Bendigo Combined Churches

rar rural australians for refugees BENDIGO

Supported by Bendigo Amnesty International, & Bendigo Grandmothers for Refugees.

Bendigo Palm Sunday Big Walk for Refugees

Ms. Lisa Chesters,
MHR for Bendigo

Dear Lisa,

Justice, Compassion, Welcome. To which we might add, **Decency and Respect;**
for ourselves and for those who come to our shores seeking safety.

These are values deeply held by people of all religions, as well as those with caring hearts, whose faith is in the goodness of their fellow beings.

Sadly, these values have too often been lacking in Australia's treatment of refugees and asylum seekers. We ask you to bring our concerns to the Minister for Immigration.

We call upon the Government to:

- End the cruel and expensive regime of offshore detention, and evacuate those who have been stranded in PNG.
- Provide permanency for those who were failed by the flawed "Fast Track" claims process.
- Adopt a much speedier process for family reunion applications.
- Grant work and study rights for people while their claims are assessed, and provide adequate social support for all refugees and people seeking asylum.
- Increase Australia's humanitarian intake.

Yours respectfully,

Signature	Name	Postcode