



# Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate United States Province

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Dear Brothers,

Below you find the statement from the Conference of Major Superiors of Men regarding Immigration issues in the USA today. The closing statement encourages us to address these issues in a way that reflects our Oblate charism. I encourage you as Oblates, who represent the poor and marginalized, to send this out to all State, Local, and United States House and Senate Representatives in your respective states.

We currently serve the population of the following states:

- » **New York** (Buffalo and NYC),
- » **Massachusetts** (Lowell, Georgetown, North Andover, and Tewksbury),
- » **Illinois** (Belleville, Godfrey, Fairmont City, Caseyville),
- » **Minnesota** (Buffalo, St. Paul/Minneapolis, White Earth, Waubun, Ogema, Ponsford, Big Elbow Lake, Naytahwaush),
- » **Louisiana** (New Orleans),
- » **Texas** (Eagle Pass, Roma, Mission, Brownsville, Sarita, Riviera, Ricardo, Houston, San Antonio, College Station),
- » **California** (Chula Vista, Oakland),
- » **Washington DC**, and
- » **Alaska** (Juneau).

The statement from CMSM is fully supported by the administration of the US Province. I recognize that there are more issues the poor are facing such as healthcare, education and food support. The statement below is a good start, and it directly affects many of our parishioners and their families as well as other communities in which we minister. Our voices as Oblates make a difference and unites us to those who suffer the injustices of our world today. Through our actions and presence we can accompany those who are most in need. I encourage you to post this in your respective place of ministry if you are so inclined.

“Leave nothing undared”

Peace,

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## Province Support Offices

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## Conference of Major Superiors of Men

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As the leaders of male religious communities in the United States, the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) stands united in upholding the inherent dignity of every person, regardless of legal status, nationality, or place of origin. Religious communities in the United States have long upheld a tradition of compassionately welcoming and serving those who come to the United States in search of a better life. This commitment remains steadfast today. Rooted in the Gospel and the rich tradition of Catholic social teaching, we stand with our immigrant brothers and sisters in the face of the suffering, fear, and injustice they are enduring.

The current state of immigration in the United States reveals decades of policy failures resulting in inhuman treatment of migrants and refugees, contrary to our moral principles. Families are separated. Asylum seekers are turned away. Individuals living peacefully in our communities are detained and deported, often without due process. Individuals are being targeted at places of worship and subsequently being detained without access to chaplains—an unacceptable violation of their human rights. In response, we reiterate the Church's commitment to human dignity. Every human being is created in the image of God and must be treated with respect, compassion, and justice.

We echo the [words](#) of Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), “Law enforcement actions aimed at preserving order and ensuring community security are necessary for the common good. However, the current efforts go well beyond those with criminal histories.” We emphasize the need for comprehensive immigration reform to address these issues, and we encourage our members to respond to this ongoing injustice in ways that reflect their unique charisms.