

St. Benedict Church Resettlement Committee Summary

In response to a National Initiative spearheaded by the Archdiocese of Toronto called “*One Parish-One Family*” to assist Iraqi refugees most in need, Cardinal Thomas Collins issued a letter in June 2010 encouraging each parish to sponsor one refugee family.

Responding to the call, our parish undertook the sponsorship of an Iraqi family in August 2010. By the end of that sponsorship in April 2014, ORAT requested that our parish undertake a second family.

Thanks to the unexpected generosity of donors from outside our parish community, more than the full financial portion of the sponsorship was covered making it possible for the parish to undertake the sponsorship in September 2014 of a Syrian family.

Since their arrival in November 2014, several more sponsorships have developed. Majid, of the newcomer Syrian family requested assistance with resettling to Toronto, the family of his brother also from Syria. With full financial support forthcoming from a family friend in Montreal, our resettlement committee agreed to this sponsorship. It's in its initial stages. In 2014, a private donor approached ORAT with an offer to fund 50% of sponsorships for African refugees until the end of that year. In December 2014, our resettlement committee committed to sponsor a single African woman from the Ivory Coast with 50% of the sponsorship amount covered by the private donor and the other 50% with surplus funds raised in the fall for the Syrian family. By May 2015, the brother of the African woman was included in the sponsorship.

With recent changes in the Canadian government that no longer allow private sponsorships, individuals wishing to sponsor their relatives have approached our parish to undertake their sponsorship. In February 2015, two such sponsorships have been initiated, both for Iraqi families.

In these sponsorships, the relatives in Toronto provide the full financial and moral support to the refugee families. Still in a very preliminary stage, yet progressing steadily since August 2014, is the resettlement application for an Eritrean family living in Israel. Much prayer is needed for this family since Israel does not easily grant refugee status to refugee claimants.

In the next column is an outline of the various families for resettlement. Let us keep in prayer those that arrived and those that are yet to come with the words of Pope Francis:

*We turn to you, risen Lord.
Help us overcome the scourge of hunger
Aggravated by conflict and wastefulness.
Enable us to protect children,
Women and the elderly.
Comfort those who left their lands
to migrate to places offering hope
for a better future.*

Family	Status of Sponsorship
IRAQI FAMILY 1 <i>Ahlam, Lara, Maryam, Roz</i>	Sponsorship ended April 15, 2014
SYRIAN FAMILY 1 <i>Majid, Ola and Mike</i>	Sponsorship started on date of arrival: November 13, 2015
IRAQI FAMILY 2 <i>Husband, wife, two daughters</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full financial and moral support from Toronto relatives • ORAT resettlement application submitted
IRAQI FAMILY 3 <i>Husband, wife, son and daughter</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full financial and moral support from Toronto relatives • ORAT resettlement application submitted
SYRIAN FAMILY 2 <i>husband, wife, son and daughter</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full financial support from family friend in Montreal • Moral support by Majid's family and our parish • ORAT resettlement application submitted
AFRICAN SIBLINGS <i>Sister and brother</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% financial support from a private donor to ORAT for African refugees • 50% financial support from our parish • Full moral support from Markham resettlement committee members
ERITREAN FAMILY <i>Husband, wife, son</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial and Moral support fully from parish • ORAT case file documents still being compiled

A Place to Call Home

Compassionate God,
No one is a stranger to you
and no one is ever far from your loving care.
Watch over those who are separated
from their loved ones and homeland;
those who fear persecution
and hope for a better life in our community.
May we reach out in welcome
to all those who arrive as refugees,
embracing one another so that
together, your hope, O God,
will be our future.

Marylake Retreat House King City

The Annual Faith and Sharing Retreat at Marylake will take place from August 16 to 20.

Daily Mass, inspiring talks, spend quiet time with the Blessed Sacrament, enjoy free time exploring the beautiful grounds. The cost per person is \$160. Space is limited, so register early.

For more information, or to register, please contact Patrick Treacy at 1-519-962-2482 or patrickthink@yahoo.com More information can also be found at www.faithandsharing.net

Dinner for Caritas Egypt with Cardinal Collins & Fr. Boulad, S.J.

July 28, 2015

6:00 pm

St. George Centre

Egypt has always been a pivotal and influential nation. Like all countries in the region, its people have suffered hardships that make it difficult for Catholic Charities to deliver their mission of outreach to the poor. Please join Egyptian priest Fr. Henri Boulad, S.J. and Cardinal Thomas Collins for a dinner in support of Egypt's Catholic Charities.

Please call 416-275-2151 for more information and to reserve tickets.

ORAT OPEN HOUSE

Office for Refugees
371 Old Kingston Road, Unit 7
August 28, 2015
11:00—6:00 pm

The Office for Refugees would like to celebrate the contributions of all who are involved in the resettlement of refugees. Mass at 11:00 am celebrated by Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick at St. Joseph's Parish and blessing of the new office.

Thank you for your ongoing support and work with ORAT to help better the lives of refugees worldwide!

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

SUNDAY OFFERING

\$6,427

Thank you for your ongoing generous support!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, July 13

8:00am Salvu & Michelina Mangion by Daughter Rosemarie

Tuesday, July 14

10:30am Mass at Kipling Acres

7:30pm Maria Isopo by Clara

Wednesday, July 15

8:00am Teresa Calabria by Cathy McKenna

Thursday, July 16

8:00am Deceased members of Farrugia & Pace families by Pace family

Friday, July 17

8:00am Ercole Petrecca by wife

11:00am SummerDaze Paralitury (not Mass) in Church

Saturday, July 18

8:00am Living Intention for the Santoro family by Denise Chun

5:00pm Palma Masini by Jack Halge

Sunday, July 19

8:00am Peter Wilson by Pat & Doug Tarsay

9:30am Natale & Cristina Lappano by Imbrogno family

9:30am For the People

11:00am Deceased members of the Esporlas & Ligsay families by Theodora & family



**Pray for the Dead, especially
Cesira Sandrin**

REDEEMER UNIVESITY COLLEGE

Invites you to join them for the many cultural, academic and community events being held on their campus during the month of July. For more information on these and other events, please visit www.redeemer.ca

If we pray, we will believe;

If we believe, we will love;

If we love, we will serve

CATHEDRAL CLOSURE

A friendly reminder that St. Michael's Cathedral is closed to complete ongoing restoration work. Additional Mass times for the cathedral community will be added at St. Paul's Basilica starting July 11. Please visit <http://bit.ly/cathedralclosure> for a full list of nearby Mass and Confession times.