



Embracing Migrants N Itinerants



111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF  
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

2025

# ***Migrants, missionaries of hope***

World Day of  
Migrants and  
Refugees

JUBILEE 2025



"Migrants, missionaries of hope"



## A Toolkit for Parishes, Ministries and the Church

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**MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIV**  
**FOR THE 111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2025**

[4-5 October 2025]

## *Migrants, Missionaries of Hope*

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

The **111<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees**, which my predecessor chose to coincide with the *Jubilees of Migrants and of the Missions*, offers us an opportunity to reflect on the connections between hope, migration and mission.

The current global context is sadly marked by wars, violence, injustice and extreme weather events, which force millions of people to leave their homelands in search of refuge elsewhere. The widespread tendency to look after the interests of limited communities poses a serious threat to the sharing of responsibility, multilateral cooperation, the pursuit of the common good and global solidarity for the benefit of our entire human family. The prospect of a renewed arms race and the development of new armaments, including nuclear weapons, the lack of consideration for the harmful effects of the ongoing climate crisis, and the impact of profound economic inequalities make the challenges of the present and the future increasingly demanding.

Faced with frightening scenarios and the possibility of global devastation, it is important that there be a growing desire in people's hearts for a future of peace and of respect for the dignity of all. Such a future is essential to God's plan for humanity and the rest of creation. This is the messianic future anticipated by the prophets: "Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of their great age. And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets... For there shall be a sowing of peace; the vine shall yield its fruit, the ground shall give its produce, and the skies shall give their dew" (*Zech 8:4-5, 12*). This future has already begun, since it was inaugurated by Jesus Christ (*cf. Mk 1:15; Lk 17:21*), and we believe and hope in its full realization, for the Lord is always faithful to his promises.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches: "The virtue of hope responds to the aspiration to happiness which God has placed in the heart of every man and woman; it takes up the hopes that inspire human activities" (*N. 1818*). What is more, the search for happiness, and the prospect of finding it beyond one's place of origin, is certainly one of the main motivations for the movement of people today.

This link between migration and hope is clearly evident in many contemporary experiences of migration. Many migrants, refugees and displaced persons are privileged witnesses of hope. Indeed, they demonstrate this daily through their resilience and trust in God, as they face adversity while seeking a future in which they glimpse that integral human development and happiness are possible. Moreover, we can see the itinerant experience of the people of Israel repeated in their own lives: "O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel. Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished; your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy" (*Ps 68:7-10*).

In a world darkened by war and injustice, even when all seems lost, migrants and refugees stand as messengers of hope. Their courage and tenacity bear heroic testimony to a faith that sees beyond what our eyes can see and gives them the strength to defy death on the various contemporary migration routes. Here too we can find a clear analogy with the experience of the people of Israel wandering in the desert, who faced every danger while trusting in the Lord's protection: "he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day, or the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or the destruction that wastes at noonday" (*Ps 91:3-6*).

Migrants and refugees remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually journeying towards her final homeland, sustained by a hope that is a theological virtue. Each time the Church gives in to the temptation of "sedentarization" and ceases to be a *civitas peregrine*, God's people journeying towards the heavenly homeland (*cf. Augustine, De Civitate Dei, Books XIV-XVI*), she ceases to be "in the world" and becomes "of the world" (*cf. Jn 15:19*). This temptation was already present in the early Christian communities, so much so that the Apostle Paul had to remind the Church of Philippi that "our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself" (*Phil 3:20-21*).

In a special way, Catholic migrants and refugees can become missionaries of hope in the countries that welcome them, forging new paths of faith where the message of Jesus Christ has not yet arrived or initiating interreligious dialogue based on everyday life and the search for common values. With their spiritual enthusiasm and vitality, they can help revitalize ecclesial communities that have become rigid and weighed down, where spiritual desertification is advancing at an alarming rate. Their presence, then, should be recognized and appreciated as a true divine blessing, an opportunity to open oneself to the grace of God, who gives new energy



and hope to his Church: “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it” (*Heb 13:2*).

The first element of evangelization, as Saint Paul VI emphasized, is that of witness: “All Christians are called to this witness, and in this way they can be real evangelizers. We are thinking especially of the responsibility incumbent on migrants in the country that receives them” (*Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 21). This is a true *missio migrantium*, a mission carried out by migrants, for which adequate preparation and ongoing support must be ensured through effective inter-ecclesial cooperation.

At the same time, the communities that welcome them can also be a living witness to hope, one that is understood as the promise of a present and a future where the dignity of all as children of God is recognized. In this way, migrants and refugees are recognized as brothers and sisters, part of a family in which they can express their talents and participate fully in community life.

On this Jubilee, when the Church prays for all migrants and refugees, I wish to entrust all those who are on the journey, as well as those who are working to accompany them, to the maternal protection of the Virgin Mary, comfort of migrants, so that she may keep hope alive in their hearts and sustain them in their commitment to building a world that increasingly resembles the Kingdom of God, the true homeland that awaits us at the end of our journey.

*From the Vatican, 25 July 2025  
Feast of Saint James, Apostle*

## LEO PP. XIV

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[click to read the Message of Pope Leo XIV for the  
111<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2025](https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/migration/documents/20250725-world-migrants-day-2025.html)



<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/migration/documents/20250725-world-migrants-day-2025.html>

## ORGANISING MIGRANT SUNDAY IN THE PARISH

### *missionaries of hope*

#### **What if the migrants or refugees attending Sunday celebration are not Catholic?**

Migrant Sunday celebration is normally organised in two parts – the mass followed by a fellowship.

Non-Catholics are not barred from attending the Migrant Sunday mass but there must be clear announcements that only Catholics are allowed to receive communion.

#### **Should the parish publicise the event?**

Yes! Publicise the event using posters, banner and through any other channels including social media networks.

Write a short story and send them to your local Catholic newspaper. Stories of parish efforts go a long way in creating awareness on how the Church is reaching out to migrants and refugees in their vicinity.

#### **Where can the organising team turn to for support?**

If the parish migrant ministries have any concerns, doubts, questions or request for a migrant Sunday programme, kindly call your Arch/Diocesan Migrant office.

#### **Who should be invited for the Migrant Sunday Celebration?**

The event should be open to all migrants and parishioners provided the parish is able to allocate the required budget, personnel and space to accommodate a large crowd.

This would enable the locals to freely mingle with the migrants and refugees. But if resources are limited in the parish, at the minimum the event must be open to migrants and refugees in the parish and to those living in the vicinity of the parish.

#### **What if there are no migrants or refugees in the parish?**

Migrants and refugees may not be seen in the church because they may not be Christians or do not have any reasons to come to church (eg. no migrant activities or services available in the church) or have not been invited before.

Efforts should be made by the parish migrant ministry (or other similar ministries) to reach out to migrants and refugees in their community. Migrant Sunday can still be celebrated in the parish even if there are no migrants. The parish can pray for all migrants and refugees in the country or by creating awareness of their presence in the country.

## What are the objectives of the Migrant Sunday Celebration?

- To celebrate the positive presence of migrants and refugees in our midst.
- To create awareness on the need to respond to migrants and refugees.
- To state the position of the church on issues affecting migrants and refugees.
- To provide an opportunity for parishioners to interact with migrants and refugees in the parish.

## Who should form part of the Migrant Sunday organising team?

Parish Migrant Ministry (PMM) or other related ministries and other persons who can contribute in a tangible way to the event. The PMM should strongly encourage leaders from the migrant community to be part of the organising team. The organizing team must at times keep the parish priest informed of any progress and seek his consent wherever necessary.

## NOTE:

You are encouraged to write a short story to be published in your local Catholic newspaper, e.g. the Herald, in order to share with others about the Migrant Sunday celebration.

Please update your PMM/Archdiocesan MM on Migrant Sunday experiences with attached photos.

You may email your PMM/Archdiocesan MM or email to ECMI at: [ecmi.msb@gmail.com](mailto:ecmi.msb@gmail.com)



# PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR MIGRANT SUNDAY

## DIVIDED INTO 3 STAGES:

### 1. PRE-MIGRANT SUNDAY

*(Involving Parish Migrant Ministry, Migrants and Refugees Leader, Liturgy Ministry)*

- **BANNER AND POSTER**

MEANS To display banners and posters at the church foyer or surroundings  
DURATION For the month of September

- **CREATE A TREE OF HOPE**

MEANS To put up a tree with branches and hang prepared card  
DURATION For the month of September  
REMARKS Migrants to write their name, country and their prayer for us  
(see resources section for template)

- **PRAYER INTENTION OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

MEANS To put prayer intention card into a prepared basket  
DURATION For the month of September  
REMARKS Migrants write their prayer intention card to be prayed for  
(to be offered during offertory)

- **PRESENTATION (Video/Powerpoint)**

Summary of Pope's Message (in 4 languages) before Mass  
MEANS To project key summary of Pope's messages  
DURATION 4 weeks

- **SAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR TESTIMONIES**

MEANS To invite Migrants to give testimonies  
DURATION Alternate Sundays (3 mins)

### 2. MIGRANT SUNDAY CELEBRATION

*(Involving Parish Migrant Ministry, Migrants and Refugees Leader, Liturgy Ministry)*

- **Proposed Liturgical Kit can include:**

MEANS Community Mass  
HOW? Migrants walk in procession with cultural costumes and flags  
or musical instrument  
WHEN? Before the entrance hymn  
WHO? Migrants, Refugees and a parish representative  
OUTCOME To acknowledge in thanksgiving the richness and diversity of God's  
creation by recognising and appreciating migrants and refugees in our  
community, acknowledging the different gifts and talents of God's people.



- **Proposed involvement during Mass:**

MEANS	Community Mass
WHAT?	Use different languages for Mass readings, hymns, and intercessory prayers. Involve migrants as communion minister, hospitality, choir and etc. Use different country languages for Mass readings, hymns, and intercessory prayers. Involve migrants as communion minister, hospitality, choir and etc.
WHO?	Migrants and Refugees
OUTCOME	That locals, migrants and refugee communities work together to build God's kingdom towards a more integrated community

- **Proposed Offertory:**

MEANS	Offertory procession
WHAT?	To add delicacies of various countries to be distributed after Mass and prayer intention box of migrants and refugees. It can be in their own languages, etc.
WHO?	Migrants and Refugees dressed in their traditional clothes
OUTCOME	To offer the gifts

- **Reciting a Migrant and Refugee Prayer and Blessings** (In different languages):

MEANS	To pray for Migrants, Refugees and employers as a community
WHAT?	To invite migrants, refugees and employers to come near the altar or kneel where they are
WHO?	Congregation say the prayer in different languages (verse by verse)

- **Video presentation after Mass:**

MEANS	To project video
WHAT?	Simple presentation of "Testimonies of lives as missionary of hope"
WHO?	AV staff
OUTCOME	To realise that we too, can be missionaries of hope in our daily lives

## **AFTER MASS**

- **Sharing of food delicacies by Migrants and Refugees:**

MEANS	To distribute food delicacies outside the church
WHAT?	Sharing of the food delicacies offered during Offertory
WHO?	Migrants and Refugees Leaders
OUTCOME	To bond together through different kinds of food delicacies

- **Inter-parish youth cultural exchange performances:**

MEANS	To have cultural performances
WHAT?	Dance, songs, skits, etc.
WHO?	Parish youth, and migrants and refugees
OUTCOME	To appreciate the richness of individual cultures and traditions through the different performances

- **Locals, and Migrants and Refugees food exchange:**

MEANS	To have pot luck or food exchange feast
WHAT?	Food fair from different countries, for sale or shared freely
WHO?	Parishioners, BECs, Migrant and Refugee community
OUTCOME	To experience a deeper bonding with one another

### 3. POST MIGRANT DAY

*(Involving Parish Migrant Ministry, Migrants and Refugees Youth, Parish Youths, Liturgy Ministry)*

- **Inter youth sports carnival day:**

MEANS	To have a friendly match
WHAT?	Football, Badminton, Games, etc.
WHO?	Parish youth, and migrants and refugees
OUTCOME	Local youths may be able to get to know migrants and refugees better

- **Give away goodie bags** (BEC/ Local communities at large):

MEANS	To distribute goodies bag to migrants nearest to us/ treat a migrant for breakfast (invite a migrant after mass)
WHAT?	Goodie bags with toiletries such as toothbrush, soap, towel, etc.
WHO?	Migrants in restaurants, construction, garbage collection, migrants in our neighbourhood, etc.
OUTCOME	To appreciate, know and welcome migrants and refugees in our day to day encounters

- **Invitation to serve in local churches:**

MEANS	To be part of the parish community
WHAT?	Service through joining the choir, becoming a reader, warden, etc.
WHO?	Migrant and refugee communities
OUTCOME	To provide an opportunity for acceptance and a sense of belonging for migrants and refugees in our parish

- **Volunteer drive:**

MEANS	To set up booths after Mass
WHAT?	Registration counter (1 - 2 weeks)
WHO?	Parish Migrant Ministry
OUTCOME	To welcome and recruit more members to be part of this ministry

# LITURGY GUIDE FOR MIGRANT SUNDAY CELEBRATION

## missionaries of hope

### PLANNING SUGGESTIONS

#### When preparing the liturgy:

- Know and understand the cultural backgrounds of your migrant/ refugee parishioners
- Involve the liturgical committee, migrants (leader) and the parish migrant ministry
- Promote the active participation of all people in your parish community
  - o *Proposed:* Community Mass (a more meaningful celebration)

### PROCESSION

#### Proposed Procession:

- Migrants walk in procession with cultural costumes and flags or musical instrument.
- Reserve the front pews for migrants and refugees.
- Select an appropriate Entrance Hymn.

### INTRODUCTORY RITES

- “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it” (Heb 13:2)
- OPENING PRAYER (the collect must be from the corresponding Sunday)
- LET US PRAY

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

- READINGS (from the corresponding Sunday)
  - o First Reading
  - o Second Reading
  - o Gospel
- HOMILY

#### WAYS TO INCLUDE A VARIETY OF LANGUAGES DURING MASS CELEBRATION

- Music
- Responses to General Intercessions
- Lord’s Prayer
- Sign of Peace

## UNIVERSAL PRAYER (PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL):

*(You may choose to add any or four suggested prayers to the normal universal prayer)*

- **Proposed:** Prayer intention said in different languages (get it translated by your migrants leader), response in English. Project the intention in English on the screen.
- **Response: Lord Hear Our Prayer**
  1. We pray for the Church leaders, that our Pope, Bishops, Priests and Religious communities will continue to defend the rights of all. *We pray to the Lord.*
  2. For our leaders, that they may implement policies that allow for safe migration, just migrant working conditions and an end to the detention of asylum seekers, while protecting our national safety. *We pray to the Lord.*
  3. As the Church goes forward together with humanity, grant us the courage to walk in solidarity with migrants and refugees as pilgrims of hope, faith and joy. *We pray to the Lord.*
  4. We pray especially for our fellow immigrants, migrants, refugees and all newcomers, that they may be welcomed into our parish as we recognise them as one family of God. *We pray to the Lord.*
  5. We pray for all those forced to leave their homes because of fear, violence and persecution, may their host countries always offer welcome and shelter to those in need. *We pray to the Lord.*
  6. We pray for all employers that hire migrant and domestic workers, that they may provide their workers safe and just conditions of work, and fair wages, and that we who benefit from their labour, may be truly grateful for what they provide. *We pray to the Lord.*
  7. For the victims and buyers of forced labour and all forms of human trafficking, that they recognise the God-given dignity of every human being, and help to break the cycle of slavery for themselves and others. *We pray to the Lord.*
  8. For migrants, refugees and strangers in our midst, that they may find hope in our concern for justice, and feel the warmth of our love. *We pray to the Lord.*
  9. For all those who are overwhelmed by loneliness, poverty and despair, that they may be comforted through our help and kindness. *We pray to the Lord.*
  10. For migrants and refugees who have died while they were working in our country, may their souls rest in peace, and may God grant their families and loved ones the courage and hope to move on in their lives. *We pray to the Lord.*
  11. For our community, gathered here today to celebrate our unity in Christ, that we may be open to accept migrants and refugees, be courageous to speak up for them and to serve them boldly, recognising them as a gift from God to us. *We pray to the Lord.*
  12. For the families of migrants and refugees, that they may be supportive, understanding and be a source of hope towards their loved ones working abroad. *We pray to the Lord.*
- **Closing Prayer:** (Option for Priest)

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*(PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS)*

**Offertory Procession:** Bread and wine, different types of delicacies, prayer intention, etc.

**OFFERTORY HYMN:**

**Prayer over gifts**

**Preface**

## COMMUNION RITE

**The Lord's Prayer** (can be said together in various languages)

**Rite of Peace**

**COMMUNION HYMN:**

**THANKSGIVING HYMN:**

## CONCLUDING RITES

*(FINAL BLESSINGS)*

**Proposed:**

1. The priest may wish to call upon migrants, refugees, domestic workers, and employers to come near the altar for blessings while the congregation recite a Migrant and Refugee Prayer, or
2. Migrants, refugees, domestic workers and employers to kneel where they are and the congregation will recite a Migrant and Refugee Prayer.

**Dismissal**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN:**

### Proposed Note:

- 4 weeks before Migrant Sunday – Before Mass to project some slides or video with regards to the Pope's theme.
- Alternate Sundays – Invite one or two migrants/refugees to give testimonies (prepare the migrants/refugees and keep to attached questions – 3 mins sharing).
- On Migrant Sunday – Project the Migrant and Refugee Prayer and air a prepared video during announcement (5 mins).



**PROPOSED SONGS:**

*To be inclusive, you may wish to include different countries' hymns.*

**PROCESSION SONGS:**

'Migrants, Missionaries of Hope' themed songs

**ENTRANCE HYMN:**

To God be the Glory  
Glory and Praise  
Rejoice, to the Full  
One Spirit, One Church – Kevin Keil  
Christ be our Light – Bernadette Farrel

**OFFERTORY HYMN:**

Bring to this table  
We are an offering  
Here I am, Lord  
Take thou the offering

**COMMUNION HYMN:**

Let there be peace on earth – Sy Miller and Jill Jackson  
Come let's share  
Sons of God  
One Bread, one body – J Foley

**THANKSGIVING HYMN:**

With Grateful heart (Betapa Hatiku)  
Give Thanks  
Be exalted

**RECESSIONAL HYMN:**

They'll know we are Christian – Peter Scholtes  
We are many parts – Marty Haugen  
Companions on a journey

## RESOURCES: Excerpt from the Pope's Message

# missionaries of hope

The 111th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, coinciding with the Jubilees of Migrants and of the Missions, offers us an opportunity to reflect on the connections between hope, migration and mission.

### A desire for peace, essential for humanity

The current global context is sadly marked by wars, violence, injustice and extreme weather events, which force millions of people to leave their homelands in search of refuge elsewhere. Faced with frightening scenarios and the possibility of global devastation, it is important that there be a growing desire in people's hearts for a future of peace and of respect for the dignity of all.

### Witnesses of hope, through resilience and trust in God

Many migrants, refugees and displaced persons are privileged witnesses of hope. Indeed, they demonstrate this daily through their resilience and trust in God, as they face adversity while seeking a future in which they glimpse that integral human development and happiness are possible.

### Messengers of hope, journeying as pilgrims

In a world darkened by war and injustice, even when all seems lost, migrants and refugees stand as messengers of hope. Their courage and tenacity bear heroic testimony to a faith that sees beyond what our eyes can see and gives them the strength to defy death on the various contemporary migration routes. Migrants and refugees remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually journeying towards her final homeland, sustained by a hope that is a theological virtue.

### Missionaries of hope, forging new paths of faith

In a special way, Catholic migrants and refugees can become missionaries of hope in the countries that welcome them, forging new paths of faith where the message of Jesus Christ has not yet arrived or initiating interreligious dialogue based on everyday life and the search for common values. Their presence, then, should be recognised and appreciated as a true divine blessing, an opportunity to open oneself to the grace of God, who gives new energy and hope to his Church: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Heb 13:2).

### Brothers and sisters, building the Kingdom of God

At the same time, the communities that welcome them can also be a living witness to hope, one that is understood as the promise of a present and a future where the dignity of all as children of God is recognised. In this way, migrants and refugees are recognised as brothers and sisters, part of a family in which they can express their talents and participate fully in community life. The Pope entrusts all those who are on the journey, as well as those who are working to accompany them, to the maternal protection of the Virgin Mary, comfort of migrants, so that she may keep hope alive in their hearts and sustain them in their commitment to building a world that increasingly resembles the Kingdom of God, the true homeland that awaits us at the end of our journey.

Read the full message at: <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/migration/documents/20250725-world-migrants-day-2025.html>

## RESOURCES: 5 Takeaways from the Pope's Message

<https://aohd.org/ministry/ministry-for-migrants-itinerants/>

 **111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2025**  
*Migrants, Missionaries of Hope*

**5 Takeaways**

World Day of Migrants and Refugees  
JUBILEE 2025  
"Migrants, missionaries of hope"



 **111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2025**  
*Migrants, Missionaries of Hope*

**A Desire for Peace, Essential for Humanity**

The current global context is sadly marked by wars, violence, injustice and extreme weather events, which force millions of people to leave their homelands in search of refuge elsewhere.

Faced with frightening scenarios and the possibility of global devastation, it is important that there be a growing desire in people's hearts for a future of peace and of respect for the dignity of all.





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*Migrants, Missionaries of Hope*

**Witnesses of Hope, Through Resilience and Trust in God**

Many migrants, refugees and displaced persons are privileged witnesses of hope.

Indeed, they demonstrate this daily through their resilience and trust in God, as they face adversity while seeking a future in which they glimpse that integral human development and happiness are possible.





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*Migrants, Missionaries of Hope*

**Messengers of Hope, Journeying as Pilgrims**

In a world darkened by war and injustice, even when all seems lost, migrants and refugees stand as messengers of hope.

Their courage and tenacity bear heroic testimony to a faith that sees beyond what our eyes can see and gives them the strength to defy death on the various contemporary migration routes. They remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually journeying towards her final homeland, sustained by hope.





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**Missionaries of Hope, Forging New Paths of Faith**

Catholic migrants and refugees can become missionaries of hope, forging new paths of faith where the message of Jesus Christ has not yet arrived or initiating interreligious dialogue based on everyday life and the search for common values.

Their presence, then, should be recognised and appreciated as a true divine blessing, an opportunity to open oneself to the grace of God, who gives new energy and hope to his Church.




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**Brothers and Sisters, Building the Kingdom of God**

The communities that welcome them can also be a living witness to hope, one that is understood as the promise of a present and a future where the dignity of all as children of God is recognised.

In this way, migrants and refugees are recognised as brothers and sisters, part of a family in which they can express their talents and participate fully in community life.





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# *Migrants, missionaries of hope*

*"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that  
some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Heb 13:2).*

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Full message at: [www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/migration/documents/20250725-world-migrants-day-2025.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/migration/documents/20250725-world-migrants-day-2025.html)





## RESOURCES: Sample Questions for Testimonies

# missionaries of hope

### Proposed Questions for Migrants

- 1) Basic questions:
  - a. Name?
  - b. How old are you?
  - c. Which country are you from?
  - d. When did you arrive in Malaysia?
  - e. What work do you do here?
- 2) Tell us a little about your decision to come to Malaysia – what motivated you to leave your country and family, and why?
- 3) Tell us about your journey to Malaysia – how much did you pay the agent, mode of transport, any problems encountered, etc.
- 4) How has it been since you have come here – have your expectations been met?
- 5) What are your plans for the future?
- 6) Have you been able to keep in touch with your family back home?
- 7) How do you cope with your challenges here in Malaysia?
- 8) What kind of support/help has the Church given you?
- 9) What do you like most about Malaysia?
- 10) What do you dislike most about Malaysia?
- 11) In your current life in Malaysia, what is one thing that gives you hope and strength to go on positively, amidst any challenges you are facing?
- 12) In your daily encounter with different people from all walks of life (they can be your family, colleagues and employers and community member), what do you do that brings hope to them?  
*(E.g. walking an extra mile to help a colleague with problems; amidst busy schedule you spend time with your children by playing with them; you discuss family issues with your family and together find solutions; if there is a need in community you are there to support your community leaders and members)*
- 13) In your involvement in the church in Malaysia, how does being a missionary of hope reflected in your mission in the church – such as being a choir member or a catechist?



## RESOURCES: Prayer for our Migrant and Refugee sisters and brothers

# missionaries of hope

### Prayer for our Migrant and Refugee sisters and brothers

God of the journey, bless all migrants whose lives echo the ancient pilgrim path. May their courage in leaving behind the familiar be a testimony of HOPE for a world often closed in fear. Let their footsteps preach PEACE, and their endurance proclaim your promise of NEW LIFE.

Holy Spirit, guide your church to be shelter and a light for all on the move.

In this Year of Pilgrims of Hope, may we walk with the displaced with hearts open wide and hands ready to serve. May our encounters with all migrants, and their interactions with us, be encounters with Christ Himself. Amen



*(Templates provided for distribution online  
and for print in the following pages)*

## RESOURCES: Volunteer Slip

**For migrants and parishioners to serve in the parish**

*(Templates provided for print in the following pages)*


A box (made from recycled materials) clearly labelled "Volunteer Slips" can be prepared and placed at the back of the church for the whole of September, with Volunteer Slips ready for filling in. Both migrants and parishioners may fill and drop in their Volunteer Slips to be collected by the parish.

*Cut out the 'Be A Volunteer' Slip along the dotted lines*

**Be A Volunteer**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ h/p no.: \_\_\_\_\_  
would like to serve in the parish ministry.  
*/ Please tick one of the following:*

<input type="checkbox"/> Choir	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality
<input type="checkbox"/> Liturgy	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth
<input type="checkbox"/> BEC	<input type="checkbox"/> Migrant Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Parish Migrant Ministry (PMM)	<input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____


 111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2025  
Migrants, Missionaries of Hope

## RESOURCES: Prayer Intention Card of Migrants

**For migrants to put their intention in their own language.  
To be offered during offertory, and to be burnt by sacristan.**

*(Templates provided for print in the following pages)*

*Cut out the 'My Prayer Intention' Card along the dotted lines*

A box (made from recycled materials) clearly labelled "Prayer Intention Cards of Migrants" can be prepared and placed at the back of the church for the whole of September, with Prayer Intention Cards ready for filling in. Migrants may fill and drop in their Prayer Intention Card to be collected for Offertory.

**My Prayer Intention**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_


**My prayer intention (in my own language):**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_


 111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2025  
Migrants, Missionaries of Hope

## RESOURCES: Tree of Hope – Prayer Cards from Migrants

### Prayers of the migrants and refugees for parishioners

*(Templates provided for print in the following pages)*

Migrants and refugees are to fill in their name and country, select a prayer and tie the card to the branches of the tree. Clearly label the “Tree of Hope” and it can be placed in front of the altar, filled with the attached prayer cards. Parishioners may then pick a prayer card each to bring home a message of hope.

*Prepare some string and set up a tree with many branches as your ‘Tree of Hope’ to hang the Prayer Cards from migrants and refugees for parishioners*



*Fold in half, punch hole here to insert string and tie to tree branches*

*Fold in half here*

*Cut out the ‘Tree of Hope’ Prayer Card along the dotted lines*

  <p>Be <b>STRONG</b> and let your heart take <b>COURAGE</b> All you who <b>HOPE</b> in the Lord (Psalm 31:24)</p>	 <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Country: _____</p> <p><b>My Prayer for YOU</b> <i>(please tick):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Financial Blessing</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Peace and Harmony in the family</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Happiness and Joy always</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Loving one another amidst challenges</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Patience and Understanding</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Health and Well-Being</li></ul>
--	--

## Prayer for our Migrant and Refugee sisters and brothers

God of the journey, bless all migrants whose lives echo the ancient pilgrim path. May their courage in leaving behind the familiar be a testimony of HOPE for a world often closed in fear. Let their footsteps preach PEACE, and their endurance proclaim your promise of NEW LIFE.

Holy Spirit, guide your church to be shelter and a light for all on the move.

In this Year of Pilgrims of Hope, may we walk with the displaced with hearts open wide and hands ready to serve. May our encounters with all migrants, and their interactions with us, be encounters with Christ Himself. Amen



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I, \_\_\_\_\_ h/p no.: \_\_\_\_\_

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*/ Please tick one of the following:*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choir                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liturgy                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BEC                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant Group |
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**My Prayer Intention**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

*My prayer intention (in my own language):*

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

*My prayer intention (in my own language):*

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**My Prayer Intention**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

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Country: \_\_\_\_\_

*My prayer intention (in my own language):*

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

*My prayer intention (in my own language):*

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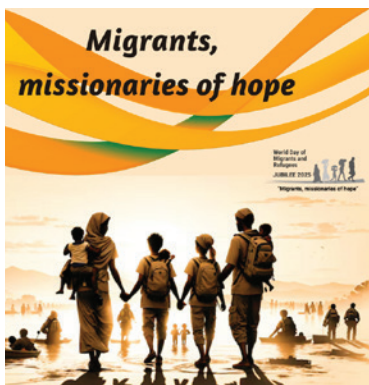
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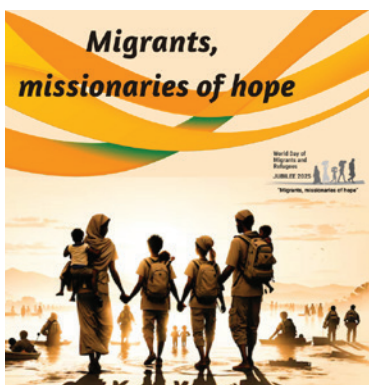
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

**My Prayer for YOU** (please tick):

- ☐ Financial Blessing
- ☐ Peace and Harmony in the family
- ☐ Happiness and Joy always
- ☐ Loving one another amidst challenges
- ☐ Patience and Understanding
- ☐ Health and Well-Being

Be **STRONG** and let your heart take **COURAGE**  
All you who **HOPE** in the Lord (Psalm 31:24)



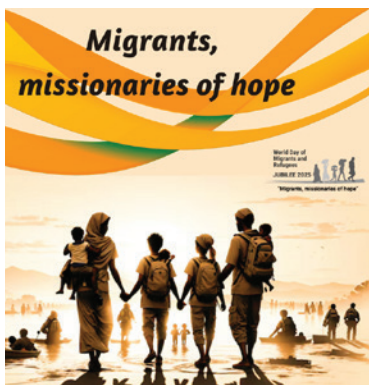
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Let us **HOLD** unwaveringly to our **HOPE**, for HE  
who made the promise is **TRUSTWORTHY** (Hebrews 10:23)



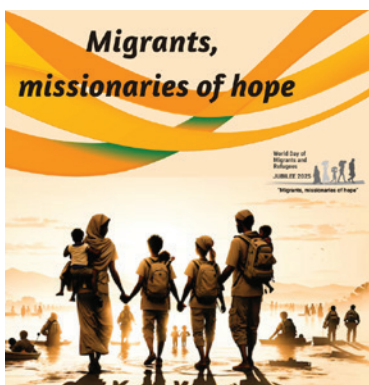
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**REJOICE** in hope, **ENDURE** in affliction,  
**PERSEVERE** in prayer (Romans 12:12)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

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They that **HOPE** in the LORD will **RENEW** their  
**STRENGTH** and they will not grow weary (Isaiah 40:31)



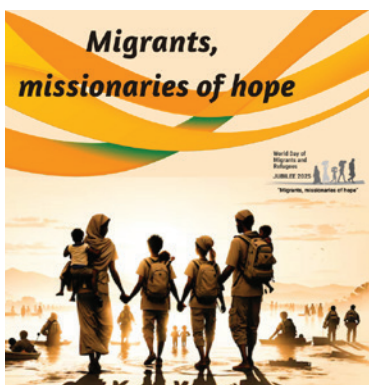
God of **HOPE** fill you with all **JOY** and **PEACE**,  
you may abound by the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

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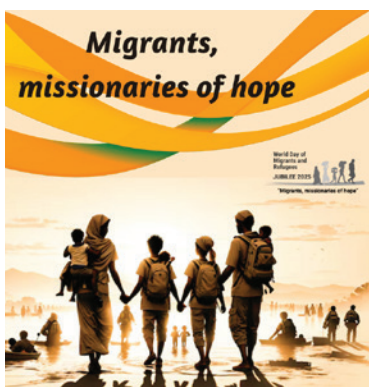
Flesh and heart may fail, but GOD is the **STRENGTH**  
of my **HEART** and my portion **FOREVER** (Psalm 73:26)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

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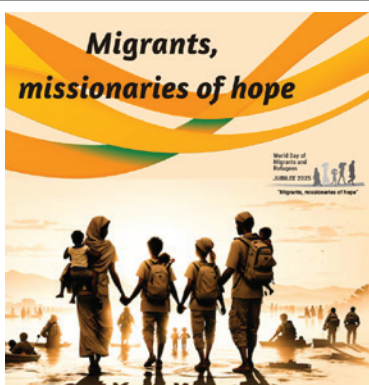
**FAITH** is being sure of what we **HOPE** for and  
**CERTAIN** of what we do not see (Hebrew 11:1)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Be **STRONG** and **COURAGEOUS**, not frightened,  
and dismayed, our God is with us **ALWAYS** (Joshua 1:9)

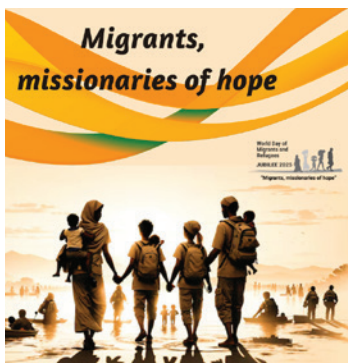
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Be not anxious, in every situation **PRAYER** and **THANKSGIVING**, GOD will **GUARD** your hearts and minds (Philippians 4:6-7)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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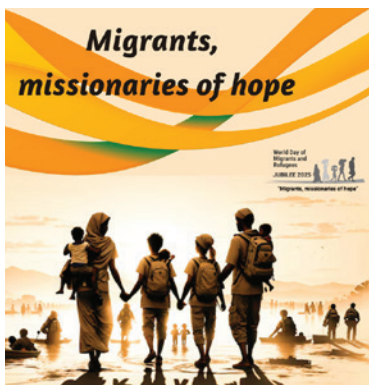
My plans for you, says the LORD, plans for your **WELFARE** and not for harm, to give you a **FUTURE** with **HOPE** (Jeremiah 29:11)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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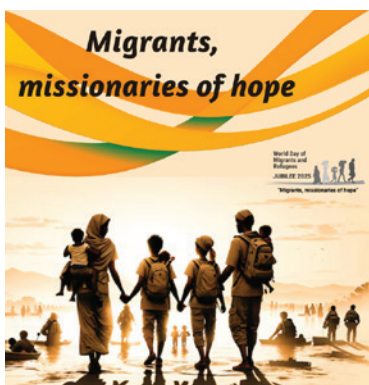
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Embracing Migrants N Itinerants



111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF  
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

2025

# *Migrants, missionaries of hope*

World Day of  
Migrants and  
Refugees  
JUBILEE 2025



*"Migrants, missionaries of hope"*

*"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that  
some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Heb 13:2).*



Full message at: [www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/migration/documents/20250725-world-migrants-day-2025.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/migration/documents/20250725-world-migrants-day-2025.html)







**111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF  
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2025**  
*Migrants, Missionaries of Hope*

## 5 Takeaways

World Day of  
Migrants and  
Refugees  
JUBILEE 2025  
"Migrants, missionaries of hope"



**111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF  
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2025**  
*Migrants, Missionaries of Hope*

## A Desire for Peace, Essential for Humanity

The current global context is sadly marked by wars, violence, injustice and extreme weather events, which force millions of people to leave their homelands in search of refuge elsewhere.

Faced with frightening scenarios and the possibility of global devastation, it is important that there be a growing desire in people's hearts for a future of peace and of respect for the dignity of all.



**111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF  
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2025**  
*Migrants, Missionaries of Hope*

## Witnesses of Hope, Through Resilience and Trust in God

Many migrants, refugees and displaced persons are privileged witnesses of hope.

Indeed, they demonstrate this daily through their resilience and trust in God, as they face adversity while seeking a future in which they glimpse that integral human development and happiness are possible.



**111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF  
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*Migrants, Missionaries of Hope*

## Messengers of Hope, Journeying as Pilgrims

In a world darkened by war and injustice, even when all seems lost, migrants and refugees stand as messengers of hope.

Their courage and tenacity bear heroic testimony to a faith that sees beyond what our eyes can see and gives them the strength to defy death on the various contemporary migration routes. They remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually journeying towards her final homeland, sustained by hope.







**111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF  
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*Migrants, Missionaries of Hope*

## **Missionaries of Hope, Forging New Paths of Faith**

Catholic migrants and refugees can become missionaries of hope, forging new paths of faith where the message of Jesus Christ has not yet arrived or initiating interreligious dialogue based on everyday life and the search for common values.

Their presence, then, should be recognised and appreciated as a true divine blessing, an opportunity to open oneself to the grace of God, who gives new energy and hope to his Church.



**111<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY OF  
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## **Brothers and Sisters, Building the Kingdom of God**

The communities that welcome them can also be a living witness to hope, one that is understood as the promise of a present and a future where the dignity of all as children of God is recognised.

In this way, migrants and refugees are recognised as brothers and sisters, part of a family in which they can express their talents and participate fully in community life.



# *Migrants, missionaries of hope*

## OVERVIEW

### **MIGRANT SUNDAY RESOURCES:**

- Kit Booklet
- Theme Poster
- The Pope's Message
- Excerpt from the Pope's Message
- 5 Takeaways from the Pope's Message
- Prayer for our Migrant and Refugee brothers and sisters
- Volunteer Slip
- Prayer Intention Card of Migrants
- Tree of Hope – Prayer Cards from Migrants
- PowerPoint Brief

### **MIGRANT SUNDAY ONLINE:**

- For further information, resources and to download templates, please visit:  
<https://aohd.org/ministry/ministry-for-migrants-itinerants/>



# *Migrants, missionaries of hope*



The 111th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, coinciding with the Jubilees of Migrants and of the Missions, offers us an opportunity to reflect on the connections between hope, migration and mission.

In a world darkened by war and injustice, even when all seems lost, migrants and refugees stand as messengers of hope. Their courage and tenacity bear heroic testimony to a faith that sees beyond what our eyes can see and gives them the strength to defy death on the various contemporary migration routes. Migrants and refugees remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually journeying towards her final homeland, sustained by a hope that is a theological virtue.

For further information, resources and to download templates,  
please visit: <https://aohd.org/ministry/ministry-for-migrants-itinerants/>

