

## WHAT YOU DO TO THE LEAST OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS

“Jesus is present in so many of our brothers and sisters  
who suffer like He did.”  
*Pope Francis*

### PRESENCE of GOD

We pause and remember that our loving and merciful God is always present to us. He loves us with an everlasting love and calls each of us by name. We are His special people and He is our God. Holy is God; holy and mighty; holy and living forever.

### GOD'S WORD TO US

#### Matthew 25: 40

The King will reply, Truly I tell you that whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me. Then He will say to those on His left, Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave Me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite Me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe Me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after Me. They also will answer, Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help You? He will reply, Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for Me. Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life

### A Litany of God's Care

Caring God, You have always loved, strengthened, and comforted us.  
We know You will provide us time to rest and feel at peace,  
healing for the things which bring us pain,  
guidance in doing what is right,  
a place at Your table forever,  
a way to make peace with those we dislike or fear,  
the promise that each of us has a task to do for You,  
the assurance that Your love and care will never stop,  
the constant desire to do what is good in Your eyes,  
the belief that You give us all that we need.

### A Call to Awareness

The world is populated by billions of people and filled with thick newspapers, speaking of too much division.  
God's world is vast; God's concern is intimate.  
Societies, cultures, churches fail to embrace those different from themselves.

God's world is vast; God's concern is intimate.  
Our own preoccupation with the familiar keeps us from living  
God's expansive vision.  
God's World is vast; God's concern is intimate.

### **A Litany of Community**

All merciful and compassionate God, You gave birth to the world and to all the people who look at the same moon that we see.

We live in community with people in places where peace walks a tightrope.

We live in community with those who are anxious for the tomorrows of their sons and daughters.

We live in community with those for whom a bowl of soup and a piece of bread is a feast.

We live in community with those who have forgotten the language of hope.

We live in community with those who can teach us much about depending on You to provide for us day by day.

God of all peace, God of all hope, give us kind and gentle hearts, that we might act with compassion toward the whole human family. Amen.

*-Sharlande Sledge*

### **UNITED STATES CATHOLIC BISHOPS ON DACA**

The Church has recognized and proclaimed the need to welcome young people: 'Whoever welcomes one of these children in My name welcomes Me; and whoever welcomes Me does not welcome Me but the One who sent Me' (Mark 9:37). Our nation has done the opposite of how Scripture calls us to respond. It is a step back from the progress that we need to make as a country. These actions represent a heartbreaking moment in our history that shows the absence of mercy and good will, and a short-sighted vision for the future. DACA youth are woven into the fabric of our country and of our Church, and are, by every social and human measure, American youth.

We strongly urge Congress to act and immediately resume work toward a legislative solution. We pledge our support to work on finding an expeditious means of protection for DACA youth.

As people of faith, we say to DACA youth – regardless of your immigration status, you are children of God and welcome in the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church supports you and will advocate for you.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas,  
intercede for the family of God in distress.

O Immaculate Mary, Patroness of the United States,  
assist us as we work for justice for our brothers and sisters.

LIVE JESUS IN OUR HEARTS.  
FOREVER!

