

Prayers for Refugees

Compiled and edited by Rev. Dr. Victoria A. Gardner, Easter 2024

There are currently 26 million refugees around the world, half of whom are children. They have been through unimaginable trauma and horrors. They have been forced from their homes by wars, persecution, human rights abuses, extreme poverty, and disasters like earthquakes, floods, and drought. They've been separated from and lost loved ones. Even when they find a safe haven, refugees are often left severely traumatized by their journey and by the loss of their homes, loved ones, livelihoods, and even entire communities.

Prayers for refugees include expressions of solidarity, compassion, and hope as well as for resources for those who have been forced to flee their homes. We pray for an end to the wars, poverty, disasters, and persecution that drive desperate people to become refugees in the first place. We pray for healing, peace, and prosperity in their communities so they may return and remain there.



“God of grace, watch over all refugees - embrace them in the pain of their partings. Into their fear and loss, send love. Open our eyes that we might see You in them. Open our hearts that they might see You in us. Open our arms that we might welcome refugees to new homes, as you stretched out your arms and invited everyone home. Amen.”

“O God, open our senses that we may see, hear, and feel the needs and cries of refugees. Let us not be afraid to defend the oppressed, the poor, and the powerless.”

“We pray for refugees around the world. May they be welcomed with open arms. May their needs be met and their hearts and wounds healed. May the world hear, have compassion, and take action on their behalf.”

“Merciful God, we pray for all who have died in search of a better life. May they find peace in Your Presence. May we work to protect the dignity and rights of all migrants and refugees.”

“God of Grace, watch over all refugees and embrace them in their pain. Open our eyes, hearts, arms, homes and communities to welcome them.”

“When an alien resides with us, do not mistreat them. You shall love them as yourself, for you were once aliens in the land of Egypt. We pray for refugees and migrants, that they may find a home among us.”

World Vision Prayer - www.worldvision.org

“Good Shepherd, no refugee is a stranger to You, and no one is ever far from Your loving care. We pray for You to watch over refugee children and families as they travel to refugee camps or relocate within their country. Shelter their souls and their bodies. Heal the hearts of refugees who have endured unimaginable tragedy and trauma.”



“Father in Heaven, please be near those who are forcibly displaced today. Some know you. Others do not. You love them all. May they all know your presence, protection and provision. You have not forgotten them. You know their names. You know their stories. You know their journey. Please lead them. You are not far from them. You know their loss and suffering. You suffered too. Please heal and comfort them. You are not against them. You deeply care for each man, woman and child. Please renew their faith, their hope and their strength. They’ve lost their place in the world. Be their refuge. Graciously lead them to a safe place where they can settle and rebuild their lives. We pray for peace, justice and reconciliation in their countries of origin. We pray in the name of Jesus who was once Himself a refugee in Egypt. Amen.” - International Association for Refugees

“God who knows loss, you see each of your children who have fled war and persecution. We pray for those who grieve what has been left behind. God who is a sustainer, you are the bread of life and living water. We pray that those who flee will be given warm food and drink to sustain their bodies and spirits. God who is a refuge, you know the weariness and pain of those looking to find rest. May all seeking refuge in neighboring countries find a safe place to lay their heads tonight. God who pours out blessings, you see the support of the global community providing aid to refugees. Thank you for each hand involved, and may we all faithfully serve those searching for a new home. God who does not forget, you know the present and future. Let us remember those who have fled when they arrive in our cities and homes. Lord, hear our prayer.”

Tearfund Prayer:

“God of Love, You are the God who takes the side of the oppressed.
You are the God who is close to the brokenhearted.
You are the God who raises high the humble.

We pray for refugees around the world. May they be welcomed with open arms.
May their needs for food, shelter, clothing and love be met.
May their wounds – emotional and physical – be healed.

We pray that the world will hear their plight.
We pray that the world will have compassion.
We pray that the world will take action on their behalf.
In Jesus’ name, Amen.”



A Moment for Grace: A Prayer for Refugees

[A Moment for Grace: A Prayer for Refugees | CRS](#)

God of our Wandering Ancestors, long have we known that your heart is with the refugee:
That you were born into time in a family of refugees fleeing violence in their homeland,
Who then gathered up their hungry child and fled into alien country.
Their cry, your cry, resounds through the ages: “Will you let me in?”

Give us hearts that break open when our brothers and sisters turn to us with that same cry.

Then surely all these things will follow:
Ears will no longer turn deaf to their voices.
Eyes will see a moment for grace instead of a threat.
Tongues will not be silenced but will instead advocate.
And hands will reach out— working for peace in their homeland,
working for justice in the lands where they seek safe haven.

Lord, protect all refugees in their travels.
May they find a friend in me and so make me worthy
Of the refuge I have found in you. AMEN

13 Uplifting Prayers For Refugees - PrayerSaves.com

www.prayersaves.com/prayers-for-refugees/



Short prayers for refugees and asylum seekers

- May they find refuge in God's divine protection and comfort in their time of need.
- May God fill people's hearts with compassion and prevent oppression of refugees and asylum seekers.
- May Jesus give us more compassion for their plight, soften our hearts to their situation, and help us follow his lead in seeking justice and mercy on their behalf.
- May we share the abundance of God's generosity with strangers seeking refuge and asylum.
- May migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers find safety, hope, and a better future.

Prayers for Im/migrants and Refugees - Xavier University

www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-in...

A prayer of mercy for refugees



Prayers for Refugees | The Church of England

The Church of England, <https://www.churchofengland.org/.../prayers-refugees>

A Prayer for the Refugee Crisis

Heavenly Father,
you are the source of all
goodness, generosity and love.
We thank you for opening the hearts of many
to those who are fleeing for their lives.
Help us now to open our arms in welcome,
and reach out our hands in support.
That the desperate may find new hope,
and lives torn apart be restored.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ
Your Son, Our Lord,
who fled persecution at His birth
and at His last triumphed over death.
Amen

A prayer for the Refugee Crisis. @c_of_e Lincoln Cathedral, Sojourners, Worship Leader, Refugee ...

Seven Biblical Prayers for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Exodus 23:9

God of Love, I pray that You fill Your people's hearts with even more compassion. I pray that the refugees and asylum seekers are not oppressed by those around them. I pray that people do not oppress the foreigners because we all know how it feels to be a foreigner or someone who does not neatly fit in their environment. Let Your people's hearts be filled with empathy, let those seeking refuge be blessed. Amen.

Leviticus 24:22

Heavenly Father, You told Your people in Leviticus that they were to have one law for both the native and the foreigner because You are the Lord their God. I pray that we realize that the greatest law that we should abide by is to love and honor You and Your people. I pray that when the asylum seekers and refugees seek shelter, they are not oppressed by the unfair, loveless laws of the land that they encounter. I pray that those welcoming them embrace them and honor You. Amen.

Deuteronomy 10:18

Gracious Lord, I thank You for who You are, the Great Defender! You see the current situation of the refugees and asylum seekers and You love them so much that Your Word declares that You will give them food, clothing, and shelter. I declare that the refugees and asylum seekers will be blessed and taken care of because You are Jehovah Jireh – their Provider. I place them in Your Loving Hands and thank You for keeping them. Amen.

Deuteronomy 27:19

Dear Lord, I pray for those who have fled their country due to being in danger of war, persecution, or natural disaster. I pray that they are welcomed into the land that they go to for refuge. I pray that they are shown love as anyone who withholds justice from the foreigner is cursed! Let the hearts of people be softened so that they can extend Godly love to those who need it and may not have experienced it before. Amen.

Galatians 3:28

Holy God, I thank You for who You are, and I thank You for the way that You see things. Your word says that there is no distinction regarding salvation; neither Jew, nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for we are all one in Christ Jesus. I thank You because You do not see one as more important than the other, no one can claim spiritual superiority. I pray that we see things like You, let us love all. Amen.

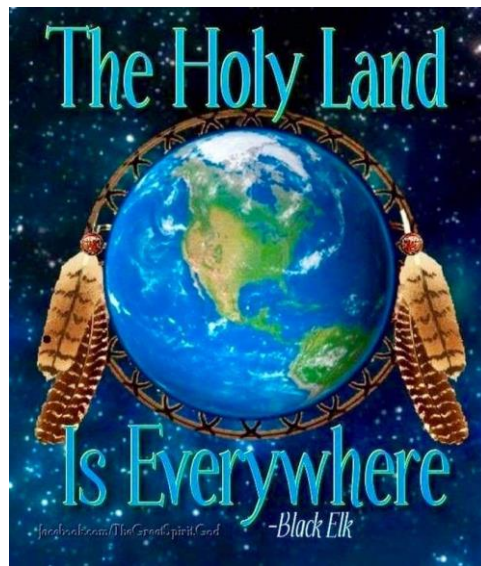
Hebrews 13:2

Righteous God, I pray for those who have fled their native country for their own safety, fill them with Your divine strength. I pray that the refugees and asylum seekers are shown good hospitality wherever they arrive because it is so important to show generosity to strangers. In doing so, some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. I pray that Your Countenance always shines on them so that they feel blessed wherever they go. Amen.

James 1:27

God of Heaven, pure and unblemished religion (expressed via outward acts) in Your eyes is to visit and look after the widows and orphans in their distress. You have called Your people to care for those on earth who need it, so I pray that Your people remember this when they encounter the refugees and asylum seekers. Let their hearts be filled with love so that they can provide the necessary aid to those in distress. Amen.

We are standing on holy ground, and it is holy because we are standing on it.



Scriptures:

“He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are aliens, for you were aliens in Egypt.” Deuteronomy 10:18-19

The Psalm of God’s Deliverance: “The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; He delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” Psalm 34:17-18

The Psalm of Refuge and Protection: “He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, ‘My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.’” Psalm 91:1-2

“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds [healing their pain and comforting their sorrow].” Psalm 147:3

“He sent me to bind up the broken hearted.” Isaiah 61:1

“They will fight against you, but they will not prevail over you, for I am with you always to save you, and protect you,’ says the Lord.” Jeremiah 15:20

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:3-10

“I was a stranger and you invited me in.” Matthew 25:35

“For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the Love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:38-39



“Nothing is more important than empathy for another human being’s suffering. Not a career. Not wealth. Not intelligence. Certainly not status. We have to feel for one another if we’re going to survive with dignity.”

- Audrey Hepburn -

More Ways to Help Refugees

Become part of the Exodus Prayer Partnership and receive a weekly email of prayer requests. Sign up at exodusworldservice.org/pray-for-refugees/. Join in asking God to intervene on behalf of refugees, volunteers, and Exodus staff who face regular challenges, as well as join in prayers of gratitude.

Tearfund is working around the world to help restore hope and dignity to refugees. www.tearfund.org/stories/2020/08/a-prayer-for-refugees.

Videos of Prayers for Refugees - See more videos of Prayers for Refugees

Images of Prayers for Refugees

Peace Fellowship

“Creating and Practicing Peace and Restorative Justice All Year Long”

www.HourForPeace.org/fellowship.html

