





## World Day of Migrants and Refugees

4th-5th October

## God of the road and of the future,

you have walked with your people in exile since ancient times.

Even today, you speak through the lives of so many women, men and children who leave their homeland, driven by hunger, by war, or by the dream of a dignified future.

Grant us the grace to welcome their steps as we would the crucified Christ who comes to meet us, for they are, at the heart of our often withdrawn societies,

## missionaries of hope,

living witnesses that life is always stronger than exile.

Teach us to see in every migrant's face your face as the Risen One.

To **discern** the signs of the times in their stories, their struggles, their songs.

To **act** with courage and justice in order to build bridges, and not walls.

And to **love** without measure, as you love us

Make our communities places of encounter, where each person – whatever their language, origin, or history – finds a place at the common table, and discovers in the other a brother, a sister, a companion on the road.

Lord, make us faithful to the hope that migrants and refugees sow among us.

Amen

Jean-Louis Balsa, Archbishop of Albi, Bishop accompanying the pastoral care of migrants

**More information:** <u>Message of the Holy Father for the 111th World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2025</u>



