

Pope Francis Calls on Europe to Take More Migrants, Compares Them to 'Joseph and Mary'

written by GEG | December 25, 2017



Pope Francis urged the world's 1.3-billion Catholics not to ignore the plight of migrants who are "driven from their land" because of leaders willing to shed "innocent blood". The Pope compared them with Joseph and Mary but failed to mention that Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem to register for a census under a Roman government decree. They were not refugees. Mary did not leave Nazareth until King Herod issued a decree to kill all the newborn male children because he heard that the Messiah had been born and he wanted to exterminate competition for power. The family left to escape Herod and went to Egypt temporarily, which was also part of the Roman empire. The family returned to Nazareth when it was safe. -GEG

Pope Francis held Christmas Eve Mass at the Vatican Sunday, calling on the West to take in more migrants, while comparing them to Joseph and Mary.

Middle East Eye reports:

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willing to shed “innocent blood”. [...]

“We see the tracks of millions of persons who do not choose to go away but, driven from their land, leave behind their dear ones.”

Many engulfed in the ongoing migration crisis were forced to flee from leaders “who, to impose their power and increase their wealth, see no problem in shedding innocent blood”, said the 81-year-old, who will give his traditional “Urbi et Orbi” Christmas address on Monday.

“So many other footsteps are hidden in the footsteps of Joseph and Mary. We see the tracks of entire families forced to set out in our own day. We see the tracks of millions of persons who do not choose to go away, but driven from their land, leave behind their dear ones,” the Pope said.

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