## Asylum Seekers - and a new Australian Government St Kevin's Parish Social Justice Action shared online Forum, 7:30pm–8:30pm, Thursday 29 September 2022

In our war torn and further troubled world complicated by Climate Change and Pandemics the issue of Asylum Seekers and Refugees is of growing significance. It touches at the very heart of Social Justice.

In this online Forum from **7:30pm - 8:30pm on Thursday 29th September** Brigidine Asylum Seeker's Project (BASP) Co-Founder, Sr Brigid Arthur AO csb, will provide a timely update on the growing significance of Asylum Seekers.



This discussion will be in the context of Catholic Social Justice thinking, and a new Government. The Forum will include a Q&A session and be made available to our sisters and brothers at St Gregory's Parish and some other neighbouring parishes. The Forum will be Convened by John Costa (St Kevin's Parish SJA Convenor), co-Convened by Tiziana D'Costa (Parish Lay Ecclesial Leader), and **will consider such issues as:** 

A brief history of Asylum seekers in Australia, particularly comparing 2014 with 2022

Where Asylum seekers have come from in the past? & where they come from now?

How do Asylum seekers physically get to Australia? & how does this differ for Refugees?

**What** are the circumstances prompting Asylum Seekers to risk escaping to an unknown land? c.f. Refugees?

**How** do Asylum seekers survive / have aspirations in Australia cf Refugees? (Dignity? Housing? Income? Work & other rights? Medical support? Education? A Future? )

**What** impact is a new Government having / likely to have on treatment of Asylum Seekers? c.f. Refugees?

**The Government** is urgently seeking ways to increase the number of Australian workers -Can Asylum seekers / refugees complement current immigration processes?

**How** does Australia handle / welcome Asylum Seekers? Refugees? compared with other countries?

**What** are the short and long-term effects on the lives of Australian Asylum seeker and their family members in the ways we currently treat them?

How does all this relate to Catholic Social Justice Principles?

**<u>Registration</u>** *HERE* (Forum Zoom link will be sent to you just before the event)

Photo: Sr Brigid Arthur, supplied by Sight Magazine, Catholic Religious Australia