Throughout the Bible there are stories of people who were forced to leave their homeland in search of a new place to live. Rooted in this biblical tradition, the church has always taught the importance of welcoming the stranger. Read some of the following passages to learn about biblical figures who were migrants and refugees.

- Genesis 12: 1-9 – Abram and Sarai
- Genesis 46: 1-7, 26-30 – Jacob and his family
- Exodus 12: 31-42 – Moses and the Israelites
- Ruth 1: 3-18, 22 – Naomi and Ruth
- Matthew 2: 13-23 – The Holy Family

Word Find
Complete the Word Find. Each word is connected to the Bible stories of migration.

Play this puzzle online at: thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3016377
Afghan Refugees
Recently, Catholic Charities began helping resettle refugees from Afghanistan, who fled their country out of fear of persecution. Check out the following online resources to learn more about refugees from Afghanistan and other places around the world and how you can help.

- Catholic Charities Green Bay – Learn about their efforts to welcome and serve refugees from Afghanistan. Consider how you might help by donating items or money, volunteering, or praying for their work. - catholiccharitiesgb.org/afghan-assistance
- Voices of Afghanistan – Listen to interviews with Afghan refugees as they share stories about leaving their country and resettling in the United States. - religionforcedmigration.princeton.edu/voicesofafghanistan
- The Refugee Project – Check out an interactive world map that shows the countries that refugees leave and where they go - therefugeeproject.org
- Justice for Immigrants – Learn more about refugees and what the Catholic Church in the United States is doing to welcome and support refugees. - justiceforimmigrants.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Refugees_Commonly-Asked-Questions.pdf
- Online Prayer Retreat for Migrants and Refugees – Take 10 minutes by yourself or with a group for an online prayer retreat for migrants and refugees through Catholic Relief Services. - crs.org/get-involved/learn/resource-center/online-migrants-refugees-prayer-retreat

Pope Francis – Message for World Day of Migrants and Refugees (September 26, 2021):
“This is the ideal of the new Jerusalem (cf. Is 60; Rev 21:3), where all peoples are united in peace and harmony, celebrating the goodness of God and the wonders of creation. To achieve this ideal, however, we must make every effort to break down the walls that separate us and, in acknowledging our profound interconnection, build bridges that foster a culture of encounter. Today’s migration movements offer an opportunity for us to overcome our fears and let ourselves be enriched by the diversity of each person’s gifts. Then, if we so desire, we can transform borders into privileged places of encounter, where the miracle of an ever wider “we” can come about.”