After the Angelus

Dear brothers and sisters,

I was saddened to learn of the tragic shipwreck that happened in recent days in the Mediterranean, in which dozens of migrants, including women and children, lost their lives. I reiterate my heartfelt appeal for the international community to act swiftly and decisively, to prevent any further repetition of such tragedies and to guarantee the safety and dignity of all our sisters and brothers. Please pray with me for the victims and their families. And also to ask from the heart: "Father, why?" [a minute's silence follows]