



PEACE: BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS reminds us that “our commitment to pursue peace flows from the inner peace we experience through our relationship with God and our belief in the dignity of every person, created in God’s image and endowed with fundamental rights and responsibilities.” [Read more.](#) For Pope Benedict XVI’s annual message, [click here](#)

ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS
We are invited to pray on this issue during the weekend of January 11-13. [Get the details here.](#)

OCCUPATION/SPECIFIC LANGUAGE TRAINING (OSLT)

FREE English language courses that focus on communication skills for a variety of employment areas. Offered both part-time and full-time at Ontario colleges. These 180 hour courses build not only employment related language skills, but also helps students learn the culture of specific types of work environments. See: <http://co-oslt.org/en/>
(Submitted: Evanne Hunter, IBVM)

CHANGING THE RULES

Federal government has made controversial changes to the Immigration/asylum and refugee systems and to Canadian Citizenship. This article is a primer on the most critical changes. (*Toronto Star*, Dec 29) www.thestar.com/news/investigations/immigration/article/1308263--immigration-and-refugee-system-canada-made-controversial-changes-in-2012

'TIS THE SEASON TO APPRECIATE
(Tips for conversations with your companion)

Pause for Thought. Step back, reflect and even talk about what you have achieved in 2012 that helped you take another step.

What are you grateful for in 2012?
What have you achieved? What barriers have you overcome? Who helped you? Name the moments.

Forget regrets: Give yourself permission to let go. Learn from mistakes.

Give THANKS to God, to yourself, to others!

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES



January 13, with its theme “*Migrations: Pilgrimage of Faith and Hope*” reminds us of our responsibility to help newcomers integrate in ways that are respectful, culturally sensitive and responsive to social needs, and of the ongoing need for comprehensive and compassionate immigration reform. See Pope Benedict message: www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/migration/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20121012_world-migrants-day_en.html
Special Prayer Service for this day will follow.

**BLESSED
NEW
YEAR**

Let us make 2013
a time when our dreams
for a more **JUST WORLD**
are realized with our
PRAYER, PRESENCE
and SOLIDARITY.