

Immediate Release
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Press Release:

Franciscan Friars Conventual Urge Just Immigration Solutions and Re-unification of Currently Separated Families

This week President Trump signed an executive order to help maintain family unity at the US-Mexico border. This latest action takes a small step toward correcting a grave immoral practice of family separation. However, it does nothing to assist those already suffering separation caused by the Administration's actions these past weeks. Furthermore, it fails to foster and build consensus toward a just and merciful solution to our national immigration crisis.

As Franciscan Friars Conventual, we are dismayed at the federal government's inability to arrive at just immigration solutions. As the prophet Isaiah says in chapter 10: "Woe to those who make unjust laws, to those who issue oppressive decrees, to deprive the poor of their rights and withhold justice from the oppressed of my people."

Scripture is unambiguous in the call for us to love God and love our neighbor, which includes welcoming the stranger. We the Franciscan Friars Conventual of Our Lady of Angels Province fully support the June 15, 2018 [statement](#) of the Franciscan Action Network in the United States, which asks, "where is the love?" in the policy of family separation. We cry out for justice in the names of the children who have been torn away from their parents and are subjected to traumatic and at times inhumane conditions. We further support the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in their June 18, 2018 [critique](#) of the inadequate and at times immoral immigration legislation currently being introduced in Congress.

We the Franciscan Friars Conventual gathered in Provincial Chapter this week, represent 180 friars in the eastern United States and Canada, who profess and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In His name, we call for a swift resolution of the situation of families already separated by the federal government's action. We support the creation of a path for reunification and healing of the trauma currently being endured by many.