

March 9, 2018

Dear Confreres,

As you know, Wednesday, March 14 is the 175th anniversary of the birth of Fr. Dehon.

Recently, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops appealed to all Christians to contact their members of Congress to urge them to protect Dreamers - the beneficiaries of the DACA program which was due to expire March 5. This is a prime opportunity for us to revisit the Gospel values that marked Fr. Dehon's life and to reflect on how these values find an expression in our lives and ministry today.

In light of this, on March 14 we ask that each one of us:

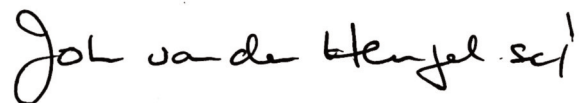
- Pray for migrants and refugees, especially Dreamers, that God's justice may prevail.
- Read Fr. Heiner Wilmer's [letter](#) declaring March 14 the beginning of "The Year of the Wounded Heart" which will end with the celebration of the Sacred Heart in 2019. In this year, Fr. Heiner invites us "to make the 'Wounded Heart' of our Lord the refuge of people overwhelmed by suffering, injustice and exclusion."
- For our US Province confreres, please call or write your members of Congress to urge immediate action to protect Dreamers. It is very easy to do this by clicking [here](#) to go to the USCCB's Justice for Immigrants action page. Further background and talking points from the Bishops can be found [here](#). For our Region of Canada confreres, please be in solidarity with your prayers.
- Educate ourselves and others about our respective country's immigration policies. One way to do so is to go to the [Immigration page](#) of the US Province JPR website. Another example is the February 19 Sacred Heart Southern Missions immigration in-service conducted by the JPR Commission. It was well received; we encourage you to contact the JPR Office for a similar program which can be tailored to your needs.

In the words of Fr. Heiner, "Let us nurture our compassion to the Heart of Jesus to make our love for every wounded person possible, urgent and fruitful."

United with you in the spirit of Fr. Dehon,



Ed Kilianski, SCJ



John van den Hengel, SCJ