Prayers for World Refugee Day

God our refuge,
You share the journey with migrants and refugees, lightening their footsteps with hope. For you, Lord, are close to the broken-hearted.

Pour out your Spirit upon world leaders. May they see the tragedies of our human family, and be moved to respond with wisdom, compassion and courage.

Open our eyes and hearts to the God-given dignity of all your people. Move us to welcome our neighbors, and so bear witness to your love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adonai, God of all seekers,
Many are the journeys your people have taken: Abraham's journey led from fear to understanding;
Moses' journey led from bondage to liberty; the disciples' journey led from death to new life.

Even today, your people journey—immigrants and refugees, pilgrims and nomads, searching for hope, searching for opportunity, searching for you.

Lord, I know that I too am called to journey. Continue to call me beyond my comfort and into encounter. And when I meet a companion on the road, may we find you in each other's embrace. Let us share the journey. Amen.

Source: Share the Journey #sharejourney
Sample Prayer Intentions

- For all refugees who are forced to flee from their homes, that God might bring them to a place of peace and safety, we pray to our God.
- For refugee children, who have been separated from their families due to difficult circumstances or death, that God will provide his protection, we pray to our God.
- For Church leaders, that they will continue in their commitment to lead Catholic social service agencies and encourage us all to support lifesaving assistance for refugees around the world and to be active partners in refugee resettlement and provide in their communities a place of welcome, we pray to our God.
- For Christians and all people of good will, that they might find the compassion to walk in solidarity with refugees and the courage to advocate on their behalf, we pray to our God.
- For U.S. and world leaders and elected officials, that they might work together to end the strife and persecution that gives rise to refugee crises, provide care and protection for refugees forced to flee, and share responsibility in helping them build new lives, we pray to our God.
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Source: USCCB, Justice for Immigrants World Refugee Day Toolkit, 2018