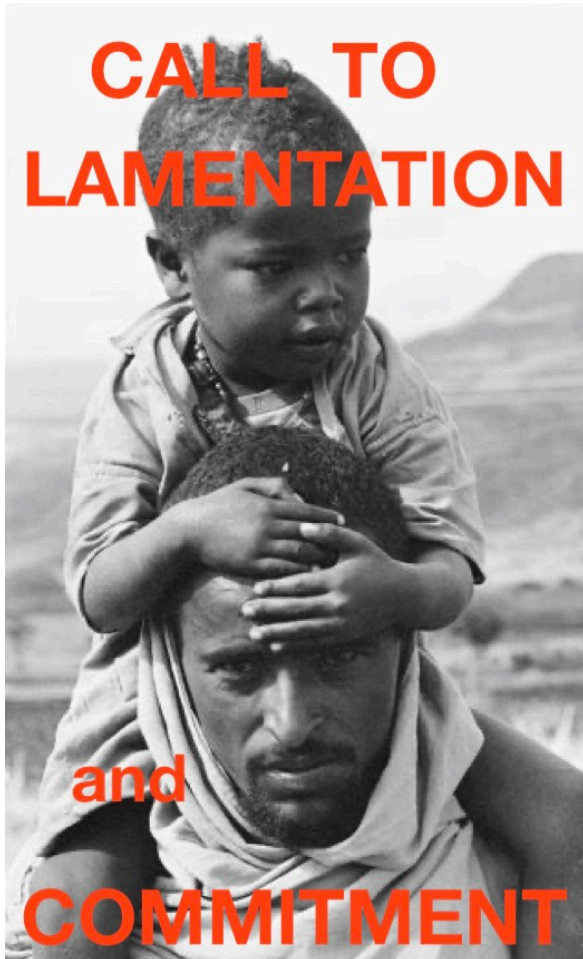


INVITATION

26 September 2021

Zoom Candlelight Prayer 7.00 – 7.30 pm

<https://bit.ly/Calltolamentation>



The world is watching the next movement of refugees begin. Will we live up to our obligations when they reach these shores?

The 150 Days initiative began because Pope Francis declared 2021 to be the year of Joseph, Patron of Refugees. He and Mary were forced to flee with Jesus, their refugee child. Pope Francis named Joseph as “the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty.”

Australia needs a new heart, a new way to show mercy.

We have been using our resources and talents at schools, parishes, within our own communities and organisations to call for three things:

1. to provide income support and a financial safety net for all people seeking asylum in Australia
2. to end temporary protection visas and create a clear pathway to permanent residency
3. to ensure access to family reunion for refugees and people seeking asylum in Australia.

On September 26 – Migrant and Refugee Sunday – we join together for all those held in Australia’s temporary visa system and for all forced to flee their homelands.

Who could have imagined when we began the journey of 150 Days of Action for refugees that we would be grieving for the beautiful country of Afghanistan? As we watched the Kabul airport fill with fear, bombs and those desperately seeking safety, we knew we were watching the beginning of life on the road for thousands of people.

Let us stay with the prayers and thoughts and political action necessary to change hearts and minds in our country Australia!

We think of those we have left behind after twenty years in their country. We think of those who need to find safety from the Taliban and ISIS.

We welcome you, your families and communities to be a part of a ritual on Zoom. *Click the link to register:* <https://bit.ly/Calltolamentation>

The Ritual:

Welcome to country and a sung call to prayer

Light a candle

Listen to people’s stories

Honour the names of those who died in Australia’s camps

Prayer of lamentation and commitment

Call all our elected representatives to respond to the three demands of government

The ceremony will be recorded and the video will be sent to every Senator and MP in the Federal Parliament.

Any queries please contact Julie Macken or Jan Barnett
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