

Putting Our Faith Into Practice

Support for Families Impacted by Immigration Enforcement

On the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Sunday, January 11, 2026), we celebrated Jesus' entry into the Jordan and the beginning of His public ministry. He shows us what faith looks like: steady, public, and close to those carrying heavy burdens. This weekend, the Diocese of San José shares simple ways to support neighbors who may be impacted by immigration enforcement actions.

IF YOU WANT TO HELP (EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT DIRECTLY IMPACTED)

1) Participate in or host workshops on legal rights/responsibilities and family preparedness

Access Catholic Charities' Know-Your-Rights sessions and preparedness workshops:

<https://www.ccsc.org/immigrants-refugees?locale=en#immigrationworkshops>

2) Begin or participate in a parish accompaniment ministry

- Offer practical, quiet support: rides, childcare, meals, translation help; checking in on families who are scared or isolated; being present (when appropriate) as a calm companion.
- Enroll in Accompaniment Training: Hope and Healing workshop** by contacting Ruby Ramirez – rubyramirez@pactsj.org
- Build a referral list** of 5–8 trusted nonprofits/legal providers (include multilingual options) and keep it at the parish office and on the parish website.

3) Give to an emergency assistance and legal support fund

Families can face a sudden loss of income when a loved one is detained. Donations help provide emergency assistance and connect people to trusted legal support.

Donate (Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County):

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=VH9SFDSDFQNEW

IF YOU ARE WORRIED OR SOMETHING IS HAPPENING

4) Get verified help right away

- Report ICE activity/request accompaniment support:** Call the Santa Clara County Rapid Response Network (RRN) 24/7: (408) 290-1144. They can help verify what's happening and connect you to local support.
 - RRN is a coalition of local nonprofits; partners include Amigos de Guadalupe, Asian Law Alliance, CARAS, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, Pangea Legal Services, SIREN, and others.*

5) Quick "know your rights" reminders

- You can ask: **"Am I free to go?"**
- You can choose to **remain silent**.
- Do not sign papers** you don't understand.
- If someone comes to the door, you can ask to see a **warrant**.

6) Make a simple family plan

If your family could be affected, make a basic plan now: childcare pickup, emergency contacts, key documents, and a trusted person who can help. See Santa Clara County's Family Preparedness Plans:

<https://desj.santaclaracounty.gov/oir/family-preparedness>

Scan for Bishop Cantú's Christmas message on why the Church accompanies immigrants and refugees and updated local resources, "Know Your Rights" materials, and parish support options.



- <https://www.dsj.org/bishop-cantus-christmas-message-welcoming-the-christ-child-welcoming-the-stranger/>
- <https://www.dsj.org/evangelization/social-ministries/social-services/migrants-and-refugees/>

NOTE: This handout is **general guidance and not legal advice**. For legal advice, contact a qualified attorney or an accredited legal representative.