



# Refugee Week

compassion



## FEATURING:

- REFUGEE WEEK
- WINDRUSH DAY
- THE GREAT GET TOGETHER

## 19—25 JUNE, 2023

# ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH & PRIMARY SCHOOL



During Refugee Week 2022, St Mary's School was awarded **School of Sanctuary** status (above) and we'll hear an update on all they have achieved in the last year during the premiere of their **Zig Zag Journey** film on 21 June. On 19 June, we welcome Hamed Amiri, author of the *Boy with Two Hearts*.





# Refugee Week



**Refugee Week is the world's largest arts and culture festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of people seeking sanctuary**

It's been running in the UK since 1998. This year is its 25th Anniversary. The theme is **compassion** and throughout the week we will be celebrating what compassion looks like in action.

Last year, we worked in partnership with St Mary the Virgin (Church in Wales) Primary School. It was moving, emotional, energetic and fun! This year, we are building on this to bring you something even more amazing!

This programme of events shares some of the things we are doing together but, as a School of Sanctuary, St Mary's School will be engaging in so many other activities and learning opportunities through the week.

At the heart of their celebrations is the launch of their video poem, 'A Zig Zag Journey' which was filmed around Butetown. It movingly expresses the

questions and anxieties that children seeking refuge may experience, and provides a compassionate response from the children of St Mary's School.

After the premiere, the video will be launched on social media. Let's hope it goes viral! Or, rather, let's hope that compassion goes viral. Imagine a world where compassion was as easily passed on as a common cold. What kind of world would that create? What kind of epidemic would we have? Imagine a pandemic of love, changing the world, changing lives.

During Refugee Week we also celebrate Windrush Day and we are pleased to share the interactive performance, *A Journey through Butetown*, which tells the story of Tiger Bay through the character of Betty Campbell. Towards the end of the week, we also celebrate *The Great Get Together*, inspired by Jo Cox, and we've been pleased to be part of this network in Cardiff for more than a year.

So, please join us for a week of Compassion!

# Sunday 18 June



## 1100 HRS SOLEMN MASS

As a Christian Community in Butetown, we'll be celebrating on Sunday—as we usually do—with a joyful Sung Mass which we will offer in anticipation of the whole week ahead, and which will begin with words of welcome in all the languages associated with the families of our school.

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**

## 1200 HRS ICE CREAM SUNDAY

After Mass, it's time for an ice cream. All are welcome. You don't have to join us for Mass. So whatever your faith, feel free to pop by for an ice cream at 12 noon in the gardens, and find out what's in store in the days to come!

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**



# Monday 19 June



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## 1030 HRS FAITHFUL BUTETOWN

Throughout the day we're working with local schools as we celebrate the story of Betty Campbell and the community in which she lived and worked as the first Black Headteacher in Wales.

From building the docks in the 1860s, two world wars, the 1919 riots and numerous phases of building, demolishing and rebuilding, Primary School children will be invited to join Betty as she shares a history lesson about a small area of Cardiff which played an important role in Welsh history over the last two hundred years. The morning performance takes place at Wales Millennium Centre and the afternoon's performance at St Mary's Church

## FAITHFUL BUETOWN

We're also inviting a group of teachers to experience the play. During lunch, they can find out more about our FAITHFUL BUTETOWN project and walk through our community,

experiencing its diverse and multicultural past and present of our community.

**VENUE:** WALES MILLENNIUM CENTRE AND ST MARY'S CHURCH

## 1900 HRS AN EVENING WITH HAMED AMIRI

Join us for what promises to be an amazing evening as Mo Jana talks with Hamed Amiri, author of *The Boy with Two Hearts*. The book tells the story of Hamed's journey from Afghanistan to the safety of the UK made more difficult by the health of his older brother. There'll be time for questions and conversation, with free food at the end of the evening.

In order to help us cater appropriately, please register for this event, either directly at St Mary's Church or via Eventbrite.

**VENUE:** ST MARY'S CHURCH

# Tuesday 20 June

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## 1000 HRS TIME FOR SCHOOLS

Throughout the week, children are invited to explore our Refugee Week reflection spaces, share some thoughts of concern and compassion, or offer messages of support. As part of the activities, we'll be inviting children to contribute to a welcome pack for Refugee children, sharing with them something of our local and wider community. This pack will be made available to a family we hope to welcome and support through the Community Sponsorship Scheme, as well as to all who are new to our community. There'll also be a Book Corner and Treasure Hunts available.

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**

## 1230 HRS JUSTICE CAFÉ

The **JUSTICE CAFÉ** is simple! It's a FREE Soup Lunch that packs a punch! Around the table, will be time for

conversation to appreciate what we are doing as a Ministry Area and wider community, and to help us engage with issues of injustice.

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH/HALL**

## 1330 HRS TIME FOR SCHOOLS

Throughout the week, children are invited to explore our Refugee Week reflection spaces, share some thoughts of concern and compassion, or offer messages of support. As part of the activities, we'll be inviting children to contribute to a welcome pack for Refugee children, sharing with them something of our local and wider community. This pack will be made available to a family we hope to welcome and support through the Community Sponsorship Scheme, as well as to all who are new to our community. There'll also be a Book Corner and Treasure Hunts available.

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**

**Wednesday**  
**21 June**



compassion

## **1100 HRS** **SANCTUARY** **SCHOOL MASS**

Each week, some of the children from St Mary's School gather for Mass in Church, whilst their Muslim friends celebrate 'Muslim Assembly' at school.

The Mass this week will take a special Sanctuary Theme, as we celebrate what it means to have compassion. We will also be blessing and distributing seeds as a sign of hope and new life. All are welcome

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**

## **1500 HRS** **A ZIG ZAG** **JOURNEY**

With a drinks reception on arrival, this is a red carpet event, with special guests! 'A Zig Zag Journey' is a short film from St Mary the Virgin Primary School, and this is the world premiere!

The poem, which was written by children during Refugee Week last year was performed in Cardiff Bay's Pierhead Building and in St Mary's Church, and shares the concerns of refugees with a loving response of welcome from the children. We'll be sharing news of *Schools of Sanctuary*, the *Community Sponsorship Scheme*, and will hear from *Women Seeking Sanctuary Advocacy Group* and others who are working with and for refugees—before we settle to enjoy the short film. There's also an opportunity to view the beautiful Kites which the children have been making during Refugee Week—before they are flown in the Kite Festival on Friday afternoon!

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**

**Thursday**  
**22 June**



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## **WINDRUSH CELEBRATIONS**

National Windrush Day on 22 June 2023 marks the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the passengers of the Empire Windrush to the UK.

The day celebrates the contribution and achievements of the Windrush generation and their descendants

St Mary's School will be marking the day with their own events and activities, and plans are well underway!

## **1200 HRS MASS**

It's time for us to pause a while for a short time of worship as we celebrate Mass

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**

## **1900 HRS OPEN DOORS EVENT**

Over 360 million Christians suffer persecution and discrimination. In more than 70 countries, Open Doors supports them by supplying Bibles, providing emergency relief and helping persecuted believers stand strong for the long-term. In the UK and Ireland, Open Doors helps the church to pray, give and speak out for those who share our faith but not our freedom.

This event will share the voices of Christians who suffer persecution, many of whom flee their homes as refugees.

Light refreshments will be served as part of this event.

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**





# Friday 23 June



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## 1000 HRS TIME FOR SCHOOLS

Throughout the week, children are invited to explore our Refugee Week reflection spaces, share some thoughts of concern and compassion, or offer messages of support. As part of the activities, we'll be inviting children to contribute to a welcome pack for Refugee children, sharing with them something of our local and wider community. This pack will be made available to a family we hope to welcome and support through the Community Sponsorship Scheme, as well as to all who are new to our community. There'll also be a Book Corner and Treasure Hunts available.

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**

## 12 NOON MASS

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**

## 1230 HRS OPEN AFTERNOON

St Mary's Church is open for a chance to see the display of kites created by children of St Mary's School, view the displays and Refugee reflection spaces.

## 1500 HRS GLOBAL PICNIC



Celebrating the diverse community of St Mary's School, we'll be celebrating a Global Picnic with children, families and invited guests. Children will be invited to wear clothing that is important to their own culture or religion.

There'll also be our Kite Festival. With Kites that have been made by children of St Mary's School.

This event is restricted to members of the school community, their families, invited guests and other partners.

**VENUE: ST MARY'S SCHOOL**

# Saturday 24 June



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**1130 HRS**

## **SAID MASS**

Each day, Mass is celebrated at St Mary's, and today's Mass celebrates the birth of St John the Baptist. It's preceded by the usual Morning Prayer and Rosary at 11am

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**

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**1230 HRS**

## **FAITHFUL BUTETOWN WALK**

Beginning at St Mary's Church, we walk through Faithful Butetown, stopping by some of the significant places of faith in our multicultural community, and ending at the now redeveloped Cardiff Bay and the Cardiff Wetlands, a place of natural beauty.



# Sunday 25 June



## 1100 HRS SOLEMN MASS

On Sanctuary Sunday, as Refugee Week comes to an end, we'll be looking back on the past week, and committing ourselves to moving forward with hope and compassion for all who leave their homes seeking refuge.

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH**

## 1200 HRS 'GREAT GET TOGETHER' BARBECUE

Celebrating the *Great Get Together* inspired by Jo Cox, we gather in our gardens for a Barbecue to which all are welcome.

There will be Halal, Vegetarian and vegan options available. It's time to get together and celebrate what we have in common! (Ends at 3pm)

**VENUE: ST MARY'S CHURCH  
GARDENS**





To find out more about how we are celebrating Refugee Week then check out:  
[www.southcardiffministryarea.co.uk](http://www.southcardiffministryarea.co.uk)

or follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram  
[@southcardiffma](https://twitter.com/southcardiffma) | [@stmaryscf10](https://twitter.com/stmaryscf10)

Also check out St Mary's School Twitter page  
[@SMTVcardiff](https://twitter.com/SMTVcardiff)