

September 11, 2025

Dear Families of St. Charles with International Roots,

In a special way we want to invite you to join us for our celebration of the **111th World Day for Migrants and Refugees** on Sunday, September 28. Those of you who helped us mark the day last year will recall great food, fellowship, and especially great music!

This year, our primary theme is “**Migrants, Missionaries of Hope**,” which “highlights the courage and tenacity of migrants and refugees, who bear witness daily to help for the future despite difficulties.”

Much like last year, we will center the celebration on a special **Holy Hour** from 5:30-6:30 pm. Even better, it will include the blessing of a new artwork for our church. **Our Lady of Perpetual Help**. Our Lady, under this title, is especially dear to our Haitian brothers and sisters. She will grace the wall next to the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Sisters of St. Francis in Sylvania, Ohio have created this beautiful framed glazed tile version of Our Lady. We have invited them to join us for the dedication and celebration.

For those who can stay beyond the prayer welcoming of Our Lady, the focused theme of migrants and refugees will also spill-over into a **World Potluck**! We invite those who are able to bring foods that represent your homeland to provide our feast to begin immediately after the Holy Hour at 6:30 pm.

Please share word about this special celebration with your friends, even beyond our parish. No registration is necessary, but feel free to let us know if you have questions about the day.

Oh yes, if you are bringing food for the World Potluck, we ask that you bring it downstairs prior to the Holy Hour between 5:00pm and 5:30pm. We will have helpers to care for the foods (whether hot or cold) and arrange them so that all is ready at 6:30 when the prayer is complete!

To sum up, here is the schedule for Sunday, September 29 celebration at St. Charles:

5:00 - 5:30pm ***Reception of World Foods*** in church basement

5:30 - 6:30pm **Holy Hour/Our Lady of Perpetual Help** in church

6:30 - 7:30 pm **World Food Potluck** in church basement

I hope to see you there, especially as we pray for our brothers and sisters who are facing particular challenges during their time of migration or taking refuge.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Kent Kaufman
Pastor