



## The Maryland Dream Act...Vision or Nightmare

At 3 p.m., on Sunday, January 8, 2012, Middleham and St. Peter's Episcopal Parish is hosting a panel presentation on the Maryland Dream Act followed by a half hour moderated question and answer period. Questions will be submitted by the audience. The goal of the session is to offer information about the Maryland Dream Act (both in support and in opposition) in an environment of openness and civility. The act allows undocumented students to pay in-state tuition at community colleges and state universities if they meet certain requirements.

The Maryland Dream Act was signed into law in May 2011. The act allows undocumented students to pay in-state tuition at state colleges and universities if they have graduated from a Maryland high school and attended that school for at least three years. They are also required to attend a community college first, and then transfer to a university to finish their four-year degree. Such students must prove that they or their parents paid Maryland income taxes for the three years before high school graduation, and continue to file taxes until college graduation. Opponents of the bill led a petition drive last summer to block the law from taking effect this year by collecting about 58,000 signatures. A referendum on the act is slated to be on the ballot in November 2012.

Speaking in support of the Maryland Dream Act will be:

- Maryland Delegate Sheila Hixson
- Maryland Senator Victor Ramirez (invited)
- Bladensburg High School counselor Elias Vlanton

Speaking in opposition to the act will be:

- Maryland Delegate Anthony O'Donnell
- Matt Morgan - who led the repeal effort in St. Mary's County
- Mike Hethemon - General Counsel, Immigration Reform Law Institute

The panel will be moderated by Professor Chuck Stein of St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Refreshments will be served during a conversation period following the discussion.

## Continuing the Conversation: Immigration and Our Faith

There will be four follow-on Wednesday evening sessions beginning on January 11. These will provide an opportunity for parishioners and others to further examine immigration in the context of their faith, scripture and the views of others.

January 11 We are all Immigrants

January 18 Welcoming the Stranger

January 25 Legality: When do I act in accord or not in accord with the law?

February 1 So, how does this apply in 2012?

Wednesday evenings will feature a **pot luck dinner at 6:15 p.m.** followed by the **discussion and worship from 7 to 8:30 p.m.** Participants need not come to the dinner and are welcome to come at 7 p.m. for the discussion. Attending the Sunday session is not a prerequisite for attendance on Wednesday evenings.

All sessions will be held at: Middleham and St. Peter's Parish Hall, 10210 H.G. Trueman Road  
Lusby, MD 20657  
410-326-4948  
[www.middlehamandstpeters.org](http://www.middlehamandstpeters.org)