Proposed Resolution regarding Dignity, Not Hate, Not Mass Deportation, Not Silence

Whereas "dignity" is not just a word, but rather a framework of principles declaring that all migrants have: 1) a universal right of movement; 2) the right to be secure from arbitrary and abusive detention, forced labor and sexual violence; 3) the right of equality; 4) the right to a basic quality of life; 5) the right to access services; and 6) civil and political rights; therefore be it

Resolved, that the 130th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles as people of faith, honoring the biblical injunction to love the stranger and immigrant, in line with our commitment to be a Sanctuary Diocese, and building upon our ongoing diocesan work of Sacred Resistance in solidarity with migrants and refugees, therefore affirm our support for Migration with Dignity, the immigrant justice policy adopted by the 81st General Convention of the Episcopal Church (Resolution C031) and oppose all policies and actions that deprive migrants of these rights including, but not limited to, the U.S. Government's current program of mass detention and deportation; and be it further

Resolved, that the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles encourage its parishes, missions, and congregations to observe Migration With Dignity Sunday on a Sunday during the season of Epiphany (as Resolution C031 calls for The Episcopal Church to do)— including prayers for migrants, migration ministries, and Sacred Resistance, such as those provided by the Episcopal Migration Caucus, and educational or formation resources regarding Migration With Dignity—or to participate in a Migration with Dignity formation program, to engage Episcopalians in this diocese with the plight of refugees, migrants, asylum seekers and displaced persons and encourage actions that can be undertaken to assist them and advocate on their behalf, including support for the diocesan Sacred Resistance Task Force; and be it further

Resolved, that the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles urges the presiding bishop, president of the House of Deputies and the Executive Council of the Church to promptly establish the Task Force on Migration with Dignity provided for in Resolution C031.

Submitted by the Rev. Dan Justin on behalf of the Episcopal Migration Caucus

Endorsed by Rev. Dr. Francisco García, the Very Rev. Christopher Montella, and the Rev. Stefanie Wilson Brown.

Notes:

Resources for Migration with Dignity Sunday and educational materials about Migration With Dignity are available here: https://bit.ly/MWDSunday

Passed at the 81st General Convention: Resolution C031

Explanation:

The Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles has a long history of solidarity with migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers, including our commitment to be a Sanctuary Diocese since 2016, and the ongoing work of Sacred Resistance, which we have redoubled this year in response to the increase in inhumane and racially-motivated immigration actions in Southern California. This resolution builds on those commitments through the framework of "Migration With Dignity," a set of principles for migration ministry and migrant-solidarity work approved by The Episcopal Church's General Convention in 2024. The resolution encourages our parishes, missions, and congregations to learn and teach about Migration With Dignity, especially by observing a "Migration With Dignity Sunday" in Epiphany season. Migration With Dignity Sunday and related formation opportunities offer a new entry point for engagement into the work of Sacred Resistance in support of immigrants, on the part of the parishes, missions, and congregations in our diocese.