



# CCOW Guide to Online Worship Resources: Refugees & Forced Migration

## Materials for a full service ...

### **Baptist Union of Great Britain**

[http://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/448817/Welcoming\\_the\\_Stranger.aspx](http://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/448817/Welcoming_the_Stranger.aspx)

Brochure (updated 2015) with material including sermon notes, suggestions for hymns, prayers and readings, and Bible studies. Also contains practical information on helping and case studies of what churches have done.

### **CAFOD**

[https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/29185/333404/version/10/file/Prayer\\_refugees\\_pilgrimage-on-the-refugee-crisis.pdf](https://cafod.org.uk/content/download/29185/333404/version/10/file/Prayer_refugees_pilgrimage-on-the-refugee-crisis.pdf)

Refugee solidarity liturgy based around the Lampedusa Cross. Also a powerful [prayer pilgrimage](#) for young people.

### **Christian Aid**

Prayers – [short](#) and [longer](#), and [litanies](#) on the theme of the refugees, a [theological reflection on migration](#) and a 3 minute [video “Love the Stranger - a theological perspective”](#)

### **Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe**

[https://ccme.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/2018-06-18\\_Commemoration\\_Day\\_June\\_2018\\_00000002\\_.pdf](https://ccme.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/2018-06-18_Commemoration_Day_June_2018_00000002_.pdf)

Materials for a day of intercession in memory of those who lost their lives on the way to seek safety in Europe. Contains background information, prayers and worship idea.

### **Churches Refugee Network**

[http://www.urc.org.uk/images/mission/at\\_home\\_strange/Vigil\\_for\\_Refugees\\_-\\_outline.pdf](http://www.urc.org.uk/images/mission/at_home_strange/Vigil_for_Refugees_-_outline.pdf)

Service outline for a vigil

### **Church World Service (US)**

<https://greateras1.org/act/congregations/>

Includes a full service on the theme of “Protecting Welcome, Restoring Hope: Our Christian Witness to Refugees and Immigrants,” with a variety of options for prayers, readings, and hymns.

### **European Methodist Council**

<http://methodist.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/EMC-Liturgy-International-Day-of-Refugees-2019.pdf>

Liturgy for migrants and refugees produced by Italian members of EMC for International Refugee Day 2019.

### **Methodist Church**

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/singing-the-faith-plus/categories/theme/refugees-and-migrants/>

Worship resources for Refugee Week church service: example of a church welcoming refugees, Bible study on the "Stranger", prayers, suggestions for hymns (with references to the Singing the Faith plus website), Bible readings, and links to other materials.

### **Minnesota Council of Churches**

<http://www.mnchurches.org/refugeeservices/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Refugee-Sunday-Service-Planning-Materials.pdf>

Material for a Refugee Sunday service on the theme of 'Welcoming the Stranger' (2009 – but still relevant), including a sample service as well as an interesting and extensive selection of prayers and litanies from around the world, Bible readings and hymn texts.

## **Prayers, prayer stations, hymns and reflections ...**

### **Baptist Union**

[http://www.urc.org.uk/images/mission/at\\_home\\_strange/Refugees\\_-\\_Baptists.pdf](http://www.urc.org.uk/images/mission/at_home_strange/Refugees_-_Baptists.pdf)

Refugees: a collection of prayers from different sources.

### **CAFOD**

<http://bit.ly/2rqfLCP>

A collection of CAFOD's considerable prayer resources relating to refugees.

### **CTBI**

<http://focusonrefugees.org/>

A variety of reflections and prayers are available on the dedicated refugee website for Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (look especially at 28 April 2017, when a delegation went to Lampedusa and Sicily, and 25 December 2018 A Christmas Prayer for Refugees.)

### **Minnesota Council of Churches**

<http://www.mnchurches.org/refugeeservices/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Refugee-Sunday-Service-Planning-Materials.pdf>

Interesting and extensive collection of prayers from a variety of international sources (see above)

### **Resound Worship**

[https://www.resoundworship.org/song/our\\_god\\_was\\_a\\_refugee](https://www.resoundworship.org/song/our_god_was_a_refugee)

A worship song (2017) by Joel Payne "Our God was a refugee"- audio recording, lyrics & chord chart available free; full score and MP3 to purchase.

### **The Sanctuary Centre**

<http://www.thesanctuarycentre.org/whereworldandworshipmeet-search.html>

A collection of written prayers, reflections, prayer stations and creative prayer ideas around refugees and migration.

### **The Stations**

<http://thestations.org.uk/>

A collaborative project by Marksteen Adamson and Justin Brierley, Krish Kandiah, Lou Dawson, Oy Ralfe and Julie Tomlin, using the traditional fourteen 'Stations of the Cross' as a framework for Christian reflection on the journeys refugees make.

### **United Reformed Church**

[http://www.urc.org.uk/images/mission/at\\_home\\_strange/God\\_travels\\_with\\_us.pdf](http://www.urc.org.uk/images/mission/at_home_strange/God_travels_with_us.pdf)

A hymn (2016) by Colin Ferguson 'God travels with us' that reflects on the experience of refugees moving in faith.

### **USPG**

<https://www.uspg.org.uk/docstore/143.pdf>

There are prayers at the end of each session of the 'Migration and Movement' study course (see below)

## **Bible readings and Bible studies ...**

### **Baptist Union of Great Britain**

[http://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/448817/Welcoming\\_the\\_Stranger.aspx](http://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/448817/Welcoming_the_Stranger.aspx)

As noted above. Bible studies focus on Mary and Joseph, and 'Strangers and Aliens'

### **Bible Society**

[https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/content/explore\\_the\\_bible/articles\\_about\\_the\\_bible/2016/refugees\\_and\\_the\\_bible/Refugees-and-the-Bible-Course.pdf](https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/content/explore_the_bible/articles_about_the_bible/2016/refugees_and_the_bible/Refugees-and-the-Bible-Course.pdf)

Series of 4 Bible studies (2016) 'Refugees and the Bible - Welcoming the stranger', with short (1-2 minute) video introductions

### **Church World Service (US)**

<https://greateras1.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Scriptures-protecting-welcome-restoring-hope-final.pdf>

<https://greateras1.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Scriptures-protecting-welcome-restoring-hope-final.docx>

A substantial collection of Bible verses relating to refugees and migration. Available as pdf and Word document. Also an introductory Bible study: <http://church.cwsglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Bible-Study-1.pdf>

### **Commitment for Life**

[http://www.urc.org.uk/images/mission/at\\_home\\_strange/Journeying\\_-\\_Bible\\_Study\\_and\\_Worship.pdf](http://www.urc.org.uk/images/mission/at_home_strange/Journeying_-_Bible_Study_and_Worship.pdf)

Journeying Bible Study, including one of Elizabeth's reflections from the Pilgrimage to Paris.

### **Singing the Faith Plus (Methodist)**

<http://www.singingthefaitplus.org.uk/?p=14384>

An annotated list, explaining why passages have been selected and giving links to the actual readings.

### **USPG**

<https://www.uspg.org.uk/docstore/143.pdf>

'Migration and Movement' a six-week study course with Bible studies, stories and prayers.

## **Poems and other readings ...**

### **Brian Bilston**

<https://brianbilston.com/2016/03/23/refugees/>

'Reversible' poem "Refugees", which offers two perspectives on refugees and our response – a bottom-to-top reading challenging the attitudes found in a top-to-bottom reading

**Judi Miles**

<https://www.facebook.com/RefugeesWelcomeGR/posts/1676278449302023>

Moving poem by from the perspective of a Syrian woman in a Greek refugee camp

## Videos ...

### **Churches Together in Britain and Ireland**

<http://focusonrefugees.org/reflections-from-ctbi-group-who-visited-mediterranean-hope-refugee-projects-in-lampedusa-sicily/>

Video of three participants (a Catholic, a Quaker and a Presbyterian) on the CTBI visit to Mediterranean Hope refugee projects in Lampedusa and Sicily (2017).

### **Evangelical Alliance**

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/blog/blog/post/384-krish-kandiah---refugee-crisis-an-urgent-call-to-action>

4 minute video on the refugee crisis calling Christians to action by Dr. Krish Kandiah

### **Jesuit Refugee Service/Mercy in Motion**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziz9a-2Zhvs>

'Open Minds, Unlock Potential' Twelve minute video in which refugees speak in their own words about their experiences, interspersed with words of theological reflection from Pope Francis.

## Theological resources to give background for preaching ...

### **Diocese of Leicester**

<http://www.oxford.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Resources-for-Christians-thinking-about-migration.pdf>

List of links to theological resources on the subject of refugees and migration

### **World Council of Churches**

[http://www.urch.org.uk/images/mission/at\\_home\\_strange/The\\_Other\\_Is\\_My\\_Neighbour\\_WCC.pdf](http://www.urch.org.uk/images/mission/at_home_strange/The_Other_Is_My_Neighbour_WCC.pdf)

'The Other Is My Neighbour: Developing an Ecumenical Response to Migration' – theological reflection paper.

### **World Evangelical Alliance**

<http://www.europeana.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Justice-and-Compassion-Responding-to-the-Refugee-Crisis-in-Europe.pdf>

'Justice and Compassion: Responding to the Refugee Crisis in Europe' – sets out some basic context (as of 2015) and offers theological reflection.