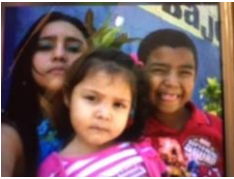


SOME OF THE IMMIGRANTS PARISHIONERS OF ST. VINCENT HAVE HELPED

NEW SANCTUARY MOVEMENT COMMITTEE OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH



Sayra Redondo and family



Maritza Serrano & family



Lesley has a serious heart issue & a 6-month-old baby.



Agustín Aguilar

IN RECENT MONTHS there has been an influx of immigrants coming from the border. Most of those arriving whom we have helped are from Honduras.

FOR A WHILE now we have been journeying with **Solanni Guzman** as she finishes her Associates degree. Her dream is to continue in college. She especially likes St. Joseph University. She wants a career helping people and right now she is working with a Spanish-speaking mother and child as a requirement for her degree. She is doing that while being a mother to three children, two with special needs, and working in a restaurant. She's expecting a care giver for her 3 children to arrive from the Dominican Republic soon. Another person we are helping is **Reina Benitez**. She is hoping there will be a decision made soon as to her husband's fate. He finally had a trial in September after waiting for 2.5 years in jail. **Agustín Aguilar** is working in a restaurant in Delaware County. It's a good place for him even though he was off for several weeks due to the restaurant's loss of business. He's happy when he can send money to his ailing adoptive mother and other family members in Honduras. **Jacobo Sandoval** from Guatemala finally got his Green Card and is now living on Kip St. in Kensington.

THE NEW PEOPLE we are responding to are trying to establish themselves having only recently arrived. Their greatest need is steady work, always difficult to find for undocumented immigrants. They get oriented to what is available to them as residents of Philadelphia rather quickly. They put their children in school. They find where they can get medical help. They even learn quickly where to get food. The hardest thing for them is achieving independence by finding a good job. So we try to help them get past the obstacles to such independence by sharing information and material things, such as we can. Things like clothes, food, transportation.



Elsa's baby

Flea



Solanni at restaurant where she works



Reina has 2 children.



Jacobo (center) turns 72 on Christmas day

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE FEATURED IN THIS REPORT

GOD OF CULTURES, we pray for the millions of immigrants who are living around the world in countries that may be hostile "strangers." Teach us to look beyond the borders of the nation and city in which we live.

God of the Poor, we pray that immigrant families and especially children who have restricted access to shelter, food, health care, and education would cease to be marginalized by the systems in which they live and instead be treated with dignity. We pray that they would be provided with covering shelter, nourishing food, sustaining health, and a nurturing education.

We pray for those who were born in the United States whose thoughts and actions may be fueled by racist and ethnocentric attitudes towards those who were born elsewhere. We pray for the abolition of individual and institutional racism.

We pray for those who live in constant fear of deportation and separation from their family. We pray that families would be able to remain together.

We pray that you would help us remember that all people possess inherent human dignity as your children, made in your image, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, socio-economic status, or legal status; in the undocumented sister and brother, let us see your Spirit, O Lord.

Help us not forget that you were an immigrant; that your family fled to Egypt when you were a child to escape Herod's decree to kill every infant boy.

God, help us see you in the eyes of the migrant and to recognize your presence amongst the oppressed.

Pax Christi Prayer