



11th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
OCTOBER 04-05, 2025

"MIGRANTS, MISSIONARIES OF HOPE"

[Click Here to read the full message](#)

PRAYER SERVICE TO FOLLOW

Congratulations & Blessings!

⇒ VISITATION PROVINCE
CONGRÉGATION DE NOTRE-DAME,
Provincial Leader: REBECCA MCKENNA
Associate to Provincial: Deborah Warner
with Donna McInnis and Karen Kelly as councillors

⇒ URSULINE SISTERS OF CHATHAM
MARGO RITCHIE, CSJ nominated Commissary

MAJOR FEDERAL CUTS TO REFUGEE SHELTER FUNDING

This week, the Federal Government notified the City of their decision to pay only 26 percent of projected costs to shelter refugees and asylum seekers this year.

As a result of funding cuts through the Interim Housing Assistance Program, the City is facing a \$107 million shortfall this year, which is equivalent to more than a two percent property tax increase.

This is immensely disappointing. Toronto is accommodating more than 3,500 refugee claimants and asylum seekers in our shelter system every night.

Yet, providing safe shelter for refugee claimants is a Federal responsibility for which the City and Province can not shoulder the cost alone.

At the Ontario Big City Mayors meeting this week, Mayor Chow's motion was unanimously adopted calling on the Federal Government to fulfill their commitments to municipalities through the IHAP to fund the shelter cost for refugee claimants and asylum seekers at no less than 95 percent of costs incurred by the City to deliver this vital service.

All levels of government must work together to give those fleeing war, famine and persecution a good start in Canada. The Federal Government must not walk away from their responsibility to provide the funding to do so.

Contact your Federal Member of Parliament to urge him/her to ensure the Federal Government does their part.



**WE REMEMBER
MARGARET WALSH, OLM**

who died August 16, 2025
for her support with refugees
in the early days of BN ministry.

PRAYER REQUEST FOR CHAPTER
SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH IN CANADA
OCTOBER 05-10



**WE REMEMBER
GRACE SAUVÉ, CSJ**

who died July 28, 2025
for her ongoing support
of "our dear neighbour"
in whatever way she could.

**WE REMEMBER
JIM CARRUTHERS, CSB**

who died August 08, 2025
for his supportive presence
with and for refugees.



CELEBRATING



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

PEACE WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2025

SEPT 01-OCT 04

*“Seeds of Peace and Hope”
“we are one single human family. . . .
The poor and the earth are crying out.”*

(POPE FRANCIS, LAUDATO SI)

RESOURCES:

- o [Pope Leo's Message](#)
- o [Official Season of Creation Website](#)
- o [“What it means to live out Laudato Si”](#)
- o [2025 Celebration Guide; Liturgical Guide](#)
- o [Peace with Creation: Video](#)

Highly Recommended

- ◇ [“A new kind of slavery: Skyrocketing use of temporary foreign workers in restaurants and fast food chains has advocates concerned”](#)
- ◇ [“Canada's immigration system, once admired for its fairness and balance, drifted into crisis”](#)
- ◇ [“Federal government to stop funding hotel rooms for asylum seekers, IRCC says”](#)
- ◇ [“How do Canadian officials detect plagiarized refugee claims?”](#)
- ◇ [“Immigration applicants to Canada face rising refusal rates, data reveals”](#)
- ◇ [“An immigrant bishop calls the church to reclaim its prophetic mission”](#)

Climate-Induced Migration: Canada's Obligations & Opportunities



[Click here](#) to learn more

Beyoncé – I Was Here (United Nations World Humanitarian Day Performance)



[Click here](#) to watch



Living the Season of
Creation Nonviolently
Let Justice and Peace Flow



[Click here](#) to learn more

RAISING HOPE CONFERENCE

for the tenth anniversary of
Laudato Si'



OCTOBER 1-3, 2025



IT EN ES FR PT



Pope Leo XIV will lead a global event to mark the tenth anniversary of the Laudato Si' Encyclical together with a host of high-level leaders from the realms of civil society, science, and policy.

This will be Pope Leo XIV's first major statement on climate displacement and environmental protection.

[READ MORE](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WORLD CLEANUP DAY: SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

WORLD CLEANUP DAY



Volunteers worldwide will gather to rid our planet of trash - cleaning up litter and mismanaged waste from our beaches, rivers, forests, and streets.

A powerful 'green wave' of cleanups will start in New Zealand; end 36 hours later in Hawaii. [Click here.](#)

Established in 1993, Clean Up the World Weekend is a non-government apolitical event encouraging communities to carry out activities to address environmental issues.

What could you/we do?

What WILL you do TO CLEAN UP THE WORLD?

TAKE ACTION: ON SEPT 21, PEACE DAY MAKE PLANS TO PRAY FOR PEACE

“End Racism, Build Peace”

celebrating the 77 anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a day devoted to strengthening Ideals of Peace, both within and among nations.

“It is time all nations and all people recognize the inherent dignity and equal inalienable rights of all members of the human race”
(U.N. Secretary Gen. ANTÓNIO GUTERRES)

CULTIVATING A CULTURE OF PEACE



[United Nations International Day of Peace](#)

RESOURCE FOR REFLECTIONS ON PEACE

[Click here](#) for full document

(Prepared and shared by Ursula Witkowska, IBVM)



Take this opportunity to make **PEACE** in your own relationships and impact larger conflicts of our time.

IMAGINE what a whole Day of Ceasefire would mean to humankind and to our Earth!

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 30th



Recognizing and commemorating the legacy of residential schools, Canadians observe September 30 as **Orange Shirt Day** to recognize the colonial legacy of residential schools



MARIANNA GIGNAC, IBVM 100 YEARS OF MAGNIFICENCE!!



Prayer Partner with
Milton Enrique Canales



Annual holiday celebrated worldwide from efforts of the labour union movement to celebrate economic and social achievements of workers. Origins in eight hour day movement: eight hours for work, eight hours for recreation, eight hours for rest.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SISTERS OF SERVICE AS CANADIAN TRAILBLAZERS



Date: Thursday, October 23
Place: John Kelly Library
Input: Mark McGowan



**Christian-Jewish
Dialogue of Toronto**

Rejoicing in the gifts of encounter and dialogue,
join us to celebrate the 50 anniversary
of the formal launch of the
CHRISTIAN-JEWISH DIALOGUE OF TORONTO

4:00 TO 6:00 p.m Sunday October 19, 2025
Timothy Eaton Memorial Church
230 St Clair Ave W

Please email CJDT50TH@gmail.com to attend

Canadian Jesuits International At 70!

Living a faith
that does justice

Guest speakers:



Fr. Shajumon
Chakkalakkal, SJ
Provincial of the new
Darjeeling-Nepal
Jesuit Province



Martha Lucía
Márquez Restrepo
Executive Director
of CINEP/PPP in
Colombia



Fr. Rampeoane
Hlobo, SJ
Director of the Jesuit
Justice and Ecology
Network – Africa (JENA)

Join us

Thursday, October 9
12:00 p.m. (ET), via Zoom



[Click here to register](#)

IBVM members
have voted in favour of merger
with the Congregatio Jesu

Song: [Girl on a Mission \(Magnificent\)](#)



FROM ST. MICHAEL'S MAGAZINE 2025

- JOANN ROSSITTER — is winner of a prestigious art award in Peel Region and is in process of publishing her own historian fiction novelette. (Prayer Partner with Anna Elumah)



- GEORGE SMITH, CSB
"What we need to be looking at are the issues that transcend politics, the values that we revere, such as faith and family"
(Previous member of BN Board of Directors, Prayer Partner with Elmer Araus Flores)

UISG announces leadership transition: Pat Murray, executive secretary, to retire



International Union of
Superiors General announced
Aug. 25 the retirement of Loretto
Patricia Murray (left), from
Ireland, as UISG executive
secretary, with School Sisters of
Notre Dame, Roxanne Schares, from United States,
to succeed her. [Click here to read](#)

"WE CANNOT FORCE SOMEONE
TO HEAR A MESSAGE THEY ARE
NOT READY TO RECEIVE, BUT
WE MUST NEVER
UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER
OF PLANTING A SEED."



"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members, a heart of grace, and a soul generated by love." (Coretta Scott King)

Keep the Door Open – Justice for All Refugees

Bill C-2 threatens refugee protections and impact on all Canadians

Over 300 organizations have united to demand complete withdrawal of Bill C-2. The "Strong Borders Act" threatens human rights, refugee and migrant rights, and privacy of all residents of Canada.

STOP
BILL C-2

THE SO-CALLED "STRONG BORDERS ACT" THREATENS HUMAN RIGHTS, REFUGEE AND MIGRANT RIGHTS, AND PRIVACY OF ALL RESIDENTS OF CANADA

BECOMING NEIGHBOURS has joined over 300 organizations from across Canada to demand complete withdrawal of Bill C-2, the so-called "Strong Borders Act", an initiative by the Federal Government that threatens human rights, refugee and migrant rights, and privacy of all residents of Canada.

OPEN LETTER: CANADA PUTS REFUGEE CLAIMANTS AT RISK WITH BILL C-2

"The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada
Honourable Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Public Safety
Honourable Lena Metlege Diab, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

We are writing to you as a coalition of civil society groups from across Canada to express our deep concern that your Government is putting refugee claimants, immigrants and migrants at risk with Bill C-2

**We call on your Government to withdraw Bill C-2
and withdraw from the Safe Third Country Agreement
between Canada and the United States of America.**

Bill C-2 erodes the rights of refugee claimants and migrants to due process and access to justice.
The proposed changes can put them at grave risk."

[Click here](#) to read the Open Letter

Immigration and the Butterfly

The monarch Butterfly is a symbol of Immigration.
Butterflies travel far and wide
to escape the harsh winters.
Their migration is a symbol
of immigrants migrating to Canada



Angels Unawares

Unveiled by Pope Francis at Vatican Square (2019)
Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz wanted "to reflect the different states of mind and emotion involved in a migrant's journey ... Within this diverse crowd of people, angel wings are visible in the center, suggesting within the migrant ... is the SACRED."

[Click here to read more](#)