

Our Syrian Refugee Family

You are invited to join fellow Parishioners in supporting this family.

A father, a mother, and five children fled Aleppo, Syria, in May 2014. They registered in Turkey as refugees in June 2015 and lived in a refugee camp until they arrived in the USA three weeks ago.

They went through an 18-month, almost daily, extreme vetting program by the U.S. Government and by Catholic Charities, their sponsoring agency. They are so happy and grateful to be here!

It is important for them to reside in El Cajon for better public transportation, job opportunities, emotional support from other middle-eastern refugees, and easy access to services provided by Catholic Charities, San Diego.

When we visited them, Fr. Mike introduced us and asked how we could help them.

The father responded: "You can give me a fish or teach me to be a fisherman. I would like you to teach me to be a fisherman!" He is an accountant but will take any work he can find while learning English and the American accounting system.

That being said, we soon became aware that the family needs many, many things. Because of previous generosity of some of our Parishioners, we had monies to purchase some immediate necessities: toiletries, food, housewares, cleaning supplies, and school supplies. (The children were not able to attend school for five years during the war and in the refugee camp.)

We will update you regularly on how the family is doing and what their ongoing needs might be. They are very excited to visit us and thank us in person!

Please review the other side for specific items you can help provide.

Thank you!

—Lisa and Patrick Attardo
Sr. Maureen Brown, CSJ



I was a stranger and you welcomed me...

