



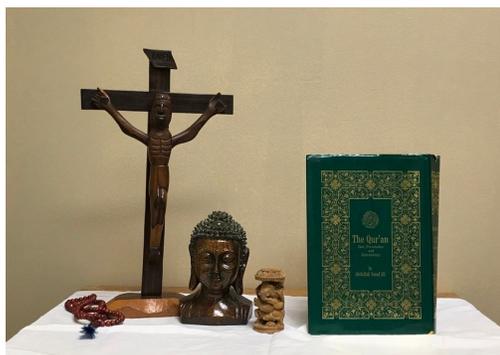
**VIATOR
HOUSE**
OF HOSPITALITY
HOPE · HEALING · OPPORTUNITY

Fall 2019 Newsletter

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Firm In Faith: Viator House Participants Find Support In Their Chosen Religious Traditions



Think of being on your own, still a teenager, leaving family and setting off on a journey through totally unfamiliar and often hazardous wilds or roadsides, hundreds of miles to go and not knowing what tomorrow may bring.

Immigrants seeking asylum in far-off America have suffered those situations, with only the company of maybe some others heading the same way, hopefully with enough money to see them through, and few possessions. But if you ask those who found their way to Viator House of Hospitality, they typically carried one more

very crucial thing with them: their faith.

Held by the Hand of God

For many of the then-children, “the only thing they had to hold onto through the long journey, the trauma at home, the detention (once in the U.S), was faith,” said Fr. Corey Brost, Viator House director. “I have asked guys, ‘How did you make it?’ and one of them said, ‘Jesus.’ And I’ve heard, ‘Allah’ . . . “

[Read more](#)



The Arms of God: Local Faith Communities Embrace Viator House Mission As Their Own

In addition to Viator House’s efforts to create its own interfaith sense of community, it has arranged for churches, mosques and temples to make commitments as faith communities to support the house’s

mission.

It was the idea of staff case manager Marianne Dilsner to create these partnerships, said Fr. Corey, realizing that attending to young immigrants is the same priority for all major faith traditions, and that they would want to help create a safe environment for education and healing.

Marianne had worked for [St. James Catholic Church](#) in Arlington Heights and represented it on the Arlington Heights Ministerial Association, comprising most of the Christian churches in that village. One purpose was to identify and take on various community projects, and one successful initiative it started was Faith Community Homes, which helps families on the cusp of poverty to improve their situation through mentoring, education and financial assistance.

United in Mission

When she started at Viator House and saw the connections to churches and mosques among the people

getting behind it, she suggested that if Fr. Corey and other leaders reached out to these faith communities, they would see the good work and want to lend their support.

[Read more](#)

Important Interfaith Community Forum

Fleeing for Safety: Children, U.S. Asylum Law & Our Role as Citizens

Wednesday, November 6

7:30-9:00 PM

St. James Parish Center
820 N. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights

Viator House, St. James Catholic Church and the Arlington Heights League of Women Voters are sponsoring an interfaith community forum focused on issues facing children seeking asylum in the U.S. It will feature talks by Fr. Corey, Br. Michael Gosch, one of the young men at Viator House and an attorney who has represented young people seeking asylum in the U.S. This interfaith event is open to all. The goal is to help people understand how the current asylum system affects young people and how we can make it more compassionate.

For more information, [click here](#).

2nd Annual Taste Of Viator House Fills The Room

Inspiring~Energizing~Motivating

A few words that describe the 2nd Annual Taste of Viator House last Saturday, which brought together a crowd of nearly 300 people, including Viator House staff, donors, volunteers and participants.

The evening showed us the world as God would have it - men and women, young and older, from several religious traditions and several nations all united as one community and committed to God's mission of building a world where all people feel welcomed. Thank you to all who came and/or donated. And a special thank you to our participant, Ali, who, through his talk, showed us the true meaning of courage, faith and persistence.

And, finally, a big thank you to our planning team members and their co-chairs - Liz Andrews and Julie Baker. Your hard work combined with the generosity of so many raised more than \$110,000, which is enough to provide shelter, food, transportation and case management to five participants for a year.

On behalf of all current and future Viator House Participants, God Bless You.



STAY CONNECTED



Our Mission

Grounded in the Viatorian commitment to young people and to “those accounted of little importance,” Viator House of Hospitality (VHH) provides compassionate accompaniment of young adult male immigrants seeking legal relief.

Viator House of Hospitality is an exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; EIN 83-0884521. All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

www.viatorhouseofhospitality.com