

St. Vincent de Paul Church ♦ New Sanctuary Movement

There are two BIG projects the NSM is working on in collaboration with other immigrants rights groups. The involvement of allied congregations is very important. First, continue advocating for citizenship for undocumented immigrants with our Congress. Write, call or email our senators and representatives urging them to back legislation to this effect. Second, Call your Pennsylvania state legislators about passing legislation on a drivers license for undocumented immigrants (HB279).

- A PATHWAY TO CITIZENSHIP FOR ALL IMMIGRANTS
 - DRIVERS LICENSES FOR PENNSYLVANIA UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS
-

IMMIGRANT UPDATES & PRAYER NEEDS

SOLANNI GUZMAN was at Sunday Mass on July 11 to meet some of the people who have reached out to her and her three children, Albert, Albelis, and Sodeli. One of our NSM committee members, Nora O'Neill, brings food to her from our food bank every month. Other ways in which St. Vincent has helped is with donations to help her pay her bills. She has started a job recently—something she has desperately needed. She will be returning to college to finish her associates degree. If all goes well, that will be in December.



AGUSTIN AGUILAR sends money to his aunt-mother in Honduras to buy her diabetes medicines. If he earns enough money, that's the first thing he does. As a result, he is often behind in paying his rent. Jobs are few and far between. He has never been to school and yet he texts well enough for people to understand.



ANTONIO GONZALES was surprised, as we all were, when the judge recommended that his adult daughters could petition for him to get his Green Card. The photo at left shows him with his daughters, Estela and Jennifer, outside the federal building in Philadelphia after receiving the good news. We all thought he was going to be deported. Paul Witte and Gene Cleaver were allowed to accompany the family into the courtroom so the judge could see that he had community support.

REINA BENITEZ is still waiting to find out the fate of her husband, Nelvin, who has been in jail for over two years without a trial. There is a trial scheduled for August 11, 2021; however, she has heard nothing from Nelvin's public defender. She works cleaning houses part time to make ends meet. She has two small children. Parishioners sometimes help her pay her rent.

JACOBO SANDOVAL lives in Kensington now. He is in the process of getting his Green Card with the help of Justice at Work and the Salvation Army. He is looking forward to finding a living situation more suitable to his needs.

EXCITING THINGS ARE HAPPENING

Go to the New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia Facebook page for happenings and actions. Recently, a demonstration in support of a pathway to citizenship took place at the 30th St. Station. There will be other happenings in the future, so follow them on Facebook and if you want to get on the NSM's email list, call Paul Witte at 267-237-6683 or contact the NSM at 215-279-7060.