

Pope Francis chose the theme, "Child Migrants, the Vulnerable and the Voiceless", for the 103rd World Day of Migrants and Refugees, commemorated in Australia on the last Sunday of August in Migrant & Refugee Week 21st - 27th August 2017. Pope Francis reminds us that, "Migration today is not a phenomenon limited to some areas of the planet. It affects all continents and is growing into a tragic situation of global proportions. Not only does this concern those looking for dignified work or better living conditions, but also men and women, the elderly and children, who are forced to leave their homes in the hope of finding safety, peace and security." (Pope Francis, Message 2017)



Anglican Bishop Peter Kunen was a popular guest speaker at Damascus College Ballarat during Refugee Week.

Before his episcopal ordination, he was working in the Ballarat region. Peter Kunen came to Australia after spending more than a decade in refugee camps without any family. He approached the College for support of his diocese in South Sudan in Africa in early 2016. His is a leadership in faith that does justice. The Damascus Justice Action Group fundraising was able to make a donation for South Sudan. Bishop Peter's support network recently wrote in thanks.

"Thank you for your very generous support of Bishop Peter Kunen's work in the Eastern Upper Nile area in South Sudan. Your donation of \$400.00 will go toward easing the famine in this drought and war torn area. Previous fundraising campaigns have enabled the purchase a grinding machine, water pump and the building of a community shop."

Sarah Boswell, Leader of School Development

