

During this fourth week of the Season of Creation, we celebrate National Migration week. For nearly fifty years, the Catholic Church in the United States has celebrated this week to reflect on the circumstances confronting migrants, including immigrants, refugees, children and victims and survivors of human trafficking.

For most of human history, people have lived in a very narrow range of temperatures, where the climate was variable but comfortable for daily living a supportive of abundant food production. As the planet continues to warm, that range is shrinking and moving north. As a result, people are being forced to flee north to escape drought, floods, unbearable heat and avoid starvation.

The theme for this year is "Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees." Pope Francis emphasizes that "the Kingdom of God is to be built with them, for without them it would not be the Kingdom that God wants. The inclusion of those most vulnerable is the necessary condition for full citizenship in God's Kingdom."

In his message for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis says, "Building the future with migrants and refugees also means recognizing and valuing how much each of them can contribute to the process of construction. Their work, their youth, their enthusiasm and their willingness to sacrifice enrich the communities that receive them. Yet this contribution could be all the greater were it optimized and supported by carefully developed programs and initiatives. Enormous potential exists, ready to be harnessed, if only it is given a chance."

Want to learn more? Read, "Ten things you can do to accompany undocumented immigrants" by <u>Justice for Immigrants</u>



search of a better life, far away from poverty, hunger, exploitation and the unjust distribution of the planet's resources which are meant to be equitably shared by all.

POPE FRANCIS

Want to take action? Join Justice for Immigrants to Urge Congress to Pass the Afghan Adjustment Act

Mark your calendar for Monday, October 3rd, 4:30 PT/6:30 CT/7:30 ET for a Zoom prayer service by the Creation Care Team for the end of the Season of Creation.