



**Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference  
Migrants, Refugees and Human Trafficking Office**

Pretoria, July 22, 2024

**Subject: 110<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees – Sunday 29 September 2024**

Dear Cardinal, Archbishops, Bishops, Monsignors, Priests, Religious, Deacons and all People of God.

With immense joy, we celebrate the 110<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees under the inspiring theme: "*God walks with His people*". This day invites us to reflect on the reality of migrants and refugees, recognizing them as brothers and sisters in Christ, and to renew our commitment to welcome, solidarity, and the promotion of human dignity.

This year, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, invites us to deepen our understanding of migration as a complex human experience, marked by suffering, hope, and the search for a better life. In his message, he reminds us that "*God not only walks with his people, but also within them, in the sense that he identifies himself with men and women on their journey through history, particularly with the least, the poor and the marginalized. In this we see an extension of the mystery of the Incarnation.*" (Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 110th WDMR 2024).

It is essential that, as a Church, we welcome and accompany migrants and refugees on their journey, offering them material, spiritual, and pastoral support. We must promote social and cultural integration, combat xenophobia, racism, human trafficking, and defend their rights.

To assist in this process, the SACBC Migrants and Refugees Office and Human Trafficking has prepared a resource kit with various tools and subsidies, which will be sent to all dioceses. This material contains biblical reflections, prayers, liturgy suggestions, concrete actions, and other resources that can be used to raise awareness in communities about the issue of migration.

I invite everyone to carefully read Pope Francis' message and to use the material in their parishes, communities, and groups. May this World Day of Migrants and Refugees be a moment of profound reflection, conversion, and action, so that we can build a more just and fraternal world where everyone feels welcomed and valued.

With my best regards in Christ,

+Joseph Kizito  
SACBC Liaison Bishop for Migrants, Refugees  
and Human Trafficking  
Bishop of the Diocese of Aliwal North