

## *A Prayer for the Journey of Hope*

Heavenly Father,  
help us to follow the example of good Saint Joseph,  
who in obedience to your word,  
fled to Egypt with the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to protect your only-begotten Son.

We give you thanks, Lord,  
for those who welcomed and nurtured our forebears  
when first they came to this land,  
filled with hope, and longing for freedom.

In these trying days,  
fill our hearts with compassion  
and our minds with a hunger for your truth  
as we seek to discern your holy will.

Hear our prayers for the struggling immigrant,  
hiding in the shadows, while giving of their labor,  
for those who seek to escape the grinding poverty of their native land  
and for nations who struggle to employ and feed and care for their citizens.

Hear our prayers for the border guard, who works to keep us safe,  
and for the legislator, who seeks truth and justice and the right.

When we are tempted by selfishness,  
give us a full measure of your compassion.

When we are tempted by hate,  
purify us with your love.

When we are tempted to deceit,  
give us an unfailing love of justice  
When we are moved by self-interest,  
give us the grace to do your will  
When we struggle in the darkness,  
show us the way.

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Immaculate,  
our patroness, our refuge, and our strength,  
guard us, protect us, and give us the grace of your truth,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.