

ID	Why did you find the dialogue valuable?	Most important thing learned or experienced:	How can the dialogue be improved?	Status	Comments
1	Has given me hope, particularly in the power of faith-based dialogue about controversial issues.	That despite all the loud, often harsh rhetoric that we are saturated with in our society, there are a lot of good people who still sincerely care about the dignity of others.	Invite local legislators to come and listen (not talk)	Born in US	
2	Though I speak about immigration often, I rarely get to speak with a religious framework.	That Catholic schools allow the teaching of the Church's political positions	More diverse participation, in particular African-Americans. Also, when assigning people to tables, remember that age is also a form of diversity.	Born in US	
3	The situation needs to be addressed and having even some background will enable us to dialogue and influence our elected officials.	Hearing the Bishops' position and their recommendations, especially the one about the reason for anti-poverty efforts.	Have them more often and for more people so the knowledge level increases. Try to hold extroverts in check!	Born in US	
4	It was interesting to hear the perspectives of a diverse group of people on a subject we all care about.	Breaking down the Catholic Bishop's stance on immigration reform and figuring out how we can get involved in making these principles come true.	Including a voice of those who are undocumented (i.e. personal stories of conflicts, reasons why one would immigrate)	Born in US (parents immigrated)	
5	It was great to have a mature discussion about a serious matter.	It is extremely vital to teach the Bishops' Justice for Immigrants and the values it upholds.	There needs to be more.	Born in US	
6		There are lots of people interested in immigration issues.	Invite a wider variety of people; workers from Home Depot, domestics	Born in US	

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7	I gained new insights into aspects of the problem and find the document very hopeful.	There is now a national document and hopefully a major voice bringing rationality to the political discussion.	Just continue the work!	Born in US	
8		Other perspectives on the topic of social justice and its importance to them as individuals.	This letter of reform needs to be published regularly to send the message to the masses. It needs to have a committed time for an aggressive campaign.	Immigrated to US	
9	Open, reflective, real	People of deep faith and compassion are among us and are committed to the dignity of all in a sane and sincere way.	continue on other issues	Born in US	This type of format is very efficient and non-threatening. Could this be possible with high school faculty?
10	Yes - enables me to articulate this issue better with others who do not agree with immigration issue as I do. No - we all mostly were like-minded.	Hospitality - word rooted meaning; "making the different familiar"	invite a more diverse crowd	Born in US	
11	I enjoyed the conversation. It was in a civil, Christ-like way. Proud that our Catholic faith is discussing this!	Learning the teaching of the Church. It gave me hope. I enjoyed that CRS - outsider - led this discussion!		Born in US	
12	Nice company and good insight from wise people.	I learned that a diverse gathering of people can have an intelligent discussion without arguing.	Compromise	Born in US	

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13	I had a very varied table and we all asked good questions and made good points. I liked the honest, deep thought questions.	I learned what's happening in Central America. River Ridge, and in the hearts of concerned residents of Nola.	Translation equipment, contact sheet for table.	Born in US	My facilitator Kevin was so great. Very kind, efficient and effective. He's a keeper.
14	Experiencing the dialogue process. Hearing different voices/views helps me to evaluate my views and expand my understanding of the issues around immigration.	The complexity of the issues and the need to carry the dialogue beyond this meeting. To be vocal about my views and/or invite others to think and share their views.		Immigrated to US	
15		Immigration needs to have a human face.	Not sure; really good	Born in US	
16	Meeting new people and thinking about this in a constructive manner.	Seeing all these different folks thinking about this important issue!	More challenging ("soul-searching") questions.	Born in US	
17		Although some people may have conflicting views, there is a possibility that through education and dialogues that we can come together to understand and hopefully agree on simply human dignity.		Born in US	
18	I was exposed to others who have had experiences with the immigration system and I learned a lot more than I knew before.	Discussions on immigration must keep human beings as central focus. Laws must take into account, though we may come from diff. cultures&countries both immigrants& natives have rights that cannot be infringed upon like finding work to support their family.		Born in US	

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19	You made people begin to think about an important issue.	Immigration has a face. Some people I know have been involved in the issue of immigration.		Born in US	What can we do to help facilitate better legislation?
20		Talking with former immigrants and social workers who work closely with immigrant population. Dialogue increases understanding and compassion and may effect change.		Born in US	
21		We will need laws to protect immigrants	Invite politicians with power to change laws	Immigrated to US	
22	It was great to hear people's opinions. Gives me insight into things I hadn't thought of.	That there is a variety of people with different experiences who are all interested about learning more about the situation of immigrants in our community and doing something to improve it - hopeful.	I thought it was great!	Born in US	
23	The Catholic position is clear.	I understand the Catholic position in a more positive way. Also I was able to understand others' opinion.	The Bishops must speak out more often then they have been doing.	Immigrated to US	
24	Bringing people together to discuss a critically important issue that is generating such intense emotion and conflict throughout our society.	That a good many people are sincerely interested in exploring/addressing an issue in civil dialogue with strangers.	Difficult for me to say because no one in my group was hostile to immigrants and generally agreed on most issues. So I guess make sure (somehow) to include a range of views, a diverse group.	Born in US	

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25	Because I think we need to talk about the immigration issues because everyone has been related and part of this issue.	The most important things to resolve this are the acceptance and respect and no more divisions.	We need to invite more immigrants here and bilingual persons to have more opinions about the real situation in the streets.	Immigrated to US	I'm so glad to see how many English speakers are worried about it.
26	Enjoyable to discuss serious topic with persons of good will - to hear others' experiences and perspectives without animosity, humbled by other' compassion and openness.	Bishops' proposals - current Church teaching and its fair approach, considering opposing points of view.	More background/education - don't assume participants know anything about current policy - no increase in understanding took place.	Born in US (both parents are immigrants)	
27		There is awareness that a more viable approach should begin to resolve more positively this situation.		Immigrated to US	
28	It fostered my conviction that the issues regarding immigration are numerous and complex. This complexity makes resolution incredibly difficult.	Learning what the Catholic bishops have written with regards to immigration policy.	By connecting people from various cultures the issue will become more clear.	Born in US	
29	Yes	We are all immigrants in some way. Our heritage makes us all immigrants.	More gatherings like this where views can be expressed, it raises an awareness even if you are not directly involved with immigration issues.	Born in US	
30	Great sharing.	Through the dialogue. I realized how careful/conscious I should be (as a future doctor) with people with language barriers.		Immigrated to US	

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31	Because I learned that most people disagree with my philosophy of legal immigration only.	That many people believe that borders should be opened to unlimited immigration.		Born in US	
32	You heard various views	This is a challenging area in trying to please everyone.		Born in US	
33		People at the table in general take to heart the Bishops' teaching on immigration!	More at the parish level.	Born in US	
34	Listen to others' perspectives; informed on "Catholic position"	The Bishops have a very human-centered position, which I agree with, but in this ear of "compromise" I question if we can come to include all.	More presentations on "individual stories" - individuals sharing stories	Born in US (mother was not)	
35	Very important	my values		Immigrated to US	
36	Variety of people	Importance to see the root causes of immigration - one being racism.		Born in US	

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37	Great to hear diversity of opinions and cultures where folks are coming.	I don't have an answer for everyone even though I feel I have info plus my info is not always correct. All have different experiences/perspectives.		Born in US	
38	Valuable dialogue	meeting other people from other cultures and ways of thinking	no comments	Immigrated to US (citizen for 40 years)	
39	People from all walks of life come together to talk about a --? /--(tax?) moral issue.	Hope. People that I met in my group gave me respect about this human issue.	Less structure from people in charge toward the visitors/participants.	Immigrated to US (citizen)	
40	I enjoyed hearing individuals share their own perspectives on immigration.	I learned that the Church has some very good ideas about how to help immigrants and that passion and enthusiasm can help spread awareness that will hopefully bring about change.	Bring it to college campuses!	Born in US	
41	Informative, open, interesting	I don't have to be an immigrant to fight for human rights. Immigration is about human dignity.	Share it! With friends, family, young, old, everyone	Born in US	
42	Catholics need to learn Catholic Social Teaching.	That most Catholics here agree with Church and wonder why Church isn't more vocal.	More personal stories by immigrants.	Immigrated to US	

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43		Learning about people's backgrounds and what drew them to this dialogue. It gave me hope that there are so many people here willing to share about this issue.		Born in US	I had to come in late because of a meeting but would love to attend more of these events.
44	We always learn when we listen to others.	I learned that compassion is more important than what is dictated by the laws.	Word about the discussion needs to be publicized more for more diverse groups to attend.	Born in US	
45	Able to hear and learn from others, especially those effected by this topic.	Gained new knowledge	Have people who are currently effected or have been effected by this give their testimony.	Born in US	
46	I think it is valuable to have these discussions. Education and dialogue are great facilitators for change.	I was able to recognize how many people are invested in the demand of justice for immigrants.	Reach out to more people of diverse perspectives, and lure them into the dialogue. :)	Born in US	
47	Helped me remember issues that I'm passionate about and clarify my own viewpoint.	Church's view and importance of dialogue.	Personal stories shared to entire group, not just tables.	Born in US	
48	Good space to share story	Keep on advocating. There is hope.	Presence of people with diverse point of views.	Immigrated to US	

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49	I become aware of the great need to reach out to immigrants here.	A need exists to open communication with Hispanics or other immigrants living in our community.	Somehow, we must involve more people from our parishes.	Born in US	
50	Good to hear different experiences, concerns, issues, etc. of others including a few at the table with real personal ties to issue and involvement in issue.	Bishops' stance on immigration and experiences of others at table; and about the Just Matters Program	Was very good. Hold it to 2 1/2 hours probably better than 3. If advertized as such may have brought more people.	Born in US	
51	Interesting to hear other people's views on topic	That this issue is very complicated and resolution on a moral and/or political front will be difficult.	Great first attempt - need more follow-up	Born in US	
52		It was just very nice to share opinions on an issue with so many pieces.	Won't be easy. It's too complicated an issue.	Born in US	
53	Got to meet and hear from an array of people from various backgrounds and experiences.	Although an immigrant has a job here and is supporting himself (family), he finds that this is not really a welcoming place! He sees the flaws in our political system.	Continue - somewhere down the road change the focus to action.	Born in US	
54	Respectful	Dialogue on this issue can be -- (curved?)	Start later	Born in US	

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55	I appreciate the effort of intentionally creating diversity at tables and particularly enjoyed hearing from an immigrant and from someone who has lived most of her life in a community where immigration was never a hot topic.	The church's stance on immigration. It gives me a concrete thing to engage, reference, and derive direction.	Try to capture anti-immigrant sentiment. A personal presence is likely not possible, but maybe present excerpts from publications, speeches, or documented first hand knowledge; and then ask for a response.	Born in US	
56		I was impressed/relieved to learn of the Catholic Church's suggestions for reform. Coming from a very conservative background and community, this was not what I expected but was happy to learn.	Greater mix of viewpoints.	Born in US	
57	Because gave me the opportunity to hear other people's opinions about a subject that is very important to me.	Catholic Church's position	Inform the participants more, present statistics and the benefits that immigrants bring to this country	Immigrated to US	
58	I was able to have a dialogue with people I wouldn't normally converse concerning immigration. I was able to learn the Catholic perspective which although I'm not Catholic nor believe in a decent portion of what the Church believes, I find value in it.	The way I felt about immigration. I think it was an issue that I didn't always confront internally and I'm glad I asked myself this question. I think also finding some common ground with the Catholic Church was valuable.	More information regarding the Catholic Church's stance and if they have any plans to encourage any action politically.	Born in US	
59	Allowed me to gain different perspectives and insight on the Church's stances.	The most important thing I learned is how important it is to talk about things and how beneficial different perspectives are.	I think it was good.	Born in US	
60	Learned new information on immigration policies, the Church's position on immigration, and various perspectives from co-dialoguers	The most important thing I learned this evening is that I learned too much to just write one sentence!	This is purely personal, but I would have liked to have learned more about the Church's position and the reasoning behind it.	Born in US	

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61	We are all related to immigrants.	Not one of us are Native Americans.	Invite Fr. Clarence Williams.	Born in US	
62	It helped me bring focus to the issue and realize that the Church does have a concrete stance on it.	The point of view of the Church on immigration.	Have more immigrants here and provide translators.	Immigrated to US	
63	It was a very sympathetic crowd (at our table at least) but learning what the bishops teach and hearing each others' testimony opened up my mind to the issue and urgency in making a change.	I learned that there are many different reasons for addressing the issues, both religious/theological and not so.	Finding ways to share these notions in an organized political way.	Born in US	