

**The
Children's
Society**

**No child
should feel
alone**

Prayers for refugees

Feel free to use and adapt these intercessions and prayers for individual or corporate use. Other prayers are available in the 'Resources' section.

On the journey

Ever-present God,
most of us will never have to decide whether
or not we should flee our home.
For this we are truly thankful.
Whether it is war, oppression, religious
persecution or other fears,
we commit those children and families who
have chosen the journey of a refugee into
your hands.
Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Their journey is dangerous,
the road they walk is treacherous
and their destination is not guaranteed.
At the end of their journey,
we pray 'they' become one of 'us'.
Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Seeking a new life

Giver of new life,
thank you that we are a new creation
and that your graces are new every morning.
We lift up young people who are setting foot in our
country for the first time today.

May they experience warmth, welcome and love.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Anything new is full of opportunities and
uncertainties,

Loving God, we pray the uncertainties of young refugees may be stilled
and the opportunities our nation can offer become apparent.

In this, we are particularly mindful of children and young people
arriving on their own.

Lord, for those arriving in our community, let
us play our part in answering this prayer.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

For us and our nation

Lord of all,

understanding all the complexities and
intricacies of this world is beyond us.

Help our faith to grow and our trust in you to
flourish, so that we do not just lean on our
own understanding;

but trust your will and wisdom with *all* our
heart.

Your kingdom come

your will be done.

Whenever we see refugees as simply
statistics or a problem, rather than people
made in God's image;

forgive our lack of perspective.

When we see desperate people turned away,
forgive our nation's lack of compassion.

Thank you that you freely invite everyone to
be part of your kingdom.

Forgive us when we allow self-interested nationalism to overrule our heavenly
citizenship and God-given common humanity.

Your kingdom come

your will be done.

Guide our Government, Lord,
particularly the Home Office, making
decisions about asylum applications.
Give them wisdom and discernment that transcends targets.
Thank you for those who work tirelessly to
welcome vulnerable young people into our community.
Give us the patience, love and energy to be
part of this provision for young refugees.
Your kingdom come
your will be done.

We thank you for organisations, such as The Children's Society,
who are unceasing in fighting for the rights of young refugees.
We praise you because we know that every gift, action and prayer
we take for The Children's Society is transformed into
something truly meaningful.

In supporting the marginalised and voiceless
we see your will being done on earth as it is in heaven.
Hallelujah!
Your kingdom come
your will be done.

A prayer for children seeking refuge and asylum

God of compassion,
we have seen the harrowing images,
of children fleeing danger and desperately seeking safety;
of families risking everything without the assurance of anything in return;
of young people whose only hope depends on finding refuge in an unknown country.
Lord, may we offer a welcome as warm as the one we would offer the child who
once fled to Egypt.

God of hospitality,
may our welcome be ever-flowing and our compassion unceasing.
Lord, may our love for those seeking refuge be steadfast, no matter the political
climate.
We make this our prayer, in the name of your Son, Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Amen.

A prayer for young refugees and asylum seekers

Merciful God,
we pray for young people seeking asylum and refuge.

Many have undertaken perilous journeys to arrive here,
only to find that their troubles are not over.

Give wisdom to government officials
as they assess claims for asylum

Give kindness and compassion
to local authorities and foster carers
as they take in these traumatised young people.

Help workers from The Children's Society
as they walk alongside these young people,
giving them the support and guidance they need.

Above all, Lord, inspire us to welcome the stranger,
remembering as we do so that your Son Jesus sought
asylum in a strange land.

We make this prayer in the name of the one
who offers hope to the weary, respite to the traveller
and peace to all your children.

Amen.