

XENOS

READ

- Xenos means a stranger /a foreigner
- You can read about the stranger in Matthew 25:30-40 or listen here.
- You might like to read Hebrews 13 :1-2.



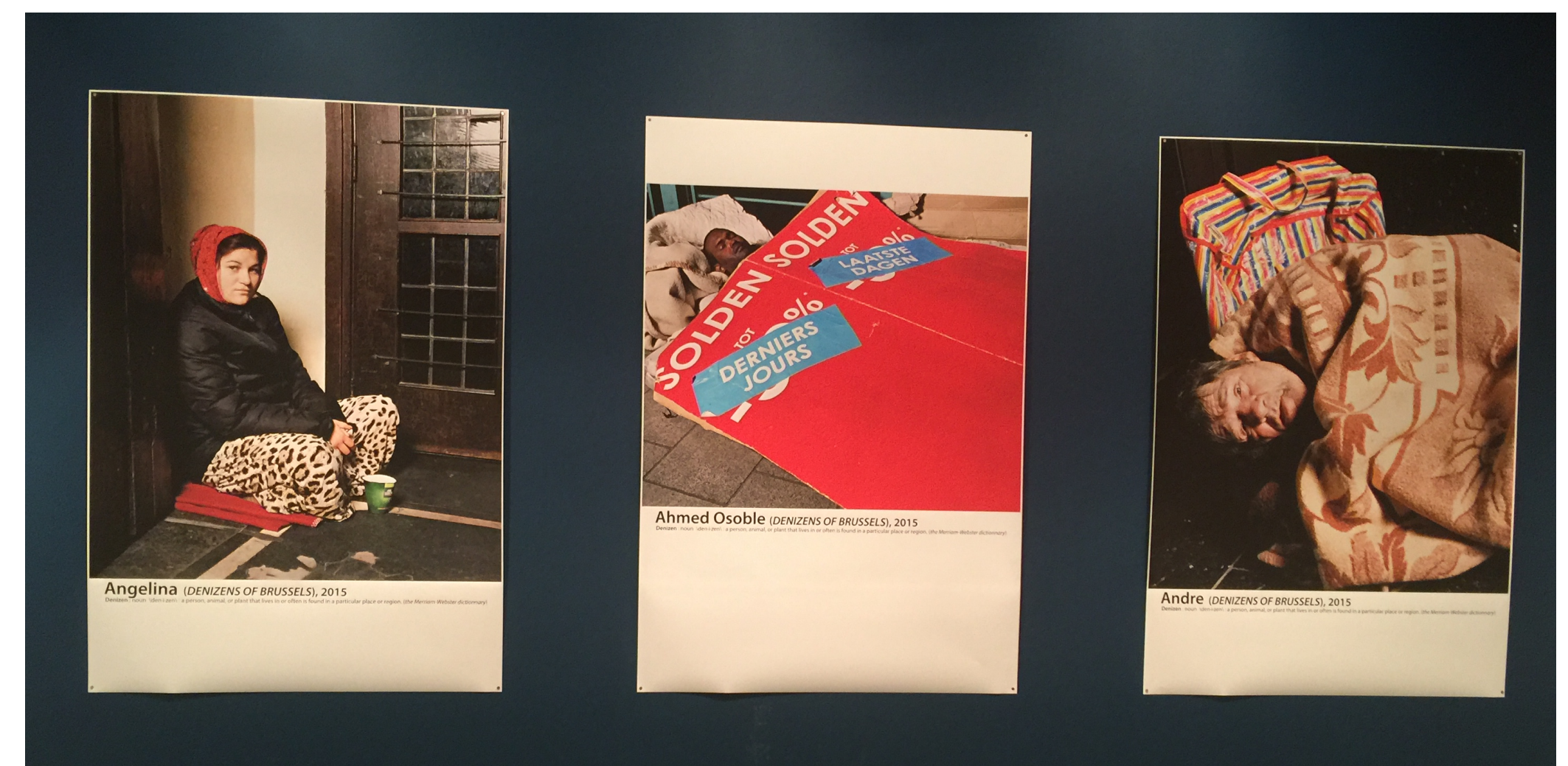
REFLECT

- You might like to read Matthew 7:11-17 or the passage from Hebrews 13:1-2 once more and pause at a word or phrase that strikes you.
- Meditate over this word or phrase with God until you come to a point of stillness.
- What God has to say to you through these narratives about Xenos?
- What do you sense God's invitation to you might be and how do you want to respond?
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- You might like to close your time of prayer by praying the Lord's Prayer.



RESPOND

- At some point this week you might like to pray practically with the idea of being a stranger.
- You could do this through collage, poetry, bible art journalling, or another creative approach.
- As you walk round your neighbourhood or supermarket next time notice how you respond to strangers.
- What does welcoming the stranger mean to you?
 - How might you express this in word or image?
 - How might you express this in action in small ways?



XENOS

I love meeting new people
Hearing their stories
Seeing the world through their eyes.
Welcome.
Not just to them now
But to their histories
Their joys and sorrows.

I love being welcomed.
Not with arms wide open
To embrace
But with eyes wide open
To see me.
Ears wide open to hear me.
Someone who sees me as human,
As part of the greater whole
Of which they, too, are a part.

Donne writes no-one is an island.
We are each part of the main.
Part of the continent.
One part washed away
Diminishes.

(Each part
Acknowledged,
Welcomed,
Turns stranger
Into friend).