



**caritas**  
social  
action  
network

# Refugee Week 19- 25 June 2023

Refugee Week is an annual festival celebrating refugees across the UK. The festival allows refugees to share their stories and experiences, whilst allowing the wider community to better understand the issues affecting refugees across the UK. This year's theme is **COMPASSION** and CSAN has a number of resources, projects and events you can engage with:

Monday

## Reflect & Pray

Join Bishop Paul McAleenan, Lead Bishop for Migrants & Refugees, as he leads the monthly prayer vigil outside the Home Office, marking the start of Refugee Week.

**The prayer will take place at 2  
Marsham Street, SW1P 4DF, from  
12.30 - 1.30pm.**

Tuesday

## Jesuit Refugee Service UK

JRS UK work with refugees and forced migrants in the UK. This Refugee Week, poems written by their refugee friends will form part of an exhibition titled '*You Can See Me, But I Don't Exist*', and will be on display at Stratford Library throughout the week. You can also see some of their Refugee friends perform and read their poems later in the week.

Wednesday

## Love the Stranger

The CBCEW have published a document presenting a Catholic response to refugees and migrants, outlining 24 principles. Join the Diocese of Plymouth at 6pm for prayer and a discussion as they reflect on the document and hear from the community. Register and join the conversation this Refugee Week.

Thursday

## Welcome the Stranger

The Diocese of Portsmouth, together with SJOG and partners will be discussing the many ways in which we can Welcome the Stranger.

To learn about the many schemes available, and to hear directly from sponsors and guests, join them online at 7pm.

Friday

## Simple Acts of Compassion

There are many little acts you can do or activities you can partake in within your community to stand with refugees. To learn about projects in your local area, or to connect with refugees in your community, you can connect with your local Caritas agency for more information.

Saturday

## Stories of Compassion

The Catholic community has shown compassion in welcoming refugees into their homes and communities via the Community Sponsorship scheme. Read about the experiences of sponsors and resettled families, to learn how important the scheme is to them and the impact it has had on their lives on the CSAN website.

Sunday

## Grow your Compassion

One of the things we can do to better support refugee and migrant communities is to learn more about the issues affecting them. We have compiled a comprehensive resource listing a number of organisations and networks where you can learn more and get involved with current campaigns.