

If you have to flee because your homeland turns into hell...



PRAY

Lord Jesus Christ, you became a man in hard and unsafe times. In the arms of your mother Mary you had to flee to Egypt to escape the raids of a brutal ruler. Look at the earth, o Lord, there is so much unrest again! Driven by fear and hunger, war and violence, men seek refuge in other countries. Move the hearts of all those who have a safe housing in a safe country so that they welcome them with open arms. Amen.



CONTEMPLATE

One person reads the Bible passage aloud.
Short silence.

Exchange: *What particularly appealed to you?*



STUDY

1. Read DOCAT text sentence-for-sentence. Then one person reads the text aloud in full.
2. Three minutes of silence.
3. Each person reads a word or phrase aloud (without comment) that he or she has noticed.
4. Explain briefly in the next round why you have chosen the sentence (e.g. memories, questions, etc.).



DISCUSS

Also discuss your own questions on this topic!

Treasure Book: *Take five minutes to write down what you don't want to forget.*



CHALLENGE

Our **CHALLENGES** are just suggestions you can make in addition to your study guide meetings. You can also replace them with stronger, more fitting, more original or better ones. Just let us know at feedback@youcat.org.

#DOCATChallenge: *Share your experience on Facebook or Instagram.*

Mt 2:13

When they had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him."

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Why is migration a controversial issue?

There can be many reasons for leaving one's native land: the poverty and misery of the population, lack of freedom and democracy, political persecution as well as conflicts and wars in the native land, or simply the desire to live in another culture or place. Besides the migrants who live legally in the countries to which they immigrated, there are also many "illegal aliens", who often stay in hiding in society because they have no residence permit. The lives of these people are often marked by a constant fear of discovery, arrest, and deportation. As a result, they are sometimes deprived of fundamental rights. People without a residence permit often do not risk seeking medical care, resisting exploitative working arrangements, or sending their children to school— their fear of being discovered and deported is too great. But the Church says quite clearly: Even people without residence permits have human rights, which must not be denied them.

1. Look at the world: What just reasons are there for people to leave their homeland and ask for asylum in another country?
2. Why are even people without any right of residence entitled to human rights? What consequences follow for these people without any residence right?
3. Pope Francis said on Lampedusa: „In this world of globalization we fell into the globalization of indifference. We got used to the suffering of others, it does not concern us, it does not interest us, it is none of our business!“ What do we owe to the boat people on the world's seas?
4. Where are there migrants in your town (closest surroundings)? What do you know about them? Where could you get information about them? Or talk to them?

Get web information on the so-called Marshall plan by which Germany was rebuilt after World War II.

You may discuss within your group if the migration problem could be solved at the root by a new „Marshall plan“ even nowadays.

Do you take on this challenge?

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DOCAT Study guide



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