

## Vatican Held Prayers in Memory of Eritreans

Department of Information and Culture

Eritrean People's Party

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The Vatican held prayers in memory of the Eritreans who died near the Italy's Lampedusa Island in the Mediterranean Sea last month after the boat that was carrying them ran out of fuel. The Eritrean refugees left Libya with a small boat 20 days before they ran out of fuel and got stranded in the middle of the sea. Various sources say the refugee's boat was intercepted by Maltese coast guards, but the guards took no effort to rescue them.

According to M&C information network, the death of Eritreans also brought a lot of criticisms from UN and Vatican on the agreement recently signed between Libya and Italy designed to control the movement of refugees across the Mediterranean Sea. In addition, sources say both Italian and Maltese authorities are throwing accusations at each other over the handling of the rescue mission or how one or the other party did not do enough to save the lives of the Eritrean refugees.