

# Presentation Justice



**PRESENTATION**  
Australia

## A reflection for June

***“Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.”***

**Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 14**

World Refugee Day is celebrated each year on 20 June. Designated by the United Nations to honour refugees around the globe, this day is an opportunity to build empathy for the plight of refugees, recognise their courage and resilience, listen to their stories and advocate for their fundamental rights. With record numbers of people forcibly displaced and humanitarian aid under threat, this year’s theme, *Solidarity with Refugees*, urges us to move beyond words and take meaningful steps to support those forced to flee their homelands.

Stakeholder submissions to Australia’s Universal Periodic Review (2026) observed that Australia continues its unlawful offshore processing policy, including transferring people seeking asylum to Nauru, and indefinite immigration detention onshore. As of September 2025, 91 refugees and people seeking asylum were in Nauru and many of those were experiencing serious health conditions (Refugee Council of Australia). As of January 2026, there were 1050 people in immigration detention in Australia. On average, people are held in immigration detention for 458 days (Australian Government, March 2026).

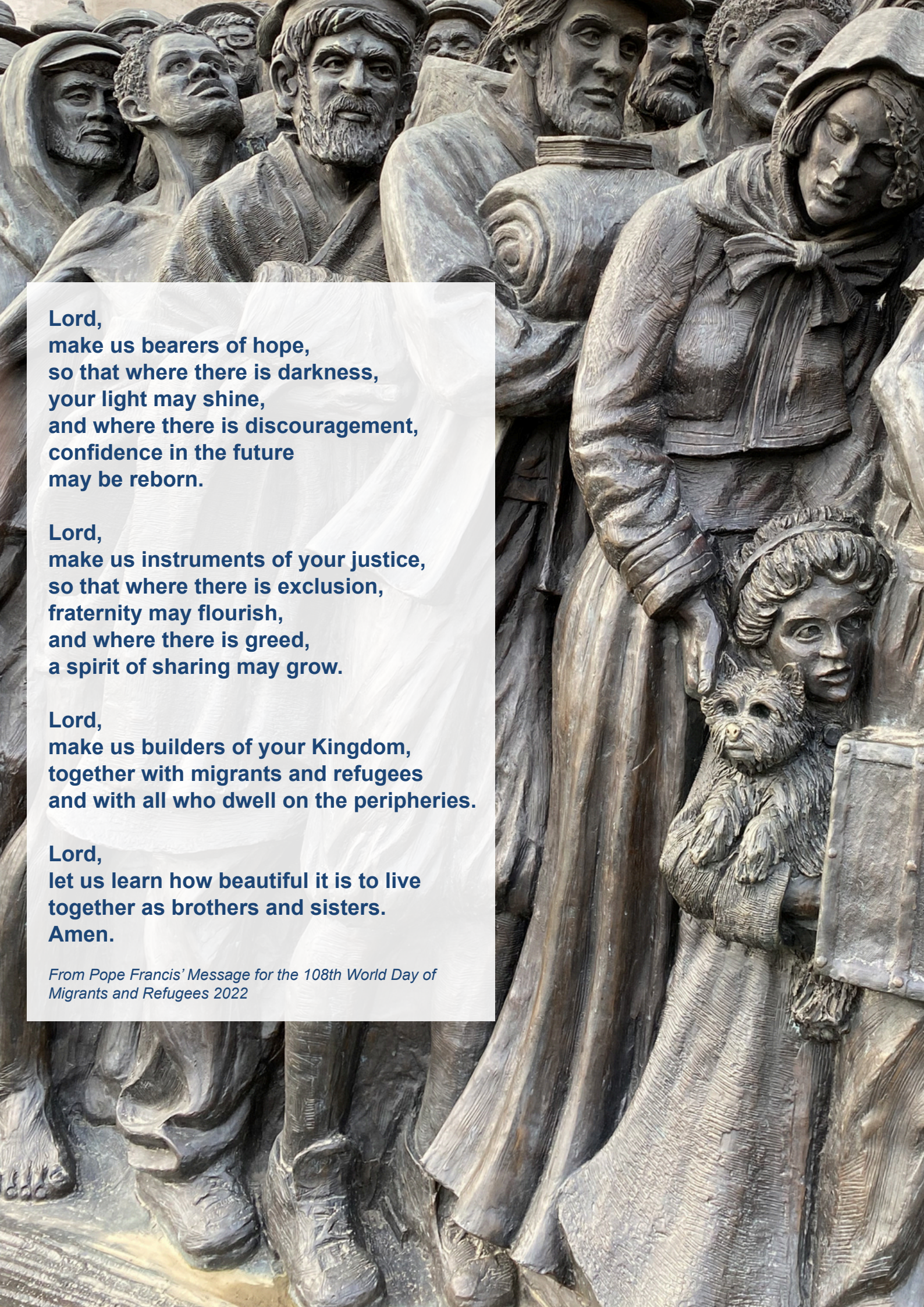
In November 2025, the Refugee Council of Australia called for the Australian Government to immediately suspend its 786 million dollar reception arrangement with Nauru, amid reports of serious corruption and indications that the Government of Nauru might deport people transferred there back to their home countries where they will be at risk of serious harm.

In advancing its commitment to the dignity and rights of refugees and people seeking asylum, the International Presentation Association supports the following stakeholder recommendations to the Australian government:

- immediately pass legislation for medical evacuation from offshore places for treatment in Australia;
- end offshore ‘processing’ and detention, and allow refugees and asylum seekers in Nauru to settle in Australia;
- provide viable, long-term protection for all asylum seekers and refugees subject to offshore processing;
- ensure immigration detention is strictly limited, time-bound and prohibited for children.

Through our advocacy and service, inspired by Venerable Nano Nagle, let us pray that justice prevails. May we be bearers of hope.

**Image:** Angels Unawares by Timothy P. Schmalz, Saint Peter’s Square, Rome. Photo by Richard Rogusz.



**Lord,  
make us bearers of hope,  
so that where there is darkness,  
your light may shine,  
and where there is discouragement,  
confidence in the future  
may be reborn.**

**Lord,  
make us instruments of your justice,  
so that where there is exclusion,  
fraternity may flourish,  
and where there is greed,  
a spirit of sharing may grow.**

**Lord,  
make us builders of your Kingdom,  
together with migrants and refugees  
and with all who dwell on the peripheries.**

**Lord,  
let us learn how beautiful it is to live  
together as brothers and sisters.  
Amen.**

*From Pope Francis' Message for the 108th World Day of  
Migrants and Refugees 2022*