

JOIN US AND THE NEW SANCTUARY MOVEMENT

WE ARE A MINISTRY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH that collaborates with the New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia (NSM). The ministry guides the parishioners of St. Vincent to meet the objectives of the NSM. That is, we welcome the stranger in the spirit of Deuteronomy 10:17-21 and Matthew 25:31-40. Today our country is going through a difficult time because of opposition to refugees and immigrants. Our proposal is to support the NSM by promoting their efforts, programs and actions.

What is the New Sanctuary Movement?

The NSM is a non-profit, faith-based organization. Founded in 2007, it is composed of immigrants and faith congregations. Congregations allied with the NSM seek to break down barriers to the legalization of undocumented immigrants so that they can live their lives in a way that every human being deserves.

Why are we addressing you?

We want to meet you and give you the opportunity to work with us—especially in Northwest Philadelphia—to welcome refugees and immigrants. Given the anti-immigrant environment in our country, collaboration from all of us is urgent.

What are we doing?

We defend the human rights of immigrants and have conducted courses to make them aware of their rights.

We accompany immigrants to federal, state, and local courts to give them the assurance that they are not alone.

We must ensure that immigrants have driver's licenses. A statewide bill needs to be enacted, and that's why we're working with other groups across the state of Pennsylvania to convince lawmakers that they need to pass a new law. At this time no undocumented immigrant can obtain a driver's license in Pennsylvania.

In the U.S. Congress in Washington, some lawmakers have introduced a bill to create a path to citizenship for every immigrant. We travel frequently to Washington to lobby for passage of that bill..

What can you do?

Accompany immigrants to court, visit the incarcerated, take part in actions/demonstrations, aid in other ways.

Join the NSM

You can join at the congregational level and on a personal level. You just have to

- conform to the NSM mission statement
- attend general assemblies
- pay annual membership fees. For faith congregations the fees are \$500 to \$2500 depending on the size of the congregation. The individual contributes what he/she can, be it money or services.

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