



IIIth WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

OCTOBER 5TH, 2025

*"Migrants,
missionaries of hope"*


MISSIONARIES OF ST. CHARLES
SCALABRINIANS
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST PROVINCE


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DE PASTORAL MIGRATORIA



LITURGICAL SETTING

Dear brothers and sisters, today we celebrate the 111th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, which, as Pope Leo XIV mentions in his message for this occasion, coincides, at the request of his predecessor, Pope Francis, with the Jubilee of Migrants and the Missionary World. May this celebration be an opportunity for us to recognize the hope that migrants and refugees bring with them to the communities through which they pass, where they settle, or to which they return. May this liturgical celebration allow us to reflect on the link between hope, migration, and mission.



INTRODUCTORY RITES

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen

Greeting

May the God of all hope fill you with joy and peace on the path of faith and may hope grow within you through the power of the Holy Spirit.

R. And with your Spirit.

Penitential Act

For the times when, in the face of injustice and oppression, we lose faith and hope, Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

For the times when we doubt You, even though we have seen Your works, Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

For the times when we fail to do what we should do, Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

Glory

COLLECT PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD



FIRST READING

The prophet Habakkuk cries out to God in the face of fear, pain, and suffering, asking for deliverance. The Lord invites him to strive to live justice and expect God to provide everything he needs in due time.

A reading from the Book of the prophet Habacuc (Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4)

How long, O LORD? I cry for help but you do not listen!
I cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not intervene.
Why do you let me see ruin; why must I look at misery?
Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and
clamorous discord. Then the LORD answered me and said:
Write down the vision clearly upon the tablets, so that one
can read it readily.

For the vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment,
and will not disappoint; if it delays, wait for it, it will surely
come, it will not be late. The rash one has no integrity; but
the just one, because of his faith, shall live.

The Word of the Lord
R. Thank be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM



Psalm (PS 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9)

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

*Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.*

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

*Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.
For he is our God,
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.*

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

*Oh, that today you would hear his voice:
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as in the day of Massah in the desert,
Where your fathers tempted me;
they tested me though they had seen my works.”*

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.



SECOND READING

Saint Paul encourages Timothy to remain steadfast in the face of challenges and difficulties, holding fast to the gifts the Lord has given him so that he may bear witness to the faith and love founded on Christ Jesus.

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy (2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14)

Beloved:

I remind you, to stir into flame the gift of God that you have through the imposition of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, nor of me, a prisoner for his sake; but bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.

Take as your norm the sound words that you heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard this rich trust with the help of the Holy Spirit that dwells within us.

The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL



Jesus reminds his disciples that faith is not about quantity, but about quality. True faith is based on a relationship of fidelity with God, which is manifested in doing what we know we must do.

Alleluia (1 PT 1:25)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The word of the Lord remains forever.

This is the word that has been proclaimed to you.

R. Alleluia, alleluia

†A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke (Lk 17:5-10)

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your servant who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here immediately and take your place at table'? Would he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink. You may eat and drink when I am finished'?

Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded? So should it be with you.

When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

The profession of Faith



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Let us pray, brothers and sisters, that our Lord may console migrants, refugees, and displaced people in times of anguish, uncertainty, and fragility. May they keep hope alive in their hearts and grant them the grace to be witnesses of God's love and mercy.

To each invocation, we will respond:

R. May we be missionaries of hope.

For Pope Leo XIV, the bishops, the priests, and all who form the People of God, that we may heed the call to spread hope, especially to the neediest migrants, refugees, and displaced persons. Let us pray to the Lord.

R. May we be missionaries of hope.

For our leaders and those involved in political life, that they may see beyond personal, partisan, and economic interests, placing the common good and solidarity for the benefit of the entire human family. Let us pray to the Lord.

R. May we be missionaries of hope.

For migrants, refugees, and those displaced by climate change, violence, and poverty, that the Holy Spirit may assist them, give them strength, and comfort them, and that in the parishes and institutions of the Catholic Church we may find paths of integration and solidarity that allow them to enjoy work, dignity, and peace. Let us pray to the Lord.

R. May we be missionaries of hope.

For migrants, refugees, and displaced people, adolescents, and young people, that they may find in the Catholic communities a place where they feel welcomed, protected, nurtured, and integrated into local community. Let us pray to the Lord.

R. May we be missionaries of hope.

For us, gathered in this liturgical assembly, that participating in the Eucharist may broaden our hearts and we may welcome into our community all those who suffer, bearing witness to Christ's love for all and becoming living witnesses of hope. Let us pray to the Lord.

R. May we be missionaries of hope.

Hear, Father of goodness, the prayer we address to you with faith and hope, that we may do, each day, what we must do to be faithful to you. We ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

R. Amen

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGY



OFFERTORY PROCESSION

We present these symbols before the altar, that remind us of that migrants, refugees, and displaced people are missionaries of hope.

CROSS: *Represents Jesus' sacrifice and resurrection, offering hope of eternal life to those who believe in him.*

IMAGE OF THE VIRGIN MARY: *This image of the Virgin reminds us that the mother of Jesus is the bearer of hope. For us, Catholics, Mary is a companion of hope in our daily struggle to find happiness and peace in our lives.*

ANCHOR: *It is a universal symbol of hope, it represents stability and security during adversity, allowing us to remain calm in the face of the wave of sensations and feelings that disturb and afflict us.*

PLANT: *It is a sign of life and hope. It also invites us to become aware of climate change and take concrete actions to reduce its effects that cause migration.*

MISSIONARY ROSARY: *Each color of the rosary represents a continent: green for Africa, red for America, white for Europe, blue for Oceania, and yellow for Asia. By bringing to the altar this rosary, we present before our God the specific situation of each continent from the perspective of evangelization and Christian presence.*

SANDALS: *They represent the call to follow Jesus, the willingness to undertake a missionary journey, leaving behind comforts and preparing us to outreach to bring hope to those who are anguish and despair for the struggles that have faced in life.*

BACKPACK AND BOOTS: *For migrants, refugees and displaced people these are signs full of faith and hope. The backpack contains the essentials needed to survive the difficult journey, light on objects to make the journey easier. The boots symbolize protection, resilience, and determination during the journey, especially in dangerous environments such as jungles or deserts.*

BREAD AND WINE: *They represent the gifts of God's creation and the human effort that will be transformed into the body and blood of Jesus, the source of True Life for migrants, refugees and displaced people seeking for a better life for themselves and their families away from their homeland and their loved ones.*



PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands and, through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem us.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Eucharistic Prayer



The Lord be with you

R/. **And with your spirit**

Lift your hearts

R/. **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R/. **It is right and just**

It is truly right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere
to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty
and eternal God,

You have made your dwelling among us
and have made us your people.
You are our God; we are your people.
A people made up of people
of every race, language, nation, and condition.
A people called to build fraternity,
an us as great as humankind.

And so,
with all the Angels and Saints,
we praise you, as without
end we acclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts....



COMMUNION RITE

Lord's Prayer
Sign of Peace
Fraction of the Bread
Communion

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament which we have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

CONCLUDING RITE



Greeting and Blessing

After having nourished us with the Banquet of the Word and the Eucharistic Banquet, we retire to our homes to put into practice what we have celebrated here. May God, the Father of goodness, grant us the opportunity to be missionaries of hope and to do with joy what we must do.

R. Amen.

May almighty God bless you, the Father †, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

Dismissal



*Called to share our faith, hope, and love with others,
let us go in peace.*

R. Thanks be to God

PRAYER FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Father of goodness, you are just and merciful, rich in mercy and loyal, strengthen the hope of migrants, refugees, and displaced people who have had the courage to seek happiness and security for themselves and their families in a land other than the one in which they were born.

Jesus, who, by becoming one of us, revealed to us the goodness of God, grant the communities through which they pass, to which they arrive, or to which they return, the grace to recognize in them missionaries of hope, who share with others the joy of counting on your help in the difficult circumstances they face because they do not belong to the place where they find themselves.

Holy Spirit, who enlightens your Church with the witness of the lives of the saints, we ask that the example of Saint John Baptist Scalabrini, Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, and the many men and women who, inspired by mercy, have dedicated their lives to bringing hope to migrants, refugees, and displaced people, may become for us an encouragement to recognize the contributions that people on the move make to society and to your Church.

May Saint Mary, the mother of your Son and mother of the Church, woman of hope, be for migrants, refugees, and displaced people an example of absolute trust in the goodness of God, who desires that we all have life to the full.

R. Amen.

HOMILETICAL NOTES ON THE LITURGICAL READINGS

The World Day of Migrants and Refugees, as Pope Leo XIV reminds us, is a privileged occasion to recognize that “Catholic migrants and refugees can become missionaries of hope in the countries that welcome them, forging new paths of faith.” It is also an opportunity for the Catholic Church to show its solidarity and compassion with people who have had to seek hope for a dignified and secure life for themselves and their families far from their places of origin.

The prophet Habakkuk expressed his anguish to God: “Before me there is nothing but assault and violence, rebellion and disorder”. God heard his affliction and promised him, although it may seem distant, that “the just shall live by faith”. In biblical literature, the just is one who trusts in God’s goodness and complies with what is commanded by the law. This passage from the book of the prophet Habakkuk invites us to strive to remain faithful to God’s will and to hope that God’s mercy will be revealed.

The responsorial psalm exhorts us not to harden our hearts and to trust in the manifestations of God’s love in our lives.

Saint Paul recommends to Timothy, and to the entire Christian community, to rekindle the strength, love, and moderation that the Spirit of God has communicated to him. Sustained by God’s strength, we Christians can strive to share faith, hope, and love with others. This treasure that dwells within us allows us to show solidarity with those who suffer regardless of their language, nationality, or legal status.

In the passage from the Gospel of Luke that we have heard, the apostles ask Jesus to increase their faith. We too need our faith, our trust in God, to increase so that we can hope that God’s promises will be fulfilled and be willing to do what we must do: love God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and love our neighbor as ourselves.

Faith, hope, and love are gifts that God gives to believers so that we can live fully, united to Him and to others. These three virtues are intimately linked.

Faith is absolute trust in God, who is just and merciful, rich in mercy, and loyal. Hope is the certainty of God's goodness, who is faithful to His promises. Love allows us to respond to God's love for us.

In his message for the 111th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Leo XIV recalls that "the virtue of hope corresponds to the longing for happiness placed by God in the heart of every person; it embraces the hopes that inspire human activities" (CCC 1818). And without a doubt, the search for happiness – and the prospect of finding it elsewhere – is one of the principal motivations of contemporary human mobility". He also states that: "Migrants and refugees remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually oriented toward reaching a definitive homeland, sustained by hope".

The Pope invites the community of believers to recognize migrants, refugees, and displaced persons as privileged witnesses of hope who place their complete trust in God. Their ability to withstand adversity enables them to seek happiness and a dignified life for their families and themselves. We, as ecclesial communities, are called to keep hope alive in the hearts of migrants, refugees, and displaced persons so that they may live out their commitment to building a world that increasingly resembles the Kingdom of God, our true homeland, and may offer their contribution as "missionaries of hope" in the churches through which they pass, arrive, or return.

MIGRANTS, MISSIONARIES OF HOPE

(Some Relevant Phrases from the Message of Pope Leo XIV for the WDMR 2025)

 *The 111th World Day of Migrants and Refugees offers us an opportunity to reflect on the connections between hope, migration and mission.*

 *The current global context is sadly marked by wars, violence, injustice and extreme weather events, which force millions of people to leave their homelands in search of refuge elsewhere.*

 *Faced with frightening scenarios and the possibility of global devastation, it is important that there be a growing desire in people's hearts for a future of peace and of respect for the dignity of all.*

 *Many migrants, refugees and displaced persons are privileged witnesses of hope. Indeed, they demonstrate this daily through their resilience and trust in God, as they face adversity while seeking a future in which they glimpse that integral human development and happiness are possible.*

 *In a world darkened by war and injustice, even when all seems lost, migrants and refugees stand as messengers of hope.*

 *Migrants and refugees remind the Church of her pilgrim dimension, perpetually journeying towards her final homeland, sustained by a hope that is a theological virtue.*

 *In a special way, Catholic migrants and refugees can become missionaries of hope in the countries that welcome them, forging new paths of faith.*

 *The communities that welcome them can also be a living witness to hope, one that is understood as the promise of a present and a future where the dignity of all as children of God is recognized.*

- The liturgical prayers are taken from the Roman Missal for the Dioceses of the United States, based on the Third Typical Edition of the Missale Romanum. Approved in 2010 by the USCCB and the Holy See.
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