

## A BLESSING FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE FOR MIGRANTS

Jesus, you were a refugee in Egypt and a carpenter in Nazareth. You taught us that when we welcome the stranger, we welcome you (Mt. 25:31-46), and that all workers deserve a just and living wage (Mt. 20:1-16).

So many people in our world are being displaced by oppression and poverty. And even when they come to a new land, they're forced to work in unjust conditions or are prevented from working at all. Does our society believe it's wrong for others to build a better life for themselves and their families?

Lord of mercy, we ask that you bless all migrants and refugees, and the work of their hands. Give them their daily wages and release them from their burdens. We also ask that you bless those who welcome them with open arms.

Lord of justice, we pray that you open the hearts of those in positions of influence and authority: may they recognize the human dignity of each migrant and make decisions that honor them. Indeed, may all of us be inspired to welcome without exception and to give of our possessions generously (Mk. 10:17-31). Amen.