

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

The petition of members of the Bathurst Catholic diocese draws to the attention of the house:

To the Lament for asylum seekers initiated by Catholic Religious Australia:
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

And furthermore we declare, in the words of Pope Francis (at Lampedusa, 8.7.2013):

“... we have fallen into global indifference. We have become used to the suffering of others...”

We therefore ask the house to:

Agree to adopt a more humane and Christian response than is the current policy of the Australian Government.