

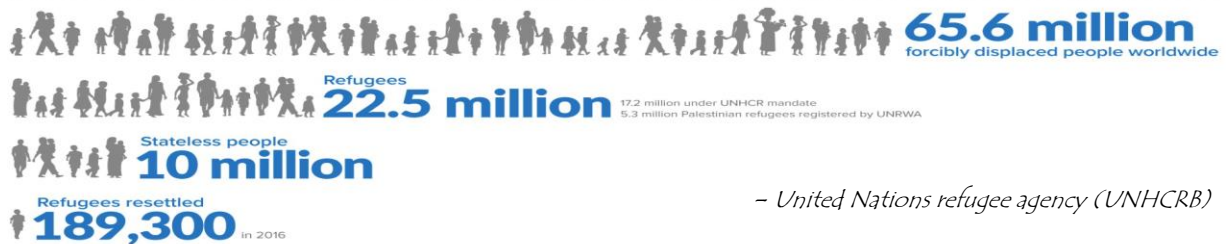
## Summer Greetings to all of our dear friends,

“An institutional heart-beat is insufficient evidence for religious life.

Imagine being transformed into an appropriately aging, slowing-down, and declining-in-numbers-and-in-strength community of wise-ones, grandmothers/fathers, nurturers, lovers, risk takers, mentors and reconcilers! What do we have to lose? What do others have to gain? What are we for, for God’s sake?”

(Anthony Gittens, CSSp)

### WE WEEP, THEN ACT



– United Nations refugee agency (UNHCRB)

As you may remember, at Lampedusa and Lesbos, major transit points in Italy and Greece, Pope Francis **WEPT** with the migrants and refugees huddled there. On the plane back from Lesbos, he even brought some Syrian refugee families to live in the Vatican. Continuing to **ACT**, on September 27 Pope Francis will launch the **“SHARE THE JOURNEY”** campaign, a two-year program to urge each one of us to enter into encounters between people on the move and people living in the countries they are leaving, passing through or the countries into which they will arrive. To aid us further in this journey of encounter he has also launched a “Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development” including a section on migrants and refugees.

“When we heal the wounds of refugees, displaced persons, and victims of trafficking, we are practicing the commandment of love that Jesus has left us ... Their flesh is that of Christ”.

As a concrete expression of the power of being transformed in an encounter we share that in the August 27 Catholic Register article *“Building Leaders is a Top Priority for New Director”*, the new director, Rory McGuckin, points to Spiritan Gerry Fitzgerald as a role model who “opened his eyes to the empowering effect of trickle-down leadership... Father ensured that we acted like Catholic role models.” (*Gerry is now a Becoming Neighbours prayer partner with Deka*)

May we, too, be transformed into a community of wise-ones, grandmothers/fathers, nurturers, lovers, risk takers, mentors and reconcilers!

Lois Anne Bordowitz, FCJ

Tina Solomon

Peter McKenna, SCJ