



*"Artificial Intelligence and Peace"*

For 2024 World Day of Peace, Pope Francis states "... [AI] could introduce important innovations in agriculture, education and culture, an improved level of life for entire nations and peoples, and the growth of human fraternity and social friendship. In the end, the way we use it to include the least of our brothers and sisters, the vulnerable and those most in need, will be the true measure of our humanity."

**WE ARE TO BE ARTISANS OF PEACE!**

[Click here](#) for Pope Francis' full 2024 message

*"Moreover, this Child, Jesus, was born "to us":  
"us" without any borders, privileges or exclusions"*

Pope Francis Urbi et Orbi 25.12.2020  
(Shared by MICHAEL BREHL CSsR)

**IN SOLIDARITY, WE CELEBRATE WITH:**



**Loretto Sisters (IBVM)**  
Mary, Mother of God  
Institute Feast (Jan. 01)

**Basilian Fathers**  
Basilian Founding Day (Jan. 02)

**Faithful Companions of Jesus**  
FCJ Name Day (Jan. 03)

**Sisters of Charity of Halifax**  
Elizabeth Ann Seton (Jan 04)

**Congregation of Notre Dame**  
Marguerite Bourgeoys (Jan. 12)



**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE ROGEL FAMILY**

Yoltzin, Delmy, Amaro, Erandy and Gilberto  
Companions: Marion Normandin, OSU;  
†Al McAndrew, SJ; Prayer Partners:  
†Edgar Hoffman, CSsR, Ruth Leddy, CSJ,  
†Laura Gaten, IBVM and Bill Comerford, CSsR

[INSPIRATIONAL VIDEO: "GRATITUDE"](#)



## 'Christ Child of the Year' should be the world's refugee children

In 2017, and still today, RON ROLHEISER, OMI poignantly and provocatively challenges us and the world:



“The real Christ is forever seeking a home in a world within which there’s no room for him. The Christ-Child can be seen most clearly today in the countless refugee children who, with their families, are being driven from their homes by violence, war, starvation, ethnic cleansing, poverty, tribalism, racism, and religious persecution. They, and their families, best fit the picture of Joseph and Mary, searching for a room, outsiders, powerless, uninvited, no home, no one to take them in, on the periphery, strangers labeled as “aliens”.

But they are the present-day Holy Family and their children are the Christ-Child for us and our world.”

[Click Here](#) to read the full reflection.

### 100 YEARS OF MAGNIFICENCE! MARY MEAGHER, CND



Companion with Melba,  
Emmanuel and Patience

### “A Tale of Tent Cities”



(Kaitlin Wynia Baluk photo)

Coming in 2024 from McGill-Queen's University Press:

*A Renewed Canadian Welcome:  
Eleven Visions from Migrants and Advocates*



Catch the book launch in fall 2024!

[CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE](#)

## CELEBRATING EMMANUEL: “GOD WITH US”



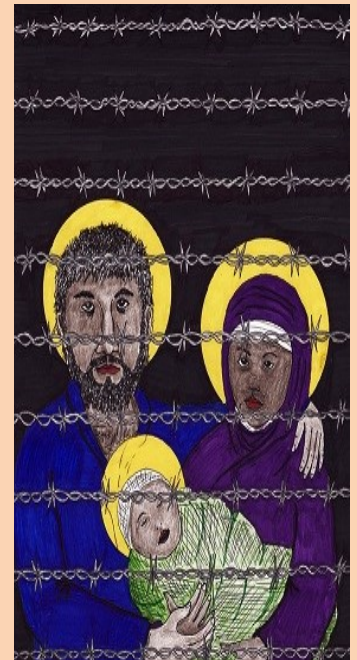
“Into his world, this demented inn,  
in which there is absolutely no room for him at all,  
Christ has come uninvited.

But because he cannot be at home in it,  
because he is out of place in it, yet must be in it,  
His place is with those others for whom  
there is no room.

His place is with those who are discredited,  
who are denied the status of persons,  
who are tortured, bombed- exterminated.

With those for whom there is no room,  
CHRIST IS PRESENT IN THE WORLD.”

(THOMAS MERTON)

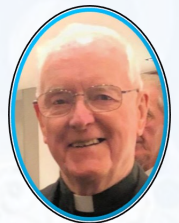


# Recommended

To be in solidarity with



**WE REMEMBER  
NICHOLAS ZIMROSE, FSC**  
who died Dec. 01, 2023  
and was companion with Akudo.



**WE REMEMBER  
PAT FITZPATRICK, CSSp**  
who died Dec. 07, 2023  
and was prayer partner with Daniel and was one of the founding members of JAM and it's ministry Becoming Neighbours. [Click here](#) to view slideshow/funeral liturgy/homily.



**WE REMEMBER  
RUSS SAMPSON, SFM**  
who died Dec. 14, 2023  
and was prayer partner with Victor.

To take to heart

[“‘Laudato Si’ to ‘Laudate Deum’: What has changed in Pope Francis’ climate teaching?”](#)

[“10 Most Important Messages From Laudato Si”](#)

To sign

**Open Work Permits NOW**

**Open Work Permits for Migrant Workers**

[Click here to sign letter](#); DEADLINE: Jan. 08, 2024

[“How some of Ontario’s most recognizable companies have become embroiled in alleged labour exploitation schemes”](#)

NO ROOM IN THE INN...



**MONTHLY SHELTER ALLOWANCE  
ON ONTARIO WORKS SOCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Family Size	Maximum Shelter Allowance / Month
1	\$390
2	\$642
3	\$697
4	\$756
5	\$815
6 or more	\$844

To Read

- [“Synod calls for bishops' personal accompaniment of migrants”](#)
- [“The Most Inspiring Immigration Stories Of 2023”](#)
- [Catholic Charities “Insights and Encounters” Pg, 6 “The unfolding of the Christmas Story in our Hearts” — AGNES THOMAS](#)

**“We are, at our heart, a church that flows from the life and experience of refugees”**

CATHERINE MULRONEY

[Click here](#) to read the full article

- [“I’m a Palestinian Christian in Gaza. I want peace—for my homeland and my family.”](#)
- [“Migrants are not ‘just another story’— or just another political football”](#)
- [“The Christmas story is a refugee story: Would we welcome Jesus today?”](#)
- [“Three asylum seekers struggling to find a foothold in Toronto tell their stories: ‘It’s not an easy thing, leaving your people behind’”](#)



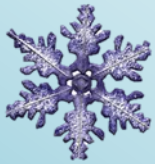
# 'TIS THE SEASON TO APPRECIATE

(Tips for a heart conversation with yourself and/or with a newcomer)

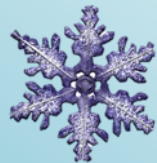


**Pause for Thought.** As you come to the end of another year, step back, reflect and even talk about what you have achieved that helped you take another step.

**What are you most grateful for in 2023?** What have you achieved? What barriers have you overcome? Who helped you? Name the moments.



**Create a record.** Create a victory log of your achievements. Use words, images, pictures. Refer to your records when your spirit needs a boost, to prepare for an interview or to provide inspiration.



**BLESSED**

**NEW**

**YEAR**

*"My hope is that our Christmas and holiday celebrations this year will be occasions to turn compassion, grief and anger into responsibility and action, to build a world worthy of a God who so treasures the vulnerable that he became one of them."*

MARK J. SEITZ, Bishop of El Paso

Let us make **2024**  
a time when our dreams  
for a more **JUST WORLD**  
are realized with our  
**PRAYER, PRESENCE AND**  
**SOLIDARITY.**

