



Coalición de Derechos Humanos

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Día de los Muertos Pilgrimage Honors the 205 Lives Lost on the Arizona-Sonora Border

Tucson—In response to the 205 migrants who lost their lives on the Arizona-Sonora border this past fiscal year, Coalición de Derehos Humanos will convene its sixth annual pilgrimage to bring attention to the human rights crisis that is occurring in the southwest.

On Saturday, November 4, 2006, participants will gather at St. John's Church (602 W. Ajo Way) at 8:30 in the morning. Following a short sending forth ceremony, the 8-mile walk will begin; participants will carry crosses bearing the names of the migrants who have died this past fiscal year. The Pilgrimage will arrive at San Xavier Mission at approximately 1:00pm, met by the Franciscan Friars and the W:ak Traditional Singers, and end with a blessing of all participants and crosses as the names of the dead are read and their crosses placed next to the crosses of the last six years.

“Since militarization of the U.S.-México border began in the mid 1990s, it is estimated that more than 4,000 migrants have died on the border. This does not include the countless souls whose bodies have yet to be found, those who will never be found and whose families continue to suffer the agony of not knowing what has become of their loved ones.” says Dulce Ruelas Lopez of Derechos Humanos. “These deaths are a direct result of U.S. border policies, which have routed thousands of immigrants to their deaths in the rivers, deserts, and at the hands of border and law enforcement officials.”

Coalición de Derechos Humanos invites all people of conscience to join us in our Pilgrimage, and to walk this symbolic distance with us as we remember our sisters and brothers who have lost their lives needlessly. We ask that this crisis along our borders be brought to an end, humane border policies be implemented, and that justice be sought for all who live and work on the border.

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