

ACTION ALERT

**Office of Peace, Justice and Ecological Integrity
Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth**

January 9, 2018

ISSUE: TERMINATION OF TPS FOR SALVADORANS:

Yesterday, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced its decision to terminate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Salvadorans in the United States. This decision follows the recent TPS terminations for Sudan, Nicaragua, and Haiti, and is yet another attack on immigrant communities. TPS is a program designed to protect people from being returned to harm - precisely the conditions El Salvador faces today, including gang conscription, sexual violence, and human trafficking. As a nation, we promised to protect nearly 200,000 Salvadoran neighbors by allowing them to remain in the United States. As Sisters of Charity and Seton Associates we have a long tradition of involvement with the Salvadoran people both in El Salvador and in the US.

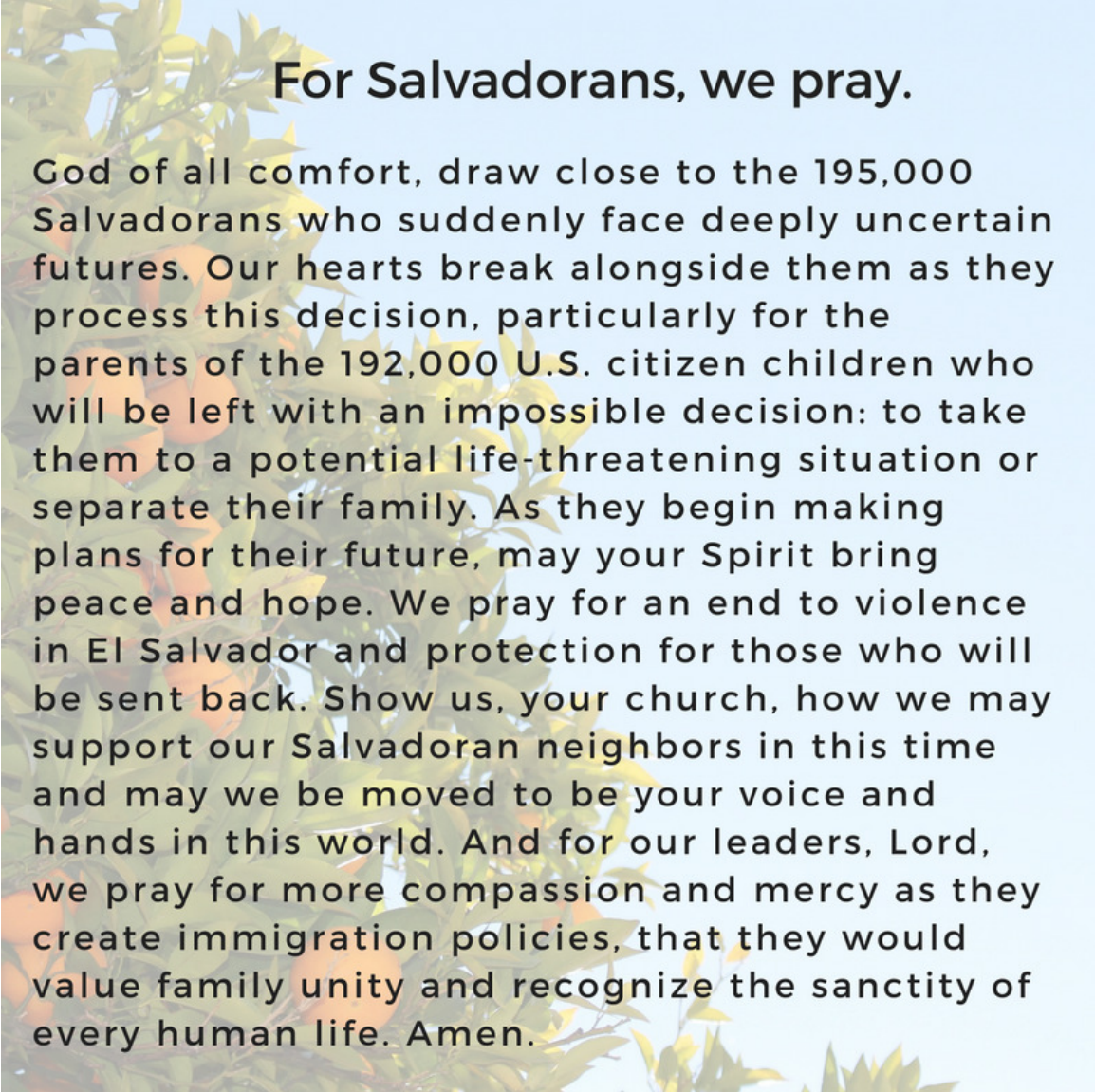
ACTION: CALL YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Call your members of Congress at (202) 224-3121 and urge them to do everything in their power to see the TPS designation for El Salvador be re-instated, and to pass a permanent legislative solution for TPS holders. You be patched through to your 2 Senators and 1 Representative.

Sample Script:

“I’m your constituent from [CITY/TOWN] and a Sister of Charity/Seton Associate. I support Temporary Protected Status for my Salvadoran neighbors, and I oppose the administration's recent decision to terminate it. I urge you to do everything in your power to see that the administration reinstates TPS for El Salvador for another 18 months, and to issue statements and make floor remarks supporting Salvadoran TPS holders. I call on you to demonstrate bold leadership and support a permanent, legislative solution that protects all TPS holders from being separated from their families. My community welcomes immigrants, and I urge you to reflect the best of our American values of compassion and welcome.”

PRAYER:



For Salvadorans, we pray.

God of all comfort, draw close to the 195,000 Salvadorans who suddenly face deeply uncertain futures. Our hearts break alongside them as they process this decision, particularly for the parents of the 192,000 U.S. citizen children who will be left with an impossible decision: to take them to a potential life-threatening situation or separate their family. As they begin making plans for their future, may your Spirit bring peace and hope. We pray for an end to violence in El Salvador and protection for those who will be sent back. Show us, your church, how we may support our Salvadoran neighbors in this time and may we be moved to be your voice and hands in this world. And for our leaders, Lord, we pray for more compassion and mercy as they create immigration policies, that they would value family unity and recognize the sanctity of every human life. Amen.