



## Prayers for Refugees and Immigrants

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### ***Prayer for Refugees***

From World Refugee Day, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, 2007

[http://archived.oikoumene.org/uploads/tx\\_wecdiscussion/13WorshipMaterials.pdf](http://archived.oikoumene.org/uploads/tx_wecdiscussion/13WorshipMaterials.pdf)

Lord God, as you called your Son back home from his early childhood exile in Egypt, gather from the four corners of the world all refugees who long for a home. Grant peace to those who can return to the homes they left behind, that they might rebuild their lives. Grant courage to those who must move on to new homes, that they might re-root their lives. And grant hope to those who continue to wait without a home, that they might revive their lives. We pray this in the name of your son, our Hiding Place and our Deliverer. Amen.

### ***A Prayer for the People of Syria***

From the US Conference of Catholic Bishops

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayer-for-peace-in-syria.cfm>

Almighty eternal God, source of all compassion,  
the promise of your mercy and saving help fills our hearts with hope.  
Hear the cries of the people of Syria;  
bring healing to those suffering from the violence,  
and comfort to those mourning the dead.  
Empower and encourage Syria's neighbors  
in their care and welcome for refugees.  
Convert the hearts of those who have taken up arms,  
and strengthen the resolve of those committed to peace.

O God of hope and Father of mercy,  
your Holy Spirit inspires us to look beyond ourselves and our own needs.  
Inspire leaders to choose peace over violence  
and to seek reconciliation with enemies.  
Inspire the Church around the world with compassion for the people of Syria,  
and fill us with hope for a future of peace built on justice for all.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace and Light of the World,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
Amen.



### ***Prayer for the Strangers Among Us***

From Joanna Harader; pastor of Peace Mennonite Church; Lawrence, KS

<https://mcc.org/sites/mcc.org/files/media/common/documents/prayer-peace-jh-english.pdf>

Holy God,

You led Abraham and Sarah to a new land;

You led your people across the Egyptian border to freedom;

You sent your angel to warn Joseph to take Mary and Jesus to a foreign country,  
because their homeland was not safe.

You are a God who calls us to love and care for foreigners among us;  
it is because of this love that we pray to you now.

O God, hear our prayer

and protect all people entering this country:

Protect them from whatever they are fleeing.

Protect them from the harsh natural elements.

Protect them from violence that others would commit against them.

O God, hear our prayer

and protect all people who have come to this country:

Shield their spirits from any hatred and prejudice directed against them.

Hold their families together.

O God, hear our prayer

and empower people of faith across this nation to hear your word

and heed your call to protect and love the foreigners among us.

Let us raise our voices not only in prayer, but also in protest  
against hate-filled, dehumanizing speech, against oppressive policies,  
against arrogant and heartless laws.

O God, hear our prayer

and grant our federal and state legislators compassion and wisdom  
as they consider various proposals for immigration reform.

May their ears be deaf to lies born of fear.

May their eyes be open to the humanity of each immigrant.

May they lead us to be a state and a nation that finds our security in offering generous  
hospitality to all of your people.

Amen.

### ***A Prayer for Uprooted People***

From World Council of Churches, "In Solidarity with Uprooted Peoples,"

<https://washingtonmemo.org/newsletter/spring09/worship-resources/>

God of the widow and the stranger,  
you are made known in our Savior Jesus Christ.

Born as a migrant,

exiled as a refugee,

he knew the pain of homelessness

but taught his friends the meaning and challenge of love.

Lead us as we build communities

rooted in hospitality and justice. Amen.



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