



## STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH All of God's Creation



Light their Way. Welcome them Home.

As we leave the Season of Advent and celebrate Christmas next week, we are reminded that God enters through the smallest foothold: a baby born to a poor teenage girl in an obscure part of the world. God can create in us an open heart if we offer up the smallest bit of room. (Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns)

*"Before the challenges of contemporary movements of migration, the only reasonable response is one of solidarity and mercy. A response less concerned with calculations, than with the need for an equitable distribution of responsibilities, an honest and sincere assessment of the alternatives and a prudent management."* -- Pope Francis, address on the 5th anniversary of his visit to the island of Lampedusa, July 6, 2018

In *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis writes, "the guarantee of an authentic openness to God, on the other hand, is a way of practicing the faith that helps open our hearts to our brothers and sisters."

### **An Ecumenical Christian Prayer**

O God, Trinity of love,  
from the profound communion of your divine life,  
pour out upon us a torrent of fraternal love.  
Grant us the love reflected in the actions of Jesus,  
in his family of Nazareth,  
and in the early Christian community.

Grant that we Christians may live the Gospel,  
discovering Christ in each human being,  
recognizing him crucified  
in the sufferings of the abandoned  
and forgotten of our world,  
and risen in each brother or sister  
who makes a new start.

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,  
reflected in all the peoples of the earth,  
so that we may discover anew  
that all are important and all are necessary,  
different faces of the one humanity  
that God so loves. Amen. - Pope Francis, prayers from *Fratelli Tutti*

**The Social Justice Committee wishes our Holy Cross family and all our brothers and sisters across the world a peaceful and holy Christmas.**

