2937).

For further information please contact:

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