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**NOVENA TO  
ST. JOHN BAPTIST SCALABRINI**

*Father to the Migrants*



## FIRST DAY

### SAINT JOHN BAPTIST SCALABRINI AND THE FAMILY

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Saint John Baptist Scalabrini, promoter of the human family, I ask you, with great faith, to intercede with the Almighty God to grant me the grace of (...). I, for my part, promise to pray for the families.

### WORD OF GOD – (EPH. 5:33;6,1.4)

Each of you love your wife as your-self, and the wife respect her husband. Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Parents, do not give your children a reason to revolt against you; raise your children by educating and correcting them as the Lord wants.

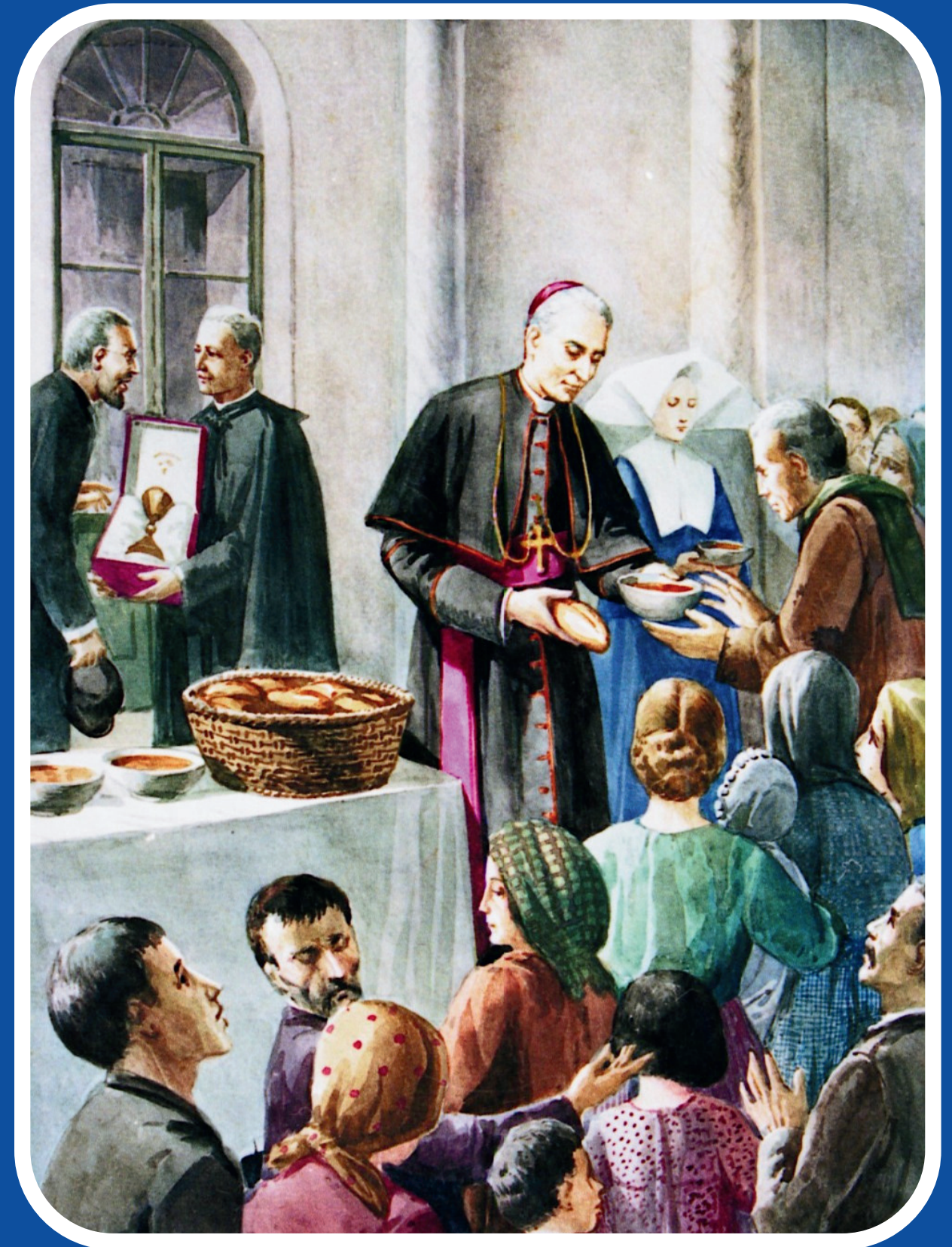
### REFLECTION

"The family is the first nest of the soul, the first school for intelligence, the first shelter for faith, the first refuge for love, the first temple of God, the sanctuary of the most cherished traditions, the joyful play of our childhood, the heart's first and last breath." (Scalabrini).

### PRAYER

God, our Father, who in Saint John Baptist Scalabrini gave us a zealous defender of the human family, grant us the grace to have holy and blessed Christian families; Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...



St. Scalabrini was distributing food and clothing to the needy.

## NINTH DAY

### SAINT JOHN BAPTIST SCALABRINI AND THE HUNGRY

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Saint John Baptist Scalabrini, steward of the hungry, I ask you, with great faith, to intercede with the Almighty God to grant me the grace of (...). I, for my part, promise to pray for the poor and those who are hungry.

### WORD OF GOD – (IS. 58:6A.7A.10–11A)

The fast I want is this: to share food with those who are hungry. If you give your bread to the hungry and satisfy the hunger of the oppressed, then your light will shine in the darkness and the darkness will be like midday to you. The Lord will always be your guide and will give you plenty even in a desert land.

### REFLECTION

"The poor man! He is deprived of so many earthly goods, but rich in heaven's goods. He is often angry, dissatisfied, ungrateful, but his forehead always shines with the character of divine filiation [...] The poor are God's pupils and what we do to the poor, we do to God himself." (Scalabrini).

### PRAYER

God, our Father, who in Saint John Baptist Scalabrini gave us a servant of the poor and hungry, grant us the grace to share bread and goods with the most needy; Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...



The Holy Family, first and most perfect example of love, support and care for one another.

## SECOND DAY

### SAINT JOHN BAPTIST SCALABRINI AND THE SICK

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Saint John Baptist Scalabrini, attentive to the sick, I ask you, with great faith, to intercede to the Almighty God and grant me the grace of (...). I, for my part, promise to pray for the sick and infirm.

#### WORD OF GOD – (JAMES 5:14–15)

Is any of you sick? Call the elders of the church to pray for him, anointing him with oil, in the name of the Lord. Prayer made in faith will save the sick person: the Lord will raise him up, and if he has sins, he will be forgiven.

#### REFLECTION

"Certainly nothing pleases God so much as the care of the sick. It is one of the most beautiful forms of the Christian and civil life." (Scalabrini).

#### PRAYER

God, our Father, who in Saint John Baptist Scalabrini gave us a shepherd sensitive to the illnesses of the sick, grant us the grace of restoring the health of our sick and infirm; Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

## EIGHT DAY

### SAINT JOHN BAPTIST SCALABRINI AND THE VOCATIONS

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Saint John Baptist Scalabrini, founder of the religious congregation The Missionaries of Saint Charles (Scalabrinian), I ask you, with great faith, to intercede with the Almighty God to grant me the grace of (...). I, for my part, promise to pray for seminarians, aspirants, religious and priests.

#### WORD OF GOD – (LC. 10:2)

Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. So ask the owner of the harvest to send workers into the harvest."

#### REFLECTION

"If over time we can form priests among the children of our immigrants, we will have workers for the abundant harvest." (Scalabrini).

#### PRAYER

God, our Father, who in Saint John Baptist Scalabrini gave us a faithful servant, grant us the grace to live the vocation to which you call us; Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...



## SEVENTH DAY

### SAINT JOHN BAPTIST SCALABRINI AND THE CHILDREN

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Saint John Baptist Scalabrini, friend of children, I ask you with great faith, that you intercede with the Almighty God to grant me the grace of (...). I, for my part, promise to pray for children and adolescents.

### WORD OF GOD – (MK. 9:36–37)

Jesus took a child and placed him in their midst. He hugged the child and said: Who receives in my name one of these children receives me. And whoever receives me does not receive me, but Him who sent me.

### REFLECTION

"Put well in the mind, parents, for children live by imitation, and may your example, more than words, serve as a stimulus and encouragement for them." (Scalabrini).

### PRAYER

God, our Father, who in Saint John Baptist Scalabrini gave us a father of orphans, grant us the grace of caring for the little and weak, Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...



1867, St. Scalabrini helping those who were affected by the cholera epidemic that struck the region of Como, Italy.

## THIRD DAY

### SAINT JOHN BAPTIST SCALABRINI AND THE WORKERS

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Saint John Baptist Scalabrini, mobilizer of workers, I ask you, with great faith, to intercede with the Almighty God to grant me the grace of (...). I, for my part, promise to pray for the unemployed and workers.

### WORD OF GOD - (1 THESS. 4:11)

May it be a matter of honor for you to live in peace, minding your own business and working with your own hands, as we recommend.

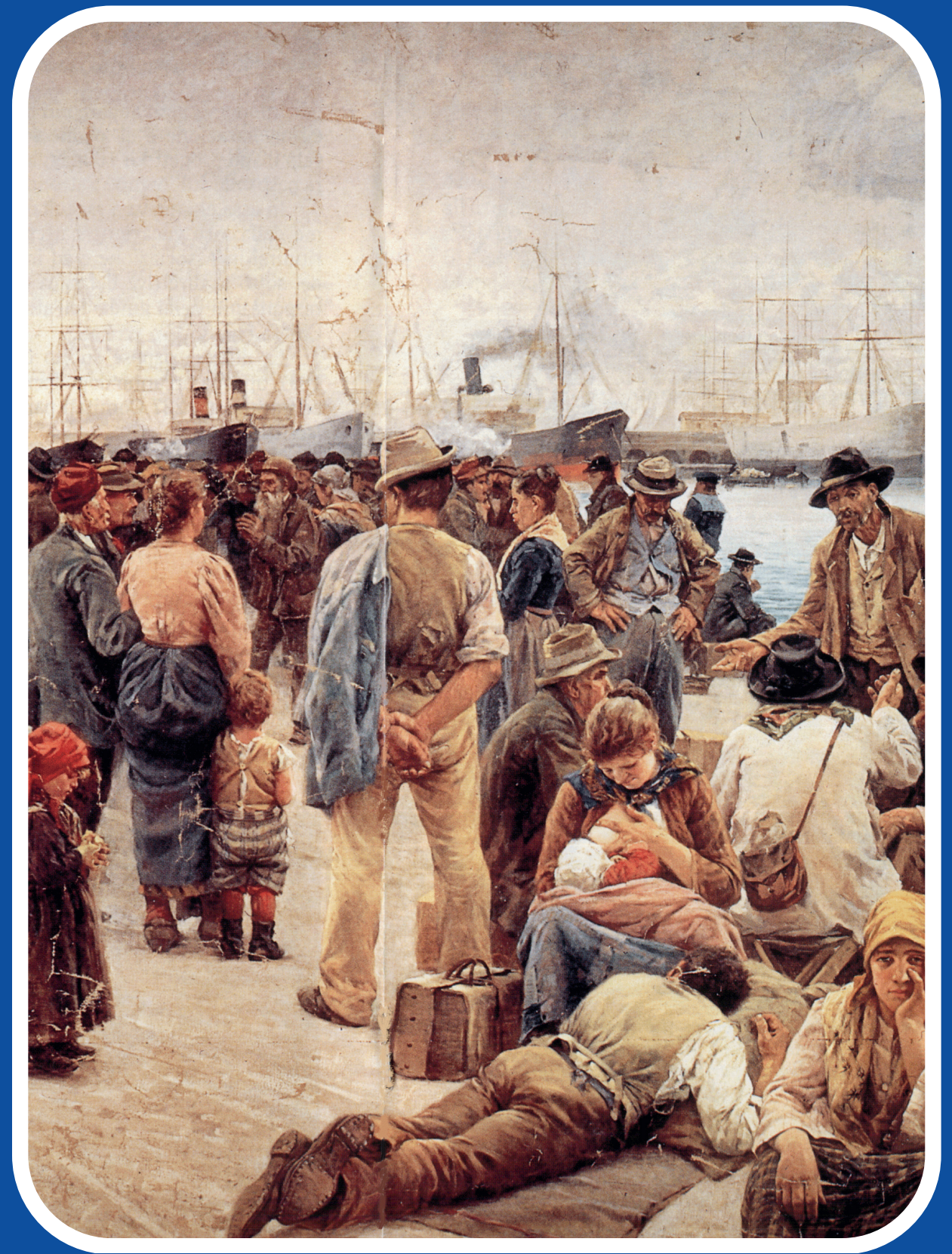
### REFLECTION

"If work values capital, why shouldn't there be greater participation by workers, at least to the point of guaranteeing them enough healthy and safe food?" (Scalabrini).

### PRAYER

God, our Father, who in Saint John Baptist Scalabrini gave us a bishop committed to social issues, grant us the grace of work, employment and decent wages; Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...



St. Scalabrini experienced himself the hardships of migration with his brother who died in a shipwreck off the coast of Peru and the Italian great exodus. (Art: "Angelo Tommasi, gli emigranti", migrants waiting to be embarked at the port of Genoa, 1896)

## SIXTH DAY

### SAINT JOHN BAPTIST SCALABRINI AND THE MIGRANTS

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Saint John Baptist Scalabrini, father and patron saint of migrants, I ask you, with great faith, to intercede with the Almighty God to grant me the grace of (...). I, for my part, promise to pray for migrants.

### WORD OF GOD – (MT. 25:35–36)

I was hungry, and you fed me; I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink, I was a stranger, and you welcomed me; I was naked and you gave me clothing; I was sick, and you took care of me; I was in prison, and you came to visit me.

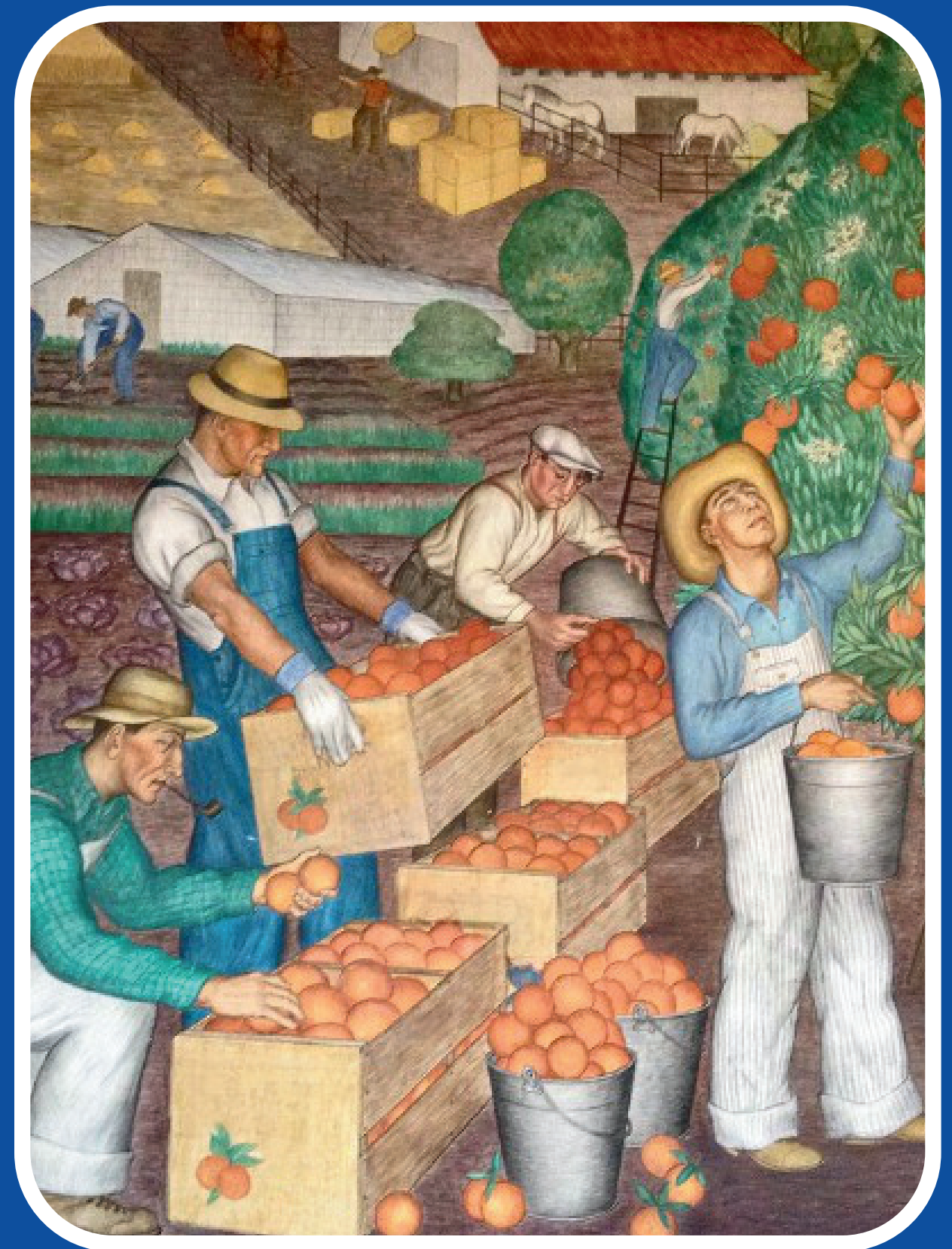
### REFLECTION

"For the migrant, homeland is the land that gives him bread!"  
(Scalabrini).

### PRAYER

God, our Father, who in Saint John Baptist Scalabrini gave us a father and apostle of migrants, grant us the grace of a welcoming Christian life; Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...



Art: Migrant farm workers, Flickr.

## **FOURTH DAY**

### **SAINT JOHN BAPTIST SCALABRINI AND THE SINNERS**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Saint John Baptist Scalabrini, Minister of Reconciliation, I ask you, with great faith, to intercede with the Almighty God to grant me the grace of (...). I, for my part, promise to pray for my conversion and that of my brothers.

### **WORD OF GOD - (MT. 18:21-22)**

Peter approached Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times must I forgive if my brother sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus replied, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven."

### **REFLECTION**

"He who does not love and does not forgive is not with the Church." (Scalabrini).

### **PRAYER**

God, our Father, who in Saint John Baptist Scalabrini gave us an authentic minister of reconciliation, following his example, move our hearts to forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace; Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

## **FIFTH DAY**

### **SAINT JOHN BAPTIST SCALABRINI AND THE SUFFERERS**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Saint John Baptist Scalabrini, man who united the crosses of life to the cross of Christ, I ask you, with great faith, to intercede with the Almighty God to grant me the grace of (...). I, for my part, promise to pray for the suffering.

### **WORD OF GOD - (JOB 2:7.9-10)**

Satan smote Job with grievous wounds from the sole of his foot to his head. His wife said to him, "And you are still in your integrity? Curse God and die at once!" Job replied, "You are talking like a madwoman! If we accept good things from God, shouldn't we also accept bad things?" And despite all this, Job did not offend God with words.

### **REFLECTION**

"The year that is about to end has been, for me, full of crosses, but perhaps - thank God! - the most fruitful in holy works. How true it is that vigor and strength are found in the cross!" (Scalabrini).

### **PRAYER**

God, our Father, who in Saint John Baptist Scalabrini gave us an example of fidelity, grant us the grace of faith in the face of life's trials; Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be...

