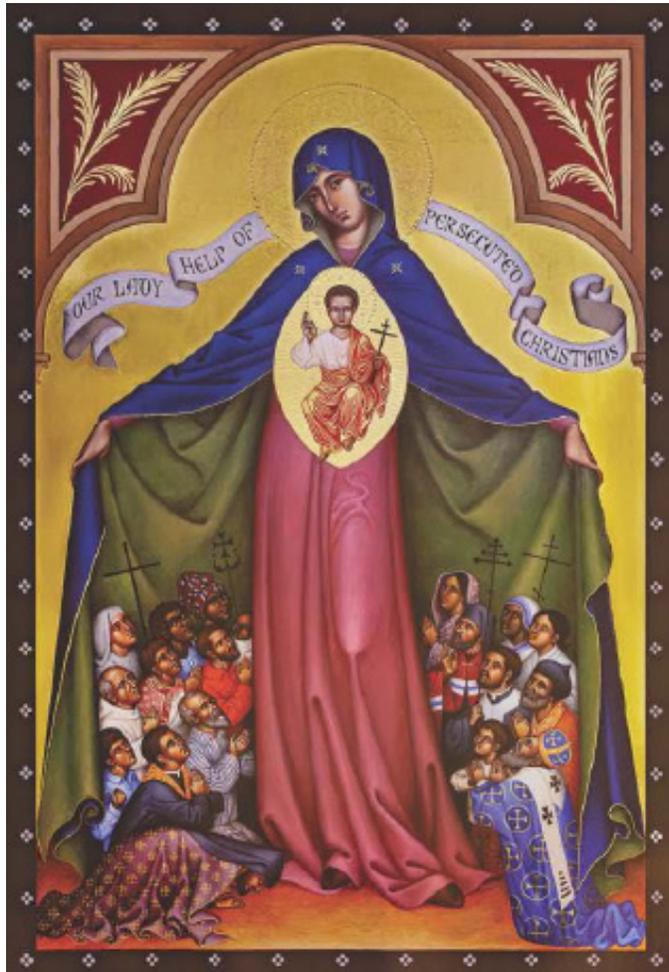




2019 World Day of Migrants and Refugees

Sunday, September 29, at 4:30 P.M.



The Office for Refugees together with the Pakistani Catholic Community invites you to a special Mass on the occasion of the 105th

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

Focus: Pakistani Christian Persecution

Sunday, September 29, 2019

Mass will be celebrated at 4:30 p.m.
followed by a presentation at 5:30 p.m.
Light refreshments will be served

St. Philip Neri Catholic Church
2100 Jane Street, North York

CELEBRANT:

Archbishop Lawrence Saldanha

HOMILIST:

Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick

For more information, email oratrefugeeoffice@archtoronto.org
or visit www.archtoronto.org/refugee

The theme announced by His Holiness Pope Francis for the 2019 World Day of Migrants and Refugees is *“It’s not just about migrants”*. In his message, Pope Francis reminds us that *“It is not just about migrants: it is also about our fears . The malice and ugliness of our time increase, “our fear of” others “ , strangers, the marginalized, foreigners and this is particularly noticeable today, faced with the arrival of migrants and refugees who knock on our door, in search of protection, security and a better future.*

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A special Mass commemorating the 105th World Day of Migrants and Refugees will be celebrated on Sunday, September 29, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church, located at 2100 Jane St. South of Wilson Ave in North York. Archbishop Lawrence Saldanha will celebrate Mass, Bishop Kirkpatrick will be the homilist for this Liturgy. A presentation will follow with a number of dignitaries in attendance. All are welcome to attend!

Please click below to see Pope Francis entire message

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/it/messages/migration/documents/papa-francesco_20190527_world-migrants-day-2019.html

UK Report: Christian Persecution ‘Growing in Scale and Intensity’ Worldwide

Source: National Catholic Register

An estimated one-third of the world’s population suffers from religious persecution in some form, with Christians being the most persecuted group. Last year, on the feast of the protomartyr St. Stephen, U.K. Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt announced that he had asked the Anglican Bishop of Truro, Philip Mounstephen, to set up an independent review into the global persecution of Christians.

‘The Foreign Secretary’s intention was for the bishop to map the extent and nature of this phenomenon so as to “assess the quality of the response of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), and to make recommendations for changes in both policy and practice.”

Initially, it was hoped that the review could be completed by Easter 2019. However, as bishop explained in his introduction to an Interim Report released last week, “it rapidly became apparent that the scale and nature of the phenomenon simply required more time.” The final report is now to be delivered at the end of June 2019.

Detailing persecutions by governments and others in the Middle East and North Africa, Southeast Asia, East Asia, Africa and Latin America, the Interim Report draws some general and sobering conclusions. The Interim Report notes that: “academics, journalists and religious leaders (both Christian and non-Christian) have stated that, as Cambridge University Press puts it, the global persecution of Christians is “an urgent human rights issue that remains underreported.” Even Western news sources such as The Washington Post have said, “Persecution of Christians continues... but it rarely gets much attention in the Western media. Even many churchmen in the West turn a blind eye.” Or, as journalist John Allen wrote in The Spectator, “[The] global war on Christians remains the greatest story never told of the early 21st century.



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