

**A CALL TO A RADIO TALK SHOW**

Early in July, a call to a popular right-wing talk show called attention to the Catholic position on the recent influx of young immigrants at America's southern border. The callers, parishioners in the Archdiocese of San Bernardino in California, reported that their pastor had requested volunteers to provide temporary shelter to children from Central America soon to be bused into their community. Though the callers were concerned about the children's welfare, the program host was outraged that Catholics were being asked to help the federal government bring more so-called "illegals" into the USA. "Why do you think the Catholic Church accepted this?" he demanded.

**"I KNOW HER ONLY BY PHOTOS"**

An investigative report on the young migrants in the *Los Angeles Times* offered insight into that question. It recounted the story of two Guatemalan teens, Karen and Sindy Laucel. Ten years earlier, their mother had left the Laucel sisters behind with relatives when she sought work in the US. Settling in North Carolina, she regularly sent money home but could not safely visit her children. "I know her only by photos," reported 16-year-old Sindy. Nevertheless, after both their father and grandfather were victims of unsolved killings, the girls crossed Mexico's southern border on an inner tube and paid a smuggler to assist them on the dangerous 2,000-mile journey to find their mother.

**VULNERABLE TO EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE**

In calling for comprehensive immigration reform, America's Catholic bishops have long insisted that family reunification is their top priority. Well before the recent arrival of nearly 60,000 unaccompanied youth, San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller pointed out that children as young as 5 or 6 were crossing our southern border to join relatives among the 11 million undocumented Latinos already living in the United States. "These minors (and women also) are especially vulnerable to exploitation, physical and emotional abuse," he warned. "Nevertheless, they are determined to make the perilous journey because they are not safe staying in their homeland and/or they want to be reunited with their immediate family."

**GLOBALIZE SOLIDARITY**

On July 10, the bishops' conferences of El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico and the United States called on Catholics to address the issues causing so many children to flee their homelands and to tend to the welfare of those making the journey. "These children leave their countries, pushed by misery, violence or a desire to reunite with parents or family members, who have already migrated, and then confront all kinds of deprivations and dangers, experience a terrible humanitarian crisis," says the bishops' letter. "This dramatic situation affects all of us and we must commit ourselves to 'globalize solidarity,' recognizing, respecting and defending the life, dignity and rights of every person, independent of their migratory condition." That is why American Catholics are responding positively to the call to help these new arrivals.

Updated information on the Catholic response to our ongoing border crisis is available on the Justice of Immigrants website: <http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org>

# AUGUST 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<b>1</b> YAG Meeting – Offsite 7:30P	<b>2</b> <i>Father Jeffery's Birthday</i> SVDP Meeting 9A Dance by Kenya 10:00A Lector Prep 10:30A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
<b>3</b> Women's Council 9:30A Social Action 12N Dancer's Rehearsal 1:30P	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Zumba Class 6:00P Baptismal Class 7P Lector Prep 7P	<b>6</b> <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308	<b>7</b> Zumba Class 6:30P	<b>8</b> <i>St. Dominic's Day</i> YAG Meeting – Offsite 7:30P	<b>9</b> <i>Prayer Breakfast 9A</i> Dance by Kenya 10:00A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cancer Home Fundraiser
<b>10</b> Live Stream 10A Mass Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cancer Home Fundraiser Dancer's Rehearsal 1:30P KPC/KPCLA Meeting 1:30P Jr. Daughter Meeting 1:30P Jr. Knights Meeting 1:30P	<b>11</b> Stand up for Kids 4P Stephen's Ministry 6:30PM Pastoral Council Meeting 7P	<b>12</b> Zumba Class 6:00P	<b>13</b> <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308	<b>14</b> Zumba Class 6:30P	<b>15</b> <i>Feast Day Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Eucharist 7:00PM</i> <i>Men's Ministry</i> <i>Movie Night for Edgewood</i>	<b>16</b> SVDP Meeting 9A Dance by Kenya 10:00A ASBS Meeting 1:00P Newcomers Reception 3:00P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
<b>17</b> St. Vincent de Paul 12N Haiti Committee Meeting 12N Dancer's Rehearsal 1:30P	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Zumba Class 6:00P	<b>20</b> <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308	<b>21</b> Zumba Class 6:30P	<b>22</b> YAG Meeting 7:30P	<b>23</b> <i>Choir Retreat – 8A</i> Habitat Build Date 8A Dance by Kenya 10:00A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist Simon's Call Ice Cream Social 6P
<b>24</b> Live Stream 10A Mass Simon's Call Ice Cream Social Dancer's Rehearsal 1:30P Lay Dominicans Meeting 2P Lourdes Alumni Meet & Greet	<b>25</b> Stephen's Ministry 6P <i>Tatze Prayer Group</i> <i>7:00PM</i>	<b>26</b> Young At Heart Summer Fling 12N Zumba Class 6:00P ABLE Meeting 7P	<b>27</b> <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308	<b>28</b> Zumba Class 6:30P	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Habitat Build Date 8A Dance by Kenya 10:00A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist Dinner & Beignets 6P
<b>31</b> Sunday Dinner & Beignets 8A Dancer's Rehearsal 1:30P						

**Lourdes Women's Council is sponsoring Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cancer Home Raffle Ticket Fundraiser on August 9/10**  
**Simon's Call Ice Cream Social in the Cafeteria ~ August 23/24**  
**You can purchase Sunday Dinner & Beignets in the Cafeteria on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month ~ August 30/31**