



112th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

"EVEN JUST ONE OF THESE CHILDREN"

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

PRAYER SERVICE TO FOLLOW



GEN VERDE -
Girl On A Mission
(MAGNIFICAT)

[Click here](#)

(shared by URSULA WITKOTSKA, CJ)

Ontario to cut off social assistance for people living here 'illegally'

The Ontario government announced that it is changing rules surrounding the Province's social assistance programs, which effectively block those without legal immigration status in Canada from receiving the benefits.

Following the ruling, Premier Doug Ford wrote, *"Our government will always be there to support people on hard times—but that doesn't include people living in Canada illegally. If provincial regulations need to be changed to make that crystal clear, we'll change them."*

The new regulations, which are taking effect immediately, aim to ensure that "only people who are living in Canada legally can receive financial assistance from Ontario Works or the Ontario Disability Support Program."

Under the new rules, individuals who are in Canada illegally and individuals authorized to remain in Canada temporarily (for example, those who are here on student visas, work permits, or as visitors and tourists) are not eligible for social assistance.

[Click here](#) to read

(shared by ROSEMARY FRY, CSJ)



CONGRATULATIONS & BLESSINGS! NEW CND CONGREGATION LEADERSHIP



Sandra Margarite
Sierre Flores

Susan Kidd

Karen Kelly

Lucie Mekoulou
Me-Zambo

Ona Bessette
CND Leader

Martha Lucia
Perez Gutierrez

Atsuko
Nakamoto

CELEBRATING



Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

SEPT 01-OCT 04

Immersion in Living Water
EZEKIEL 47:9, 12

*““They shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks ”
”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 [2026 Celebration Guide;](#)
- o [Season of Creation 2026: Video](#)
- o [Pope Leo: Conversion of heart needed
to end wars and heal the Earth](#)

Highly Recommended

- o [“Court ruling opens door for Canadian immigration delays and minister's power to be challenged”](#)
- o [“His family in India took out a mortgage to fund his tuition in Canada. Many temporary residents ‘can’t even think about going back’”](#)
- o [“The ‘cockroach’ protests that rocked India contain lessons for the whole world”](#)
- o [“Why hundreds of international students are suddenly being denied Canadian work permits: ‘We have done nothing wrong’”](#)
- o [“Carney government restores health coverage it had cut for refugees”](#)
- o [“Canada took away his permanent residency after nearly 30 years. Why this ex-refugee's deportation could become a landmark case”](#)

“Run Like Mary Magdalene” Pope Leo's Vision for Women in the Church



“Gregory the Great turned her into a prostitute with one sermon. Fourteen centuries later, Pope Francis handed her an Apostle's Feast — and from what I heard in Rome, Leo is only getting started.”

[Click here](#) to read

CONGRATULATIONS AND BLESSINGS!

Pope Leo has appointed new Consultors of the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life for 2026–2031.

Among Consultors are six women, including PAT MURRAY, CJ, former UISG Executive Director



The Consultants will advise the Dicastery which SIMONA BRAMBILLA, MC presides as the first woman to lead a Dicastery.

(shared by EVANNE HUNTER, CJ)

“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)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

WORLD CLEANUP DAY: SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

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

**“Invest in Peace - For Everyone,
Everywhere, Every Day”**

celebrating the 78 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”*

CULTIVATING A CULTURE OF PEACE



(U.N. Secretary Gen. ANTÓNIO GUTERRES)
[United Nations International Day of Peace](#)

RESOURCE FOR REFLECTIONS ON PEACE

- o [Pope Leo: Conversion of heart needed
to end wars and heal the Earth](#)
- o [Prayer Resource for PEACE](#)

(Prepared by URSULA WITKOWSKA, CJ)

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

SAVE THE DATE FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE 35th ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER

OCTOBER 15, 2026, 6PM

TIBETAN CANADIAN
CULTURAL CENTRE
40 TITAN RD, ETOBICOKE

HONOREE/SPEAKER:
ALEX NEVE

35 FCJ REFUGEE
CENTRE
PEACE AMONG WITH JUSTICE WORKS

[Click here to register](#)

HOPE



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!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MIGRATION AND THE SOUL OF THE US CATHOLIC CHURCH



Panel of theologians, practitioners, and leaders to discuss intersection of migration policy, pastoral care, and the moral identity of the Church

VOICES REPRESENTED:

NORMA PIMENTAL MJ of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley; Bishop Michael Pham of the Diocese of San Diego; DANIEL GROODY, CSC from Dicastery of Integral Human Development; Dr. Hosffman Ospino of Boston College; Mr. Francisco Segovia of COPAL Minnesota; and Avelino Chico, SJ of Dicastery for Integral Human Development.

DATE & TIME: 11:00AM (ET) AUGUST 29, 2026
[Click here](#) to register

NORMA PIMENTAL, MJ & DANIEL GROODY, CSC were keynote speakers at workshops sponsored by BECOMING NEIGHBOURS

NEW MINISTRY: BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS



Josephine Bakhita Academy is designed to serve youth, grades 5 to 8, who wish to improve their skills in literacy, math, and basic catechetical instruction in faith. The program is FREE, in keeping with the nature and origins of the Brothers of the Christian Schools' mission to the young. The Academy will begin its work on October 19 at the Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples on 2141 Jane Street, near Wilson.

Open: 4:30p.m. & 6:00p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Should you be interested in helping with this project by volunteering or by supporting financially this path to bettering the future of young people in this area of the City of Toronto, please contact:
Rina Salerno – Rina.Salerno@ocpfoundation.ca

PREACHING THE GOSPEL IN TIME OF THE ONGOING GENOCIDE IN GAZA:

A virtual conversation with three distinguished guests focused on:

- Why is it important for a priest to speak out against genocide the Genocide in Gaza?
- Why saying that it is a genocide is not antisemitic?
- Why genocide is a human rights issue and not a partisan one?



"Christ is not absent from Gaza. He is there, crucified in the wounded, buried under the rubble."
-Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, OFM

DATE & TIME: NOON TO 1:30PM AUG 31 (ET)

Guest presenters: Cardinal Álvaro Ramazzini, Professor Omer Bartov, David Neuhaus, SJ

Live translation in Italian and Spanish with additional captions in other languages

[Click here](#) to register

HOW GRIEF MADE ARCHBISHOP GARCÍA-SILLER A PROPHETIC VOICE ON IMMIGRATION



[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."



LAURA VICUÑA CAMP: CHEERFULNESS IN ALL THINGS

This year for the first time Patricia Melanson, FMA organized a summer camp for the children mostly of African women refugees. As Youth Coordinator of Transfiguration Parish, Patricia saw the need of offering a low cost to no cost summer activities. The day starts with daily Mass at the parish followed by the many activities enjoyed by the children 8-12 years old. The staff consists of two councillors, one of whom is a refugee, three Salesian sisters and two candidates for religious life. The parents, many of whom are members of the African Womens' Group, are grateful especially for the loving presence of the staff.

"A note to say **THANK YOU** for the Becoming Neighbours generous donation. Your donation helped provide watermelon, ice cream party, pizza for everyone with chips and juice, popcorn and juice and a movie. Daily they have cookies (anywhere from 3 to 14-big guys) along with Mr. Freeze after the splash pad or just before they go. This past week we had hands-on exotic rescue animals come to share with the young people. Most of these events have been funded through your BN donation and generosity of others."

(Shared by PATRICIA MELANSON, FMA AND JEANNINE LANDRY, FMA)



CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE ADVOCACY TOOLKIT: FROM CONCERN TO COLLECTIVE ACTION

Designed for both new and experienced advocates, the toolkit includes practical guidance on:

- Understanding how advocacy creates lasting change
- Organizing campaigns and community action
- Communicating effectively with elected representatives
- Using practical worksheets, templates, and planning tools
- Building confidence as an advocate for justice

[Click here](#)

And more!

PARISH TOOLKIT: SUPPORTING IMMIGRANTS IN A TIME OF NEED



[Click here](#)

TAKE NOTE

LORETTO MINISTRIES: HOUSING FOR REFUGEES



“In partnership between FCJ Refugee Centre and the City of Toronto, Loretto House is providing safe welcoming and supportive space for single, female refugees. With a capacity of 11 in the house, it is FULL. Most of the women are from Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kenya, Chile, and Uganda.

On the last Friday of every month residents have a family dinner where the women enjoy cooking a meal together and sharing conversation at the dining room table.

(Excerpt from “CJ CANADA—WHAT’S UP”)

Connecting Local Action to Global Change Reflections from United Nations High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)



Pictured: Clare Tuckwell (NGO intern from Australia), Eugenia Lapania (intern at the Mary Ward Centre), SARAH RUDOLPH, CJ (IBVM/CJ NGO Representative to the United Nations), and Prakash Lohale OP (Social Justice Animator at the Mary Ward Centre)

[Click here](#) to read

Episcopal Ordination and Installation of KEN THORSON, OMI as Bishop of Prince Albert, SK

Bishop Ken Thorson is nephew of Lucy Thorson, NDS who is matched with Olga Florean and is actively involved with Becoming Neighbours

[Click here](#) to watch the livestream



THANK YOU, ODMAR, AND FAREWELL!!



ODMAR, maintenance staff of Presentation Manor is returning home to Mexico with his wife Mida and their two children Luan and Kenya. AMEEN, Becoming Neighbours staff person, was ESL companion with Odmар.

CONGRATULATIONS!!



TAKOUHI, originally from Syria, has become a Canada Citizen!!

Takouhi is companion with JUDY CERNY

