



## National Lament

*We are a society which has forgotten how to weep*

Pope Francis

### Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia.  
As you take your next step remember the first people who walked this land.

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Sydney

### Our Lament

We lament the lack of compassion for people seeking asylum in Australia  
We lament the denial of human dignity and freedom  
We lament the indifference  
We lament our inability to turn the tide

### Our Challenge

*"The other" is no longer a brother or sister to be loved, but simply someone who disturbs my life and my comfort...*

*In this globalized world, we have fallen into globalized indifference. We have become used to the suffering of others: it doesn't affect me; it doesn't concern me; it's none of my business!*

Pope Francis, Lampedusa 8.7.2013

### Our Prayer

We beg forgiveness for our indifference to so many of our brothers and sisters.  
God, we ask your pardon for those who are complacent and closed  
amid comforts which have deadened their hearts;  
we beg your forgiveness for those who by their decisions on the global level  
have created situations that lead to these tragedies.  
Forgive us, Lord!

Pope Francis, Lampedusa 8.7.2013

### For Reflection

Jesus said, "An evil spirit of this kind is only driven out by prayer and fasting"

Mark 9: 29

### Our Response

- Make Friday a day of prayer and penance
- Write to your local member and to the Minister, Scott Morrison, expressing your lament for people seeking asylum in Australia