

CCOW Guide to Online Worship Resources: Refugees & Forced Migration

Materials for a full service ...

Refugee Highway Partnership

<https://www.refugeehighway.net/world-refugee-sunday.html>

Resources for World Refugee Sunday, 20th/27th June 2021, focusing on Leviticus 13:45-46 and Luke 7:20-23, under the theme 'Embrace', with the encouragement to 'Embrace the Excluded'. Includes sermon outline "The Consistent God", flyer, prayer map and children's activity sheets.

Baptist Union of Great Britain

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

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

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.urch.org.uk/images/mission/at_home_strange/Vigil_for_Refugees_-_outline.pdf

Service outline for a vigil

CTBI

<https://ctbi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/3507-CS-SFAR-Migration-Worship-A5-BOOKLET.pdf>

A booklet "God with us – worship resources on the theme of refugees, migration and sanctuary" by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. Includes Bible studies, prayers, liturgies, songs, stories, ideas for young people and more.

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.

Prayers, prayer stations, hymns and reflections ...

Baptist Union

[https://urc.org.uk/images/mission/at_home_strange/Refugees - Baptists.pdf](https://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.)

Resound Worship

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, songs 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

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

USPG

<https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/uspg/content/pages/documents/1594212911.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

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

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.urch.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://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/uspg/content/pages/documents/1594212911.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 from the perspective of a Syrian woman in a Greek refugee camp

Videos ...

Welcome Churches

<https://welcomechurches.org/churches/refugeesunday/>

Sign up to receive a Refugee Week inspiring video produced by Welcome Churches to share with your church on Refugee Sunday - which is also Father's Day. The video tells some of the story of Asghar who arrived in the UK as an asylum seeker but has left his wife and children behind. The theme of the video is Together One Day.

UNHCR

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvzZGplGbL8>

Who is a Refugee? 3 minute animation video suitable for age 12+

CAFOD

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_P9huLYmS0

3 minute animation about forced migration, suitable for children, aimed at Catholics and encouraging supporting CAFOD to help refugees

Inscape Animations

<https://inscapeanimations.com/roots-inscape-animation.html>

9 minute beautifully drawn, reflective and thought-provoking animation, on migration from the earliest times, refugees' experience, what makes us secure and our common roots

Home for Good

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MX9b1ldWpo>

6 minute video (Jan 2018) by Dr. Krish Kandiah calling on Christians in the UK to welcome refugee children and young people in response to the war in Syria.

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).

Jesuit Refugee Service/Mercy in Motion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziz9a-2Zhv5>

'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

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

World Evangelical Alliance

<http://www.europeanea.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.