News
News
Migration



Sr. Susan Francois tends to her 'radical hospitality' tent outside the immigration detention facility Delaney Hall in Newark, N.J. (RNS)

Fiona Murphy

View Author Profile

Religion News Service

View Author Profile

Join the Conversation

Send your thoughts to *Letters to the Editor*. Learn more

Newark, N.J. — May 28, 2026

Share on BlueskyShare on FacebookShare on TwitterEmail to a friendPrint

For five days, Delaney Hall, an immigrant detention facility in Newark, New Jersey, has been in the news for protests over conditions inside the facility. After some 300 detainees began a hunger and labor strike over what they said were inhumane conditions, the protests have grown to include members of Congress, such as Sen. Andy Kim and Rep. Robert Menendez, both Democrats from New Jersey.

But for the last year, one woman, Sr. Susan Francois, has volunteered at the "Radical Hospitality" tent outside Delaney Hall, bearing witness and ministering to families and friends visiting detainees. She started coming in May 2025, when there was protest over conditions in front of Delaney Hall, and a New Jersey gubernatorial candidate and a member of Congress were arrested. Soon after, Francois began visiting about twice a week and documenting her work on TikTok.

Watch a day in her life and the first episode of "Faith on the Immigration Frontline," RNS' short-form documentary series about clergy and religious community members putting their faith to work on the front lines of America's immigration crisis.

Advertisement

This story appears in the **Immigration and the Church** feature series. View the full series.