

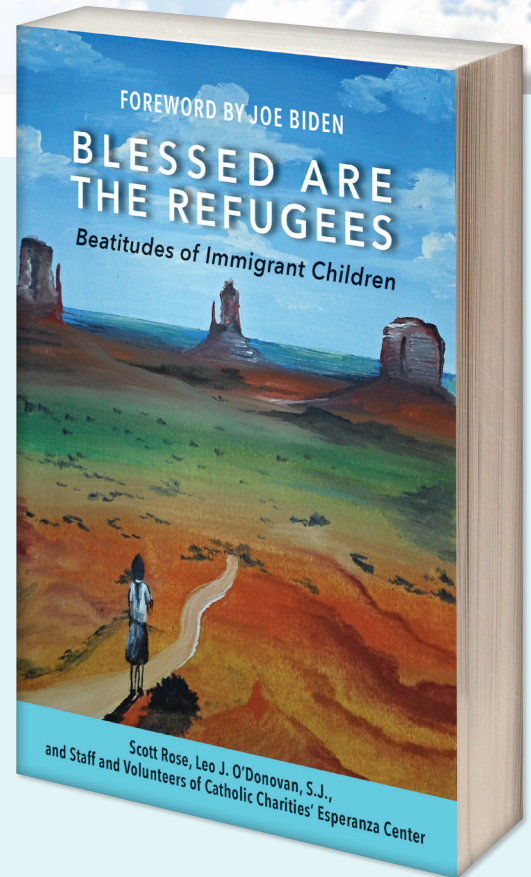
# Come to hear a **FREE** panel discussion about experiences and spiritual perspectives of immigrant children

**April 7, 2019, 4:00 p.m.**

**Downtown Community Room  
Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ (ERUCC)  
15 West Church Street, Frederick, MD**

**C**o-authors and immigrant youth will discuss immigration issues described in *Blessed Are the Refugees*, a newly released book of eight story-reflections about children who fled Central America on their own to escape violence. The book was written by attorneys and volunteers of Esperanza Center Immigration Legal Services, a program of Catholic Charities of Baltimore, with a foreword by Joe Biden and illustrations by an immigrant youth who is also a musician and will sing at the event. The book has significant local ties, with two of the co-authors (Scott Rose and Cary Plamondon) being Frederick residents, as well as several of the immigrant youth discussed in the book and presenting on the panel.

Presented in partnership with ERUCC and Curious Iguana, Downtown Frederick's independent bookstore, the event is free and open to the public, and no registration is required. Books will be available for purchase and signing. All author and artist royalties of the book go to benefit Esperanza Center and Jesuit Refugee Service.



*In recent years, the number of people displaced around the globe—"our common home" as Pope Francis says—has become larger than the population of Great Britain. None of their stories is more poignant and inspiring than those of children escaping from violence in Central America. This is a heartrending account of those who have reached safety at the Catholic Charities Esperanza Center in Baltimore—youngsters who deserve the blessings of God.*

**—David Gergen, CNN Senior Political Analyst  
and former White House advisor to four presidents**

*Our role as people of faith is to put a face to the "issue" of immigration, because if you "see" that those who are the victims of an injustice are exactly like us, it is much more difficult to do inhuman things to them. Blessed are the Refugees does this in a very real way.*

**—Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.  
Archbishop of Newark**