



No. 113 – June 2010

*From the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council,
the social justice and human rights agency of the
Catholic Church in Australia*

<http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

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FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Dear Friends,

Over the past fortnight, as we have approached June, I have been thinking of the words I have heard from the Director of the Edmund Rice Centre on a number of occasions. Phil Glendenning speaks of the 'first and last Australians'. When he was delivering the St Vincent de Paul Society's Gerald Ward Lecture in November last year, he said:

'I believe over the course of our history we have discriminated most consistently against two groups of people in Australia - those who were here first, our Indigenous peoples, and those who were here last, especially refugees ...

'Indigenous people continue to find themselves at the bottom of every social indicator in the nation ... The politics of fear have characterised much of the debate around asylum seekers and refugees ... The first and the last have paid too high a price in this nation.' (refer: <http://www.vinnies.org.au/the-record-national?link=923>)

June holds a number of significant events that acknowledge our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sisters and brothers and the circumstances of refugees and asylum seekers in Australia and around the world. These events are a cause for celebrating the rich culture and history of the first Australians and the contribution of many generations of people newly arriving in this land. It is also a time for acknowledging past hurts, current challenges and unfinished business.

Reconciliation - let's see it through!

Last week, Sorry Day had the theme 'SORRY. Still living on borrowed time!' The National Sorry Day Committee invited people to commemorate the day by holding walks across their local bridges and to stop half way - symbolising that 'only half the job has been done - there is still unfinished business for the Stolen Generations' and that 'they are living on borrowed time while waiting for justice, reparations and compensation.' Coverage of the bridge walks, memorials and festivals can be found at the Committee's website: <http://www.nsdcc.org.au>

Reconciliation Week this year (27 May - 3 June) takes the theme 'Reconciliation: Let's see it through!' The week is highlighting the 10th anniversary of the historic bridge walks and recognising that, while there's still a way to go, respect, trust and the knowledge to turn good intentions into effective actions pave the way forward. The Reconciliation Australia website draws on the words of the Prime Minister's 2008 National Apology, calling on all Australians to walk and work together, 'First Australians alongside all Australians, towards a stronger and fairer Australian nation'. (refer: <http://www.reconciliation.org.au>)

In July, NAIDOC Week (4 - 11 July), has the theme 'Unsung Heroes - Closing the Gap by Leading Their Way', which acknowledges the work of many Indigenous people in their

communities and asserts Indigenous ownership of initiatives aimed at 'closing the gap' (refer: <http://www.naidoc.org.au>). And Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday on 4 July will be celebrating: 'Justice and Peace for All' - liturgy resources are available from the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council: <http://www.natsicc.org.au/>

The themes of these four events speak of the opportunity to celebrate achievements on the path to National Reconciliation, but also of the need to keep our focus on addressing the unfinished business. They also highlight the fact that no individual or group can achieve justice alone but that we all need to be in this together. In this sense it is not just about 'what is done' but also 'how it is done'. Creating the 'stronger and fairer Australian nation' the Prime Minister referred to requires strong partnerships based on trust and ensuring mutual respect.

Remember in 2007 when the Howard government was introducing the Northern Territory Intervention. The Australian Catholic Bishops were among many calling for much more than a focus on 'law and order'; for respect for Indigenous culture and identity, and for genuine partnership that respected human rights, empowered communities and ensured Indigenous people were part of the decision-making. (refer: http://www.catholic.org.au/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_details&gid=163&Itemid=186)

In instances such as the suspension of the Racial Discrimination Act, however, and in the preparation of new legislation that would allow the continuation of income management and other restrictions, it is questionable how consultative and respectful the process has been. These concerns are covered in a book produced by the group 'concerned Australians', which is listed in the Current Issues and Resources section of this Briefing.

Freedom from Fear

Also in June is Refugee Week (20 - 26 July), with the continuation of last year's theme: 'Freedom from Fear'. The Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) wants to focus greater

attention on the realities of the refugee experience and acknowledgement that the quest for freedom from fear is at the heart of a refugee's flight from danger.

The RCOA says, 'When refugees flee, they are forced to abandon everything they know and love. They are separated from family members, lose belongings, are left with little or no money. Some are traumatised by what they have experienced. Many spend years in camps, lost in no-man's land whilst their fate is decided. Most have no idea what kind of future awaits them.

'In seeking refuge in another country refugees are hoping to find freedom from that fear. They are looking for the opportunity to lead a normal life, as part of a community, where they can live in safety and security, find work and send their children to school.' (refer: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/rwtheme.html>)

This challenge is before us for Refugee Week, since the politics of fear has once again eclipsed the lived experience of asylum seekers - the real fear that compels them to flee their homelands - and diverted the attention of Australians from considering not just what we should do according to our obligations under international law, but also what more we could do in terms of a generous and welcoming response to people in dire need.

In May, the Catholic Bishops called on the Federal Government to show compassionate leadership on asylum seekers and to lift the suspension of processing for Afghan and Sri Lankan asylum seekers.

The Bishops called on all sides of politics to show positive leadership on refugee policy:

'Political leaders have a particular responsibility to avoid demonising or stereotyping asylum seekers. While aware of the complexities of the issue and the challenges presented, but conscious of the need to avoid using asylum seekers as political capital, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference asks political parties to confer in order to formulate a policy on the treatment

of asylum seekers that does justice to their human dignity’, they said.

‘Australia is not being inundated by people seeking asylum. In fact we receive only a small proportion of the world’s displaced people. The greatest burden in giving shelter to refugees is borne by countries that are far poorer and more crowded than Australia.

‘Australia was among the first nations to sign the refugee convention and has benefited from the energy and enterprise of 750,000 refugees since federation. We should keep faith with this history. In the past, Australia has established humane and constructive policies towards asylum seekers - for example, during the 1980s when boat people were fleeing from Vietnam and Cambodia. That past reveals that Australia can rise above its current response to once more act with compassion and justice towards these vulnerable people’, the Bishops said. (refer: http://www.catholic.org.au/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_details&gid=998&Itemid=355)

The Federal Opposition’s announcement last week that it would introduce temporary protection visas, Pacific Solution-style offshore processing and the turning back of boats on the high seas flags a return to the inhumane policies of the past and leaves little doubt that in the coming election campaign there will be

the typical scapegoating of some of the most vulnerable individuals and families as ‘illegals’ who are a threat to our sovereignty and border security.

These are baseless fears. Arriving by boat to claim asylum is not ‘illegal’, asylum seekers have not presented a border security risk in the past, the number of asylum claims on Australia are small by world standards, the vast majority of asylum seekers arrive by plane, and asylum seekers gaining residency have gone on to make a wonderful contribution to the life of this nation.

The baseless fears peddled again through the ‘politics of fear’ reveals how the Australian electorate, broadly speaking, is also entitled to a ‘freedom from fear’.

Through the events of June and into July we can be especially mindful of the needs of the first and the last Australians. We can maintain a critical eye on political and media commentary and consider the responsibility of our political leaders and indeed all citizens to bring justice and compassion to political debate and decision-making processes where it has obviously been lacking.

John Ferguson
National Executive Officer



Current Issues / Resources

VALE CYRIL HALLEY SSC

Fr Cyril Halley SSC, indefatigable educator and campaigner for justice and peace, passed away on Tuesday 18 May, 2010. Born in New Zealand, from an early age Cyril decided he wanted to be a missionary in China. In 1939 he travelled to Australia study at St Columban Missionary Society seminary in Melbourne and was ordained by Archbishop Mannix in 1945.

He was chaplain to Asian students in New Zealand and Australia, studied Canon Law in Rome and linguistics in Washington DC and was a lecturer at seminaries in Australia and Ireland. In 1966 Fr Cyril was appointed to ‘Pro Mundi Vitae’ in Brussels, and in 1972 he

was appointed First Secretary to the National Catholic Missionary Council. For many years he was Director of the Pacific Mission Institute and lectured to hundreds of participants who were heading for cross-cultural mission in Australia or other parts of the world. St Columban’s Mission Society says he was “a priest with vision who read the ‘signs of the times’ ... Over the years he built an extraordinary network of people in many areas of life. He touched the lives of hundreds if not thousands of people with his vision and understanding of what was happening to the Church and the world.” (refer: <http://www.columban.org.au/Archives/features/2010/fr-cyril-hallys-missionary-journey/>)

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

Each year National Reconciliation Week (NRW) celebrates the rich culture and history of the First Australians. It is the ideal time for everyone to join the reconciliation conversation and to think about how we can help turn around the disadvantage experienced by many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This year, NRW runs from 27 May until 3 June with the theme 'Reconciliation: Let's see it through!' Reconciliation Australia has posters available free of charge to organisations and individuals keen to promote the week. Visit the Reconciliation website or call (02) 6273 9200 for further information. Resources for NRW available at: <http://www.reconciliation.org.au/home/reconciliation-resources/significant-events--anniversaries/nrw-resources>.

SORRY DAY AND WEEK OF PRAYER FOR RECONCILIATION

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ecumenical Commission has produced prayer and reflection resources for Sorry Day and the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation (26 May - 3 June 2010). These can be downloaded at the NATSIEC webpage: <http://www.ncca.org.au/departments/natsiec/resources/prayer/509-week-of-prayer-for-reconciliation>

BOOK - 'THIS IS WHAT WE SAID'

'Concerned Australians' has produced a book that gives voice to what many Aboriginal people feel about the NT Intervention. The book is entitled, 'This Is What We Said'. Editor, Michele Harris OAM, said, 'The new legislation recently tabled in Parliament leads us to believe that the majority of Aboriginal people have not been heard by Government. They have been ignored.' Using pictures and quotations taken from footage of actual consultations at Bagot, Ampilatwatja, Utopia and Yirrkala, this book provides a graphic account of the depth of frustration and despair of many Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory regarding the Intervention. The hard back book is available at \$15 + \$2 packaging and post, per copy, within Australia. For further information contact: Concerned Australians, PO Box 281, East Melbourne, Victoria 3002 or harrisme@bigpond.com

NEW CD: 'IN THIS LAND'

Helen Kearins RSM has just released a CD of her music, which touches on our shared faith, the spirit of justice and solidarity in this land. Song titles include 'Bringing them Home', 'Mercy and Justice Meet', 'Bread the Holds the Story'. Of Sr Helen's music, Phil Glendenning, Director of the Edmund Rice Centre in Sydney says, 'Her songs are infused with a deep spirituality of justice, and extend from the green hills of Ireland to the red heart of this nation. She sings the stories of real people and allows us to imagine what might be possible if we find the heart, the wit and the spirit to right the wrongs of our history and build a future where Indigenous people can take their rightful place in the life of this country'. Cost: \$20.00 (GST incl.), postage \$5.00. To order, contact alison@goulburn.mercy.org.au or (02) 6262 9290. Order form at: http://www.mercy.org.au/newscentre/view_article.cfm?loadref=269&id=868

AMNESTY PETITION: 'PUT PEOPLE BEFORE POLITICS'

Amnesty is running an on-line petition directed at local MPs calling for an end to the Government's freeze on the processing of Sri Lankan and Afghan asylum claims and for an end to 'an ugly game of politics with utter disregard to the cost of human suffering.' The message of the petition is: 'this is not how we treat vulnerable people in Australia. And as your constituents, we will not stand for it.' Personalised emails directed to the individual's particular electorate can be sent via the following Amnesty webpage: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/refugees/contactmp/>

UN WORLD REFUGEE DAY: 'HOME'

Each year the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) celebrates World Refugee Day on 20 June. The global theme for World Refugee Day in 2010 is "Home." Through the simple statement, "They took my home but they can't take my future," UNHCR will be highlighting the plight of refugees worldwide and recognising their courage and resilience. For more information and resources, visit: <http://www.unhcr.org.au/WorldRefugeeDay.shtml>

REFUGEE WEEK - 'FREEDOM FROM FEAR'

In Australia, World Refugee Day commences

'Refugee Week'. The Refugee Council of Australia has chosen to retain last year's theme 'Freedom from Fear' for Refugee Week this year (20 - 26 June). In the lead-up to next year's 60th anniversary of the UN Refugee Convention, the hope is that this theme will focus greater attention on the realities of the refugee experience. RCOA has been responsible for the coordination of Refugee Week in NSW since 2005. For events near you and for further information, visit: http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/rw_index.html.

MEDIA RELEASE - 'AUSTRALIA FAIR?'

Issuing his Pastoral Letter for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker, Bishop Christopher Saunders compared the circumstances of the richest and poorest Australians following the global financial crisis and said, 'how we respond to the needs of the poorest individuals and families will characterise the spirit of this nation. Over the past decade, minimum wages have fallen further behind average weekly earnings. Safety net wages, even when supplemented by family benefits, have not prevented families falling into poverty or coming close to it.' Drawing on the Pope's Encyclical, 'Charity in Truth', he highlighted the need for adequate protections for low paid and unemployed workers. 'Equity and justice must be built into the operation of the market and not remain just an afterthought. The market must not be a place where the strong subdue the weak. The minimum wage decision that Fair Work Australia makes in June will be a critical test of this nation's fairness,' he concluded. (refer: http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/Content/media_releases/2010_04_29_13871858135.html)

POST BUDGET ANALYSES AND STATEMENTS

Analysis of 2010-2011 Federal Budget initiatives that concern the wellbeing of the vulnerable and those in need can be accessed from the following organisations:

Catholic Social Services Australia: <http://www.catholicsocialservices.org.au/node/40527>

Catholic Health Australia: <http://www.cha.org.au/site.php?id=168&media=64>

Australian Council of Social Service: http://acoss.org.au/images/uploads/ACOSS_Initial_Budget_Analysis_2010-11.pdf

Refugee Council of Australia: http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/docs/resources/reports/2010-11_Federal_Budget_brief_RCOA.pdf

[refugeecouncil.org.au/docs/resources/reports/2010-11_Federal_Budget_brief_RCOA.pdf](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/docs/resources/reports/2010-11_Federal_Budget_brief_RCOA.pdf)

TWO NEW RESOURCES FROM YOUNG CHRISTIAN STUDENTS

The Australian Young Christian Students have produced two new resources that are invaluable for formation and engagement with major issues of the day. The first resource is the 2010 NUTS (Never Underestimate the Students) program, that provides eight weekly sessions that empower student to change their world. Three particular issues addressed are: Racism, Fair Trade and the Environment. The second is the Taking the Next Step Resource, which is a follow on program from NUTS and is designed to support student groups to continue to take action post the NUTS program. It provides a six-week program to help, support and sustain existing groups. These resources can be downloaded free or ordered at \$15 per book plus postage and handling. Send order forms to: office@aycs.org.au. To download or order, visit: <http://aprilbulletin.wikispaces.com/2+New+Resouces>

POSITION VACANT - ICAN FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR

International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons is advertising this 12 month (July 2010 - June 2011) position. There is potential for on-going work after this period. The Fundraising Coordinator is a two-day per week position with the responsibilities to: work with ICAN Australia Board members to further develop and deliver the "ICAN Give" program and Major Donor program; develop relationships with key partner NGO's to implement joint projects; and help secure funding for ICAN Australia beyond the 2010-11 financial year. Deadline for applications: COB Tuesday 8 June, 2010. Send applications to "CONFIDENTIAL - Australian Board of ICAN", PO Box 1379, Carlton, VIC 3053 or via email to. For further information and to access the position description, email dimity@icanw.org or call: 03 9347 4795.

COLUMBAN MISSION INSTITUTE BULLETIN

Related to the Gospel of the first Sunday of the month, the June edition of the new monthly bulletin for parishes and schools from the Columban Mission Institute called

'Growing a Culture of Peace' is on the theme of 'Compassion for all Life'. To subscribe email pej.cmi@columban.org.au or contact Anne Lanyon, Co-ordinator, Columban Mission Institute Centre for Peace, Ecology and Justice, Locked Bag 2002, Strathfield NSW, 2135. Ph 02 9352 8021 Fax 02 9746 8033

CONFLICT RESOLUTION RESOURCES

The Conflict Resolution Network has produced two 'Conflict Resolution Support Skills DVDs'. The first DVD demonstrates the support skill of active listening and the second is a mediation role play. They are invaluable additions to training in the Empathy and Mediation sections of Conflict Resolution materials. Each is compelling viewing and provides a useful change of pace in the course-room. They are suitable for either advanced or beginners groups. They also support private study of CR skills. Each DVD runs for approximately 16 minutes. This package also includes a concise and newly updated workbook, summarising the material presented, pointing out the skills in use in the two demonstrations and

suggesting post-viewing activities. It also provides links to relevant .pdf handouts for use in a course room. \$59 plus postage. For further information and purchase details, visit the Conflict Resolution Network website at: http://www.crnhq.org/product_info.php?products_id=34

PACE E BENE - 'SPIRITUALITY AND PRACTICE OF NONVIOLENT LEADERSHIP'

Effective leadership can only emerge from, and be sustained by, a foundation of self-understanding. An 8-day residential program for church leaders, clergy and lay people will explore questions of self-care, integrity, power and hierarchy as a basis of different ways of functioning as a leader. The program aims to deepen leadership skills through a disciplined and sustained practice of reflection on inner work. Module 1 (available twice): 8-13 August or 29 August - 3 September, Perth WA Module 2: 14-17 November, Sydney or Melbourne. For further information, visit <http://www.paceebene.org.au/> and press the 'workshops' link.

Latest Publications

(Orders: phone (02) 8306 3499 or download an order form from the ACSJC website [that can be faxed to (02) 8306 3498]: http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/PDF/ORDER_FORM.pdf)

PASTORAL LETTER - FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 2010

The Pastoral Letter for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker for 2009 is entitled 'Australia at the Crossroads: A time to set new rules'. It is available for download in regular and 'three-column' versions at: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

SERIES PAPER - 'WOMEN IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA'

Catholic Social Justice Series paper No. 67 is a collection essays by women engaged in wide-ranging areas of Church life. The collection of eight papers include: 'Where would the churches be without women?' by Kimberly Davis and Helen Mary Peters RSM; 'Woman and

Man: One in Christ Jesus - A Retrospective' by Sonia Wagner SGS; 'What was it like then? Challenges and achievements' by Therese Vassarotti; 'Australian women in the life of the Church in 2010', by Tricia Walsh; 'The inaugural Young Catholic Women's Interfaith Fellowship' by Beth Doherty; 'Female lay ministry: My experience as a lay parish pastoral director' by Kari Hatherell; 'Being 'invisible': Women in the Church and the world' by Geraldine Hawkes; and 'Women: Key leaders in the cause of social justice' by Sandie Cornish. (\$6.60 a copy, plus postage - postage rates listed below)

DISCUSSION GUIDE - WORLD DAY OF PEACE MESSAGE 2010

The ACSJC discussion guide on Pope Benedict XVI's World Day of Peace Message consists of a brief overview of the message, some points for reflection and prayer. This is an ideal resource for schools and social justice discussion groups. It can be downloaded in pdf or Word formats

from the ACSJC homepage: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>

(Catholic Social Justice Series papers: \$6.60 a copy, plus postage. Postage rates for Catholic Social Justice Series Papers: 1 copy \$1; 2 copies \$1.45; 3-5 copies \$2.45)

Orders: phone (02) 8306 3499, fax (02) 8306 3489 or download an order form from the ACSJC website: http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/PDF/ORDER_FORM.pdf

This Month's Notices

UNTIL 12 SEPTEMBER. KURDS IN AUSTRALIA EXHIBITION: 'SURVIVAL OF A CULTURE' (VIC).

This exhibition explores how the Kurdish culture has survived through adversity, invasion, and division of the Kurds' traditional lands. It examines the traditions at the core of the Kurdish culture that have enabled it to survive, and which Kurds proudly maintain in Australia today. A variety of objects will be on display, including traditional costumes, instruments, hand-woven crafts and pewter wear. Cost: \$8, concession free. 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, Immigration Museum, 400 Flinders Street, Melbourne. Contact: 13 11 02. Web: <http://museumvictoria.com.au/immigrationmuseum/>.

UNTIL 19 SEPTEMBER. EXHIBITION: 'AUSTRALIA'S MUSLIM CAMELEERS' (VIC). This exhibition reveals the remarkable contribution which Australia's first Muslim community, from Afghanistan and British India, made to the exploration and settlement of Australia's arid interior. These Muslim pioneers provided the lifeblood for many inland settlements, isolated stations and mines, and forged communication routes through remote Australia. Cost: \$8, concession free. 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, Immigration Museum, 400 Flinders Street, Melbourne. Contact: 13 11 02. Web: <http://museumvictoria.com.au/immigrationmuseum/>.

1 JUNE. WATAC LUNCHEON: 'OUR TIME IS NOW' (NSW). Speaker: Professor Larissa Behrendt 'Our Time Is Now' NAIDOC Person of the Year, Larissa is a Euleyai/Kamillaroi woman, author and Professor of Law and Director of Research at the Jumbunna Indigenous Home of Learning at UTS. She has worked with the United Nations and is a Commissioner at the Land and Environment

Court. Cost: \$75. 12.00 to 2.45 pm, Dining Room, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9520 9409, RSVP by 21 May. Web: <http://www.watac.net/index.php>.

1 JUNE. CHURCHES TOGETHER INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP: SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION (QLD). A service of partnership and reconciliation, bringing together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Christians and other Christians from diverse churches during Reconciliation Week (May 27th to June 3rd). Come and celebrate with us - and experience joyful worship with music of different traditions. Light refreshments after the service. All are welcome. 7.30 pm, St John's Cathedral, Ann Street, Brisbane. Contact: 07 3369 6792 or ctipp@qct.org.au. Web: http://www.qct.org.au/component/option,com_jcalpro/Itemid,126/extmode,view/extid,209/.

2 JUNE. SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'I FEEL PASSIONATE ABOUT MY SPIRITUAL PATH' (NSW). Speakers: Vijay Singh, actor and Dharma teacher and Megan Wallace, ACA, social ecologist and community advocate. 6.30 to 9.00 pm, Bellevue Hotel, 159 Hargrave Street, Paddington. Contact: 02 9387 3152. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/spirituality%20in%20the%20pub.htm>.

2 JUNE. CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES BREAKFAST SEMINAR: 'ASYLUM SEEKERS IN VICTORIA - AN UPDATE ON HOW FAMILIES ARE CURRENTLY FAIRING' (VIC). We read much about Federal policies regarding asylum seekers wishing to build a new home in Australia, but less about how families are actually coping with their new life in this

country. Brigid Arthur, who has been working with asylum seekers for many years, will give us an update on the current issues they face. Speaker: Sr Brigid Arthur csb, Coordinator, Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project. Cost: \$15. 7.15 to 8.45 am, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Contact: 03 9287 5566 or office@css.org.au, RSVP by 28 May. Web: <http://www.catholicsocialservices.org.au/node/40458>.

2 JUNE. LOWITJA O'DONOGHUE ORATION: 'WALKING TOGETHER ON THE JOURNEY OF HEALING' (SA).

This oration honours notable aboriginal rights activist, Professor Lowitja O'Donoghue AC, CBE. Speaker: Mr Ray Martin AM, Chairman of the Fred Hollows Foundation. Ray is deeply involved in the efforts to overcome Aboriginal disadvantage as a Community Member on the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation. Cost: \$25, concession \$17.50. 7.00 to 8.30 pm, Bonython Hall, University of Adelaide, North Terrace, Adelaide. Contact: 08 8303 3364 or <http://www.mybookingmanager.com/2010LODOration>. Web: <http://www.dunstan.org.au/>.

3 JUNE. MABO DAY: LANE COVE CHILDREN'S VOICES FOR RECONCILIATION (NSW).

Enjoy performances by students of Lane Cove and guest schools celebrating Reconciliation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures and Heritage. Special Guest MC is Agnes Ware of the Karrarreg People of the Torres Strait and broadcaster on Koori Radio 93.7FM. Organised in partnership by Lane Cove Residents for Reconciliation and Lane Cove Council. Wet weather alternative: Civic Centre, corner Longueville and Epping Roads, Lane Cove. No cost. 10.30 am to 12.30 pm, Lane Cove Plaza, Longueville Road at Burns Bay Road, Lane Cove. Contact: 02 9911 3594. Web: <http://www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au>.

4 JUNE. BLUE SKY SERIES LECTURE: REVEREND TIM COSTELLO (TAS).

Listen to Rev Tim Costello, lawyer, Baptist minister and CEO of World Vision Australia, as he discusses the relationship between climate change and extreme poverty. The event will also feature a presentation from SecondBite, a not-for-profit organisation which identifies sources of nutritious surplus fresh food and produce that

might otherwise go to waste and facilitates its safe and timely distribution to agencies and people in need. This lecture is presented by the Tasmanian Climate Change Office and is supported by University of Tasmania (UTAS), the Environmental Protection Authority and SecondBite. No cost. 4.30 to 6.00 pm, Arts Lecture Theatre, UTAS, Churchill Avenue, Sandy Bay. Contact: climatechange@dpac.tas.gov.au or 03 6270 5485, RSVP essential. Web: http://www.climatechange.tas.gov.au/events/blue_sky_series_presents_reverend_tim_costello.

4 JUNE. GLOBAL NUCLEAR ABOLITION DAY: 'EVENING PEACE PICNIC IN THE PARLIAMENT GARDENS' (VIC).

Join ICAN and partners including MAPW, Friends of the Earth and others to mark the eve of nuclear abolition day. Grab a hot chai or veggie burger at the FoE Peace Picnic (on sale by donation) and then be entertained by a "Who by Fire" performance incorporating music, light, spoken word and song and is set against the famous "Legend of Fire" mural at the Eastern Hill Fire Station. 5.00 to 7.00 pm, performance 6.15 pm, corner Nicholson and Albert Streets, Melbourne. Contact: info@icanw.org or 03 9442 5411. Web: <http://www.nuclearabolition.org>.

5 JUNE. NUCLEAR ABOLITION DAY (NATIONAL).

Thousands of people across the world will take part in coordinated local events to mark Nuclear Abolition Day. The message is simple: it's time for governments to begin negotiating a Nuclear Weapons Convention to ban all nuclear weapons. Some ideas for action: hold a peace vigil in a public place; spreading the word on a local radio station; organise a morning tea with a local school to celebrate Nuclear Abolition Day, etc. Contact: misha.byrne@gmail.com. Events: <http://www.nuclearabolition.org/>.

5 JUNE. LAUNCH: 'A TOUCH OF TIMOR' (NSW).

Congregational Leader, Anne Derwin, will launch 'A Touch of Timor' and the display of the Mary Mackillop East Timor Mission Literacy Program will be on show. There will be a joint welcome by Aboriginal and Timorese elders. Rachel Scott, music trainer for Mary Mackillop Early Childhood teachers, will play the cello. Nancy de Almeida's book, *A Woman of the Village*, will be launched. 7 pm, 64

Mackillop Drive, Baulkham Hills. Contact: 02 9623 2847. Web: <http://www.mmiets.org.au>.

5 JUNE. SOCIAL JUSTICE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD (SJIEC) CONFERENCE: 'THROWING THE BABY OUT WITH THE BATHWATER' (NSW). Issues include: social justice and curriculum; rethinking inclusion; another way of seeing children who challenge; sexualisation of children in the Australian media; etc. Includes book launch - *Talkin' up and speakin' out: Aboriginal and multicultural voices in early childhood*. Speakers: Professor Sue Grieshaber, Queensland University of Technology; Eva Cox, University of Technology Sydney; Fran Press, Charles Sturt University; Nina Johannesen, Stavanger University, Norway; etc. Cost: \$30. 8.30 am to 4.30 pm, Redfern Community Centre, 29-53 Hugo Street, Redfern. Contact: conference@socialjusticeinearlychildhood.org. Web: www.socialjusticeinearlychildhood.org.

5 - 9 JUNE. DISPLAY: 'A TOUCH OF TIMOR - TO READ IN ONE'S OWN LANGUAGE IS A HUMAN RIGHT' (NSW). The Mary Mackillop East Timor Mission in association with St Joseph's Centre for Reflective Living presents this display of the complete Mary Mackillop Literacy Program for the school children of Timor-Leste as well as a set of workshops. Workshops: 'Mother Tongue: a language and identity workshop' by Nadia Wheatley and Ken Searle; 'Catechist Program' by Janet Borg, Parramatta Catechist; 'Spirituality of justice in the spirit of Mary Mackillop' by Josephine Mitchell RSJ and story writing with Libby Gleeson, children's author. No cost. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, 64 Mackillop Drive, Baulkham Hills. Contact: 02 9623 2847. Web: <http://www.mmiets.org.au>.

6 - 12 JUNE. SIMPLY SHARE WEEK: 'SEE THE REAL ME, NOT JUST THE REFUGEE' (NATIONAL). It is a special week each year where we try to live simply and think about how we can share what we have with others in need. This year the focus is on Refugees. Caritas has fabulous resources available that give an insight into the journey that many refugees are forced to take, and that remind us that refugees and asylum seekers are unique individuals – with their own experiences, strengths and identities. Contact: ssw@caritas.org.au

[caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au/ssw/index.htm). Resources: <http://www.caritas.org.au/ssw/index.htm>.

7 JUNE. OXFAM ELECTORAL FORUM (NSW). Everyone who is interested can come and contribute to the discussion on how Australia can Make Poverty History. It will also be an exciting opportunity for people to meet with like minded individuals and have their voices heard by the candidates. Speakers: Tanya Plibersek MP (ALP); Cr Shayne Mallard (LNP) and Tony Hickey (Greens). 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Club Room, NSW Teachers Federation, 22-33 Mary Street, Surry Hills. Contact: rebeccacampbell@oxfam.org.au or 0413 557 297. Web: <http://www.micahchallenge.org.au/map/cc/electorateforums/d/1366815/a/1119702>.

7 JUNE. THEOLOGY ON TAP (TOT): 'THE COST OF DISCLESHP' (NSW). Speaker: His Eminence George Cardinal Pell. He will sign copies of his new book *Test Everything* after the talk. TOT is for those between 18-35 years (priests and religious not included in age range). \$10 steaks before 7.00 pm. 6.30 pm, PJ Gallagher's Irish Pub, Parramatta. Web: <http://www.TheologyOnTap.com.au>. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2426293640&v=wall&ref=ts>.

7 JUNE. SDC MONTHLY SEMINAR: 'REFUGEES - INNOCENT VICTIMS, ILLEGAL MIGRANTS OR POLITICAL PAWNS?' (NSW). Examining the fate of 35 million desperate people and the impact on women, in particular - Dr. Eileen Pittaway, director of UNSW's Centre for Refugee Research, conducts research, provides training to refugees, UN and NGO staff in refugee camps and urban settings, acts as technical advisor to a number of projects, and evaluates humanitarian and development projects in Kenya, Thailand, Ethiopia, Bougainville, Egypt and Sri Lanka. Cost: \$5. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Training Room 1, Level 6, UTS Building 10, 235 Jones Street, Ultimo. Contact: 0417 272 101 or lucy@claypartners.com. Web: <http://sdc.groupsite.com/calendar/event/2010/6/7/170579>.

7 - 20 JUNE. OXFAM EXHIBITION: 'REFUGEE REALITIES' (ACT). The Refugee Realities simulation exercise enrolls people as inhabitants of an unnamed country from

which they must flee. After travelling through dangers, they must cross an international border and learn how to live in a refugee camp. The simulation concludes with a discussion about what Australians can do to support refugee and universal human rights. Sunday 20 June is World Refugee Day, and the beginning of Refugee Week 2010. Stage 88, Commonwealth Park, northern foreshores of Lake Burley Griffin, Canberra. Register: <http://www.oxfam.org.au/refugee/public/rrp/index.php>.

8 JUNE. AFTERNOON TEA FOR THE FUTURE: 'WASTING FOOD: AN ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER' (NSW). Australian households waste an estimated 5 billion dollars of food a year. The NSW government has launched a campaign titled: Love Food Hate Waste <http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.nsw.gov.au>. Using another site which focuses on this area is Food Wise <http://foodwise.com.au/>. The focus will be to find ways in which the individual, the community and the government can take action to reduce this waste by a growing amount each year. 2.00 to 4.00 pm, Library, Edmund Rice Centre, 15 Henley Road, Homebush West. Contact: 02 8762 4200 or leoniec@erc.org.au. Web: <http://www.erc.org.au>.

8 JUNE. AN EVENING WITH ROSHAN MENDIS: 'WHAT NOW FOR SRI LANKA?' (VIC). Roshan Mendis, CEO, TEAR's Sri Lankan partner LEADS, was extensively involved in the Boxing Day Tsunami disaster response and has also participated in various peace and reconciliation initiatives. He is a graduate in theology, and has extensive involvement with the Colombo Theological Seminary. Roshan will be talk about the work of LEADS, the current situation in the country and share stories of hope, struggle and transformation from the work he is involved with. Cost: donation. 7.30 to 9.30 pm, TEAR Australia National Office, 4 Solwood Lane, Blackburn. Contact: 03 9264 7022 or vic@tear.org.au. Web: <http://www.tear.org.au/states/P10/>.

8 JUNE. SEMINAR: 'LOCATIONAL DIFFERENCES IN YOUNG PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCES OF ECONOMIC ADVERSITY' (NSW). Increasing the educational attainment and subsequent employment of economically

disadvantaged young people is central to poverty reduction policies in many countries. This presentation maps out how young people see their local opportunity structures, the forces which exclude some young people from taking up resources and how these views are influenced by neighbourhood level discourses. Speaker: Dr Jen Skattebol, Research Associate, Social Policy Research Centre, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, UNSW. No cost. 12.30 to 1.30 pm, Room 250, Level 2, Robert Webster Building, UNSW. Contact: sprcseminars@unsw.edu.au, RSVP by 4 June. Web: <http://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/events/seminars/>.

9 JUNE. SEMINAR: 'THE UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF DECOLONISATION: WEST PAPUA AND WESTERN SAHARA AS OCCUPIED TERRITORIES' (NSW). This seminar explores the unfinished business of decolonisation, by considering the legal, political and historical aspects of two territories which raise questions about the international right to self-determination and the enduring legacies of colonialism and occupation. Speakers: Kamal Fadel, Polisario (Western Saharan) Ambassador to Australia; Clinton Fernandes, Senior Lecturer, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, UNSW. No cost. 5.30 to 7.30 pm, Sydney Law School. Contact: 02 9351 0248 or law.events@sydney.edu.au. Register: <http://www.usyd.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventid=5909>.

9 JUNE. INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH SEMINAR: 'THE RULE OF LAW IN PEACE AND CAPACITY BUILDING OPERATIONS' (QLD). Speaker: Dr Bryn Hughes. 12.30 to 1.30 pm, Room 212, Chamberlain Building (#35), University of Queensland, St Lucia, Queensland. Contact: 07 3346 7344 or issr@uq.edu.au. Web: <http://www.issr.uq.edu.au/news-events>.

9 JUNE - 17 NOVEMBER. PASTORAL CARE BASIC TRAINING (ACT). The Canberra and Region Centre for Spiritual Care and Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) and the Canberra Hospital are holding this Basic Course (400 hour unit). Courses are accredited by the NSW College for CPE, which is an affiliated body of the Australia and New Zealand Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ANZACPE). CPE training groups are available for people from

all faith traditions, and walks of life. Cost: \$1000. Canberra Hospital. Contact: 02 6244 2261 or lyn.kelly@act.gov.au. Web: <http://www.pastoralcareact.org/cpe/>.

10 JUNE SYDNEY PEACE FOUNDATION DOCUMENTARY, 'STRANGE BIRDS IN PARADISE - A WEST PAPUAN STORY' (NSW).

This documentary has been accepted into competition at the Sydney Film Festival. This will be the Australian Premiere screening. Cost: \$17, concession \$15. 6.00 pm, Event Cinema 9, 505-525 George Street, Sydney. Register: <http://tix.sff.org.au/session2.asp?sn=Strange+Birds+in+Paradise&s=3346>. Web: <http://www.strangebirds.com.au/>.

10 JUNE. WORKSHOP: 'INSPIRING CHANGE - WOMEN, FAITH AND DEVELOPMENT' (VIC).

World Vision and TEAR are holding this discussion on the role of spirituality in their work to advance gender equality and development. Dr Funmi Para-Mallam will engage with representatives of faith based organisations, women's organisations and development agencies. Participants will learn how faith can be instrumental in improving development practice and promoting gender equality at the community level. Speaker: Dr Funmi Para-Mallam, senior research Fellow, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, Nigeria. Cost: \$30. 9.00 am to 3.00 pm, Training Centre, TEAR Australia, 4 Solwood Lane, Blackburn. Contact: 03 9264 7022 or marites@tear.org.au, RSVP by 7 June. Web: http://www.acfid.asn.au//get-involved/docs_get-involved/docs_events/wva_breakthrough_tear-faith_gender_development_forum-10jun10.pdf.

13 JUNE. FUNDRAISER: BURMESE REFUGEE CHARITY CONCERT (WA).

This Concert is set to be another great evening of entertainment including Joshua Last, Donna Iverson, Lucy Peach and Art in Algebra. Proceeds will assist JRS' work with Burmese Refugees on the Thai-Burma border, so bring your friends to support this worthy cause. 4:00 to 8.00 pm, Railway Hotel, North Fremantle, 44 Tydeman Road, North Fremantle. Contact: 0403 801 000. Web: <http://www.jrs.org.au/events/current-events/163-perth-charity-concert>.

15 JUNE. PRIOLETTI CONSULTANTS FORUM: 'A CHANGING FACE OF VICTORIA: UNDERSTANDING AFRICAN COMMUNITIES' (VIC).

Join us and a panel of recent arrivals from various African communities who have recently settled in Victoria. Travel on a fascinating journey through their past experiences in Africa, the challenges of leaving their country, their journey to Australia and the reality of establishing a new life in a different culture. Representatives feature from Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan. Cost: \$55. 10.00 am to 12.00 pm, Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre, corner St Georges Road and Bell Street, Preston. Contact: josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au or 03 9038 9292. Register: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au>.

15 JUNE. SEMINAR: 'AWAKENING TO LIFE AND LOVE' (TAS).

The Sisters of St Joseph and the Emmanuel Centre are holding this seminar with Dr Alexandra Kovats CSJP. Alexandra, a Sister of St Joseph of Peace, has been a spiritual director and retreat facilitator for over thirty years. She is adjunct instructor at the School of Theology and Ministry at Seattle University. This seminar will explore how prayer invites us to wake up to all life and all our relationships: to God, to self, to others and creation. We will also engage with some 'prayer ways' during this time as well. Cost: \$10 or donation. 7.30 to 9.30 pm, Josephite Mission and History Centre, 67 Clare Street, New Town. Contact: josephitemission@tastelfibre.com.au, 03 6228 1628 or 0408 312 289, RSVP by 10 June. Web: <http://www.hobart.catholic.org.au/whatson.html>.

16 JUNE. SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'THE EMERGING SPIRITUALITY OF INCLUSION' (NSW).

Speakers: Geraldine Doogue and Fr Geoff Plant. 7.30 pm, Sutherland United Services Club, 7 East Parade, Sutherland. Contact: 02 9520 0617 or 02 9548 2475. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/spirituality%20in%20the%20pub.htm>.

16 JUNE. ROSHAN MENDIS FROM LEADS SRI LANKA (NSW).

Roshan Mendis is the Executive Director of TEAR's Sri Lankan partner, LEADS (Lanka Evangelical Alliance Development Services). Roshan will share from his experience of being a Christian seeking to

work among the poorest people in Sri Lanka (including more recently, the thousands of people in refugee camps as a result of the civil war). 7.30 pm, Northmead Uniting Church, 7 Hammers Road, Northmead. Contact: nsw@tear.org.au or 0411 512 620, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.tear.org.au/states/P5/>.

17 JUNE. VINNIES FUNDRAISER: 'CEO SLEEPOUT' (NATIONAL). The Sleep Out takes place in capital cities across Australia. The event challenges business and community leaders to experience homelessness first-hand for one night, raise important money, and with fresh insight go on to effect change in social opinions on this serious issue. All money raised goes directly towards the ongoing provision of Vinnies' homeless services across the country. Web: <http://www.ceosleepout.org.au/index.php>.

17 JUNE. CONFERENCE: 'BEST PRACTICE IN REDEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION OF PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES' (NSW). This conference will discuss matters that promote best practice in redevelopment and regeneration of public housing estates: resettlement and rehousing of current tenants, social mix and tenure mix, poverty and social exclusion, etc. Speakers: Dr Michael Darcy, Social Justice Social Change Research Centre, University of Western Sydney; Hon. David Borger MP, NSW Minister for Housing; Gregor Macfie, Executive Officer, Tenants Union of NSW; etc. Cost: \$30-\$250. 8.30 am to 4.00 pm, Auditorium, NSW Teachers Federation Conference Centre, 37 Reservoir St, Surry Hills. Contact: 02 9267 5733 ext 13 or admin@sheltersnsw.org.au, RSVP by 11 June. Web: <http://www.sheltersnsw.org.au/docs/fly10conference-about.html>.

18 JUNE. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'PROSPECTS FOR NON-NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT' (NSW). Speakers: Rory Medcalf, Convenor Nuclear Policy, Lowy Institute; Dr Sue Wareham, President, MAPW. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, Gaelic Club, Level 1, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: 02 9692 0005 or odl_bradley@pacific.net.au. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au/>.

18 JUNE. CHARITY DINNER (NSW). Hosted by St Brigid's and Pacific Calling Partnership.

Banquet meal with wine and dessert. Tables of 10 can be organised. Silent auction, entertainment and speaker Phil Glendenning from the Edmund Rice Centre. Cost: \$80. 6.30 pm, Villa D'Oro Function Centre, Wollongong. Contact: 02 4229 1969 or 0421 107 378.

19 JUNE. FUNDRAISER: FITZROY LEARNING NETWORK BALL 'FITZROYALTY' (VIC). To benefit the Refugee Support Program. There will be a delicious 3 course meal, a selection of fine wines from Yarra Burns and beers from Little Creatures. Entertainment includes Beatrice and Supena with Tristan S. Pierce, performers from West Side Circus, the Congolese band and DJ Whisky Houston. An exciting loud and silent auction with great prizes will also be a part of the night. Cost: \$130. 7.00 pm, Fitzroy Town Hall, 201 Napier Street, Fitzroy. Contact: 03 9417 2897 or admin@fitzroylearningnetwork.org.au. Web: <http://www.fitzroylearningnetwork.org.au/News.html>.

19 JUNE. REFUGEE VIGIL (NSW). The Catholic parish of St John the Baptist Woy Woy Peninsula will be holding a vigil of prayers and reflections concerned with the plight of refugees to Australia. The Vigil will commence with a gathering for people to get to know each other a little and then proceed into the church to have prayers and testimony from refugees. 2.00 to 4.00 pm, corner Victoria and Blackwall Roads, Woy Woy. Contact: 02 4341 6343 or bernie54@optusnet.com.au. Web: http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/rwevents_nsw.html.

19 JUNE. WOLLONGONG DIOCESAN COUNCIL FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN FORUM: 'A WOMAN FOR ALL SEASONS' (NSW). In celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the report on the participation of Women in the Catholic Church in Australia - *Woman and Man: One in Christ Jesus*, the Forum will provide an opportunity to dialogue about issues for women in the church today. There will be various workshops, stalls and a photographic exhibition of inspirational Catholic women. Speaker: Sr Robyn Reynolds OLS, Daughter of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, has had extensive experience in the field of education and spirituality, having worked for many years with the indigenous people of the Northern

Territory. Cost: \$20. 9.00 am to 3.30 pm, Holy Spirit College, Cawley Road, Bellambi. Contact: 02 4253 0899 or jane.edwards@woll.catholic.org.au, RSVP by 1 June. Web: http://www.opw.catholic.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=628&Itemid=60.

19 - 22 JUNE. VOICES FOR JUSTICE (ACT). Micah Challenge want to see Global Poverty firmly established as a key election issue this year - with both major parties making a time-tabled pre-election commitment to increasing the aid budget to 0.7% of GNI. If you can't make it to Canberra, you can make an impact by signing the Micah Call. Visit: <http://www.micahchallenge.org.au/micah-call> to sign. The names of people who have signed will be presented to politicians at Parliament House on a giant scroll during Voices for Justice. Cost: \$195, concession \$150. Parliament House, Canberra. Contact: info@micahchallenge.org.au, RSVP by 21 May. Web: <http://www.micahchallenge.org.au/voices-justice>.

20 JUNE. REFUGEE WEEK (NATIONAL). Refugee Week is Australia's peak annual activity to inform the public about refugees and celebrate positive contributions made by refugees to Australian society. The event has been celebrated in Australia since 1986 and the Refugee Council of Australia has been responsible for the coordination of Refugee Week in NSW since 2005. Events near you: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/rwevents.html>.

20 JUNE. RALLY: 'TELL POLITICIANS REFUGEES ARE WELCOME' (VIC). Rally by Refugee Advocacy Network Melbourne to welcome refugees, oppose the freeze on asylum seeker claims and say no to another Tampa election. 12.00 pm, State Library, corner Latrobe and Swanston Streets, Melbourne. Contact: 0413 377 978 or refugeeadvocacynetwork@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.rac-vic.org/>.

20 - 24 JUNE. INDIGENOUS THEOLOGY SYMPOSIUM: 'DREAMING A NEW EARTH - INDIGENOUS SPIRITUALITY AND THE VISION OF RAIMON PANIKKAR' (QLD) The aim of the symposium is to encourage intercultural and

interreligious dialogue with particular focus on Indigenous traditions within Australia and across the Asia-Pacific region. Presenters with knowledge of practical theology and/or the vision of Raimon Panikkar will complement the symposium along with keynote speakers, workshops, film, ritual ceremony and panel discussion. Keynote speakers: Aunty Joan Hendriks and Professor Francis D'Sa sj, India. Cost: \$280. 8.00 am, Australian Catholic University, 1100 Nudgee Road, Banyo. Contact: 07 3623 7637 or cier@acu.edu.au, RSVP by 28 May. Web: <http://www.ncca.org.au/home/calendar/view/2445/304>.

20, 22, 24 JUNE. INSPIRATIONAL TALKS BY SOMALY MAM (NSW). Former Cambodian victim of sexual slavery turned Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People of 2009. Hear her inspirational story of raw courage, strength, hope and love. Somaly Mam was sold into the sex trade in Cambodia at a young age. Now she is the president of the Somaly Mam Foundation and Co- Founder of AFESIP Cambodia, an NGO which rescues, rehabilitates and reintegrates victims caught in this horrific industry. Any donations from the public appearances will go to the Somaly Mam Foundation.

20 June: Q&A and book signing of autobiography *The Road of Lost Innocence*. 11.30 am to 1.00 pm, Borders, Bondi Westfield.

22 June: Guest lecture. 11.00 am to 1.00 pm, 745 Harris Street, University of Technology Sydney (UTS), University Hall, Building 4 City Campus, Ultimo.

22 June: An evening with Somaly Mam: 'You can help create a world where women and children are free from slavery', cocktail function hosted by Clover Moore. 7.30 pm, Sydney Town Hall.

24 June: Q&A and book signing of autobiography *The Road of Lost Innocence*. 1.00 to 2.00 pm, Stanton Library, 234 Miller St, North Sydney.

Contact: contact@projectfutures.com. Web: <http://www.projectfutures.com/events.html>.

21 JUNE. SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'GROUNDSWELL: THE FIRE IGNITES INDIGENOUS DIALOGUE' (NSW). Speakers: Prof Sarah Madison, Senior Associate Dean, Arts and Social Sciences, Acting Deputy Director, Indigenous Policy and Dialogue Research Unit,

UNSW; and TBA. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, Union Hotel, Pacific Highway and West Street, North Sydney. Contact: 02 9958 5963 or kamlam@optusnet.com.au. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/spirituality%20in%20the%20pub.htm>.

21 JUNE. AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN LOBBY WEBCAST: '2010 MAKE IT COUNT' (NATIONAL). Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Opposition leader Tony Abbott will address a representative group of church and para church leaders at Old Parliament House, Canberra on 21 June. The event will also be available live via webcast. All churches are encouraged to pray before, during and after the event. Churches can register at: <http://webcast.australiavotes.org/>.

21 JUNE - 1 JULY. MULTIMEDIA EXHIBITION: 'BLUEPRINT FOR A BETTER WORLD' (TAS). Caritas Australia and AusAID are exhibiting this display around Australia. It highlights the Millennium Development Goals and the promise of world Governments to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. Video, photographs, visual installation as well as contributions (such as posters, baskets, school books, readers) from Caritas partner communities make up the installation. No cost. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, City Hall, Hobart. Contact: 02 8306 3490, siobhanj@caritas.org.au, alexandrae@caritas.org.au or 02 8306 3456. Web: <http://www.caritas.org.au/blueprint/Venues/index.html>.

22 JUNE. FUNDRAISER SILENT FILM FESTIVAL: 'SILENTS IN THE CITY: AUTUMN AND WINTER' (NSW). Silent Film Australia, presenter of Australia's Silent Film Festival, and the Pitt Street Uniting Church are proud to host a season of restored silent film classics and live music to support Tradewinds' not for profit project in East Timor. Featuring: 'Voice of the Nightingale', Ladislav Starewicz; 'The Bells', Lionel Barrymore and Boris Karloff. Tradewinds Fairtrade organic coffees and teas available for nominal charge from 6.15 pm each evening. Cost: \$20, concession \$15. 7.00 pm, Pitt Street Uniting Church, 264 Pitt Street, Sydney. Contact: 0419 267 318 or info@ozsilentfilmfestival.com.au. Web: <http://www.ozsilentfilmfestival.com.au>.

22 JUNE - 27 JULY. PAX CHRISTI COURSE: 'OUR WORLD IN CRISIS? CURRENTS TRENDS AND FUTURE OPTIONS' (VIC). A unique 6-week course to skill, inform and stimulate. The principal lecturer will be Prof Joseph Camilleri of La Trobe University, assisting him will be Larry Marshall, Project Manager, Centre for Dialogue, La Trobe University. Topics will include: Making sense of our times; the global financial crisis, climate change after Copenhagen, arc of conflict from Algeria to Afghanistan, conflict resolution and dialogue, and the puzzle that is Australia. Cost, \$180-\$385. 5.15 to 9.00 pm, Tuesday nights, Australian Volunteers International Building, 88 Kerr Street, Fitzroy. Contact: r.fowler@latrobe.edu.au or 03 9479 2443, RSVP by 11 June. Web: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/dialogue/assets/downloads/OWIC-Brochure2010.pdf>.

22 JUNE. REFUGEE WEEK CELEBRATION: 'FREEDOM FROM FEAR' (NSW). Organised by Fairfield Immigrant and Refugee Women's Network. Guest speakers, live performances, information. All welcome. 10.00 am to 12.30 pm, Fairfield Community Hall, 25 Barbara St, Fairfield. Contact: 02 8717 4000. Web: http://www.immigrantwomenshealth.org.au/Projects-Flyers/2010_Refugee_Week_Flyer.pdf.

23 JUNE CONFERENCE: BUILDING ON DIVERSITY - 'SHARING OUR EXPERIENCES, CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS' (VIC). This conference, hosted by Australian Polish Community Services, aims to bring together multicultural organisations, government departments and other stakeholders to showcase positive practices, strategies and collaborations in the provision of culturally and linguistically responsive services. The conference also aims to share practical tools, experiences and expertise that may help to enhance the development of other services, particularly for smaller and less resourced groups who are finding it difficult to meet the new and emerging needs of their communities. Cost: \$55-\$165. 8.45 am to 5.30 pm, Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre, corner Bell Street and St Georges Road, Preston. Contact: 03 8371 2306, email melissa@apcs.org.au. Web: <http://www.apcs.org.au/buildingondiversityconference>.

23 JUNE. PRIORLETTI CONSULTANTS FORUM: 'WORKING WITH MUSLIM WOMEN' (VIC).

This forum will provide an excellent overview of how to work culturally sensitively with Muslim women. Forum content will include: an overview of Islam; gender in Islam; existing practices; the hijab and Islamic clothing; mobility and access to services and community access. Speakers from Islamic Women's Welfare. Cost: \$55. 10.00 am to 12.00 pm, Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre, corner St Georges Road and Bell Street, Preston. Contact: josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au or 03 9038 9292. Register: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au>.

24 JUNE. XAVIER SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK FUNDRAISER: JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICES (JRS) DINNER (VIC). Learn about JRS's pastoral work on Christmas Island and hear a firsthand account from a Sudanese refugee about the conflicts faced in his homeland and the ongoing issues that his community is dealing with upon settlement in Australia. Cost: \$50. 7.00 pm, Kingston Hotel, 55 Highett Street, Richmond. Contact: 0409 438 128 or m.storey@xavier.vic.edu.au, RSVP by 21 June. Web: <http://www.trybooking.com/EPE> or <http://www.jrs.org.au>.

24, 26 JUNE. SEMINAR: 'NATURE AND SPIRITUALITY' (TAS). Dr Alexandra Kovacs csjp, Professor of Spirituality, School of Theology and Ministry, Seattle University, USA is known internationally as a teacher and lecturer in Ecological and Creation Spirituality. **24 June:** 'Prayer: A Discovery of Life'. Cost: \$15. 7.30 to 9.30 pm.

26 June: 'Discovering the Mystic and the Prophet'. Cost: \$50, BYO lunch, tea/coffee available. 10.00 am to 2.00 pm, Mackillop Hill Spirituality Centre, 123 William Street, Forth. Contact: 03 6428 3095 or rsjforth@bigpond.net.au, RSVP by 17 June. Web: <http://www.hobart.catholic.org.au/whatson.html>.

24 JUNE, 1 JULY. HOBART CAMPUS STUDENTS AGAINST RACISM PRESENTATION: 'LIVING IN BETWEEN' (TAS). A dramatic presentation that explains why students left their homelands, the journey that brought them to Australia and their lives now. Their aim in developing the presentation was to be proactive in the face of the racism they

encountered, which they felt came from a lack of understanding about why refugees were settling in Tasmania. School presentation by 2009 Human Rights School Award winners. No cost. 10.00 to 10.45 am or 11.10 to 11.55 am, Hobart City Hall. Contact: 03 6223 1025 or admin@afairerworld.org. Web: http://www.afairerworld.org/Coming_events/.

25 JUNE. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'IS EQUALITY STILL A PRIORITY' (NSW). Speakers: Julian Disney, Director Social Justice Project, UNSW; Frank Stilwell, Professor Political Economy, University of Sydney. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, Gaelic Club, Level 1, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: 02 9692 0005 or odl_bradley@pacific.net.au. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au/>.

26 JUNE. EDMUND RICE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE (ERISJ) COURSE: 'INTEGRATING HEAD, HEART AND HAND FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE' (WA). This intensive assists participants to find higher purpose in life through solidarity with and practical action for those who suffer most. Be More challenges people to consider 'being more' rather than 'having more'. Speaker: Janeen Murphy, Global Education Adviser, Caritas Australia. Cost: \$25-\$150. 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, 24 High Street, Fremantle. Contact: 08 9432 2400 or admin@erisj.org.au. Web: <http://erisj.org.au/node/365>.

28 JUNE. HOBART CAMPUS STUDENTS AGAINST RACISM PRESENTATION: 'LIVING IN BETWEEN' (TAS). A dramatic presentation that explains why students left their homelands, the journey that brought them to Australia and their lives now. Their aim in developing the presentation was to be proactive in the face of the racism they encountered, which they felt came from a lack of understanding about why refugees were settling in Tasmania. School presentation by 2009 Human Rights School Award winners. No cost. 10.30 to 11.15 am or 11.40 am to 12.25 pm, Hobart City Hall. Contact: 03 6223 1025 or admin@afairerworld.org. Web: http://www.afairerworld.org/Coming_events/.

28 JUNE - 2 JULY. INDIGENOUS IMMERSION (VIC, TAS). The Amberley Edmund Rice Team is running an Indigenous Immersion to Lake

Mungo. The Immersion is open to Victorian and Tasmanian adults and will be an amazing opportunity to connect with one of the oldest Indigenous sites in the world- the home of Man and Lady Mungo. The trip includes all meals, transport, accommodation and access to Indigenous Leaders, Guides and Gate Keepers. Cost: \$650 plus flights to and from Melbourne. Contact: 03 9439 8282 or 0409 008 319 or email peter@amberley.org.au. Web: http://www.amberley.org.au/Coming_Events%3EAmberley-The_Edmund_Rice_Centre_files/Lake%20Mungo%20Flyer.pdf.

28 JUNE. AITSIS SEMINAR: 'SOCIAL JUSTICE AND WELLBEING' (ACT). Speaker: Mick Gooda, Social Justice Commissioner. No cost. 12.30 to 2.00 pm, Mabo Room, AIATSIS Building, Acton Peninsula, Canberra. Contact: cressida.fforde@aiatsis.gov.au or 02 6261 4221. Web: <http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/research/seminarseries/series1.html>.

29 JUNE. FUNDRAISER: 'HEART OF ST KILDA' CONCERT (VIC). Every day of the year Sacred Heart Mission provides free breakfasts and three course hot nutritious lunches to people who are homeless or living in poverty. That's 4,500 breakfasts and over 10,500 lunches each month. Last year's Concert supported 28,000 meals. Featuring some of the biggest names in the Australian entertainment industry, the Heart of St Kilda Concert is a great way to support the Sacred Heart Mission. Cost: \$99 A-reserve, \$79 B-reserve. 7.00 to 10.30 pm, Palais Theatre, Lower Esplanade, St Kilda. Book: <http://www.ticketmaster.com.au> or 136 100. Information: <http://www.sacredheartmission.org>.

29 JUNE, 2, 3, 4, 5 JULY. PRESENTATION: IMMACULÉE ILIBAGIZA (WA, VIC, NSW). Immaculée will speak on her dramatic and moving story relating to her survival of the Rwandan holocaust and her true gift of forgiveness. Immaculée is regarded as one of the world's leading speakers on peace, faith and forgiveness; she is the author of three books including *Left to Tell* and has hosted a documentary 'Ready to Forgive, an African Story of Grace'.

29 June (WA): 7.30 pm, The Drill Hall, Mouat Street, Fremantle. Contact: 08 9293 3968 or rsvp@nd.edu.au, RSVP essential.

2 July (VIC): Introduced by Bishop Christopher Prowse. 7.30 pm, St Peter's College Hall, Cranbourne-Frankston Road, Cranbourne.

3 July (VIC): 2.00 pm, The Besen Centre, 87-89 Station Street, Burwood.

4, 5 July (NSW): venue to be confirmed. Contact: 02 9949 6270 or 0404 292 855.

Web: <http://www.divinemeracy.net.au/Leaflet%20for%20Immaculee.pdf>.

29 JUNE - 31 JULY. FESTIVAL: 'EXCHANGE FOR CHANGE' (NSW). Oxfam and CarriageWorks are holding this festival for people to find out about fair wages, safe working conditions, respecting the rights of workers who are making our clothes; and which designers are making tracks towards having friendlier, more sustainable methods of producing their garments.

29 July: Story Session: 'Tales of Fashionable Triumphs', panel discussion - stories of people rising to the challenge of influencing positive change within the fashion industry. 6.30 to 8.30 pm, Bay 20.

30 July: Young blood fashion parade, young Australian designers showcase how they produce fairer and more sustainable garments. 6.30 to 8.30 pm or 8.30 to 10.00 pm, Bay 20. RSVP essential.

31 July: Ethics on Toast, Presenter: Oxfam's 3things Project, ethical fashion issues. 8.00 to 10.45 am, foyer.

31 July: Rethreads: free mass clothing exchange. Guidelines: <http://www.carriageworks.com.au/?page=Event&event=Rethreads-A-Free-Mass-Clothing-Exchange>. 12.00 to 6.00 pm, foyer.

31 July: Seminar: human rights in the fashion industry. Speaker: Daisy Gardener, Oxfam Australia's Labour Rights Advocacy Coordinator. 7.00 to 8.30 pm, Bay 17.

No cost. CarriageWorks Contemporary Arts Centre, 245 Wilson Street, Eveleigh. Contact: exchangeforchange@oxfam.org.au. Web: <http://www.oxfam.org.au/act/events/event-calendar/new-south-wales>.

30 JUNE. DUNGALA KAIELA ORATION: 'SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INCLUSION' (VIC). The Dungala Kaiela 'Defining Shepparton' oration is held each year to celebrate Aboriginal cultural identity, create a shared vision for the people of the greater Goulburn Valley region,

and promote Aboriginal cultural and socio-economic development. Speakers: Mr Richard Goyder, Wesfarmers Limited, and Professor Marcia Langton, University of Melbourne. No cost. 6.00 to 7.30 pm, Harder Auditorium, Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE, 152 Fryers Street, Shepparton. Contact: 03 5823 6600 or daye@unimelb.edu.au, by 21 June. Web: <http://www.murrupbarak.unimelb.edu.au/>.

2 JULY. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'PALESTINE - AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT COWARDICE' (NSW). Speakers: Dr Jake Lynch, Director, Centre Peace and Conflict Studies; Rihab Charida, television journalist. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, Gaelic Club, Level 1, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: 02 9692 0005 or odlbradley@pacific.net.au. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au/>.

3 JULY. NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATION: 'UNsung HEROES - CLOSING THE GAP BY LEADING THEIR WAY' (NSW). Bankstown City Council is holding this event to celebrate as acknowledgement of the survival of Indigenous culture and the Indigenous contribution to modern Australia. The celebration will include a Flag Raising Ceremony, live community concert, wood carving demonstrations, stalls, giveaways, a jumping castle, kids club and a free Lions BBQ. 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, Paul Keating Park, Bankstown. Contact: 02 9707 9605. Web: <http://www.bankstown.nsw.gov.au/EventViewTrainingDetails.aspx?Bck=Y&EventID=1047>.

4 JULY. ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY (ACT). Archbishop Mark Coleridge will celebrate the inaugural Mass organised by the ACT Aboriginal Catholic Ministry as part of NAIDOC Week celebrations. The day will include a community family barbecue, entertainment, Gecko Gand face painting and performances by Johnny Huckle. 11.00 am, St Benedict's Church, Narrabundah. Contact: 0402 049 650, 0422 066 080, or bronnieschlager@gmail.com, RSVP by 30 June. Web: http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/news/view_event.cfm?loadref=18&id=760.

5 - 9 JULY. ECUMENICAL WINTER SCHOOL: 'LOOKING BEYOND DIVISION' (ACT). The Centre for Ecumenical Studies (Charles Sturt University, Australian Centre for Christianity

and Culture (ACC&C)) is holding this course. This unit will introduce students to the study of Ecumenics. Academic Coordinators: Reverend Professor Emeritus Robert Gribben, Centre for Ecumenical Studies; Reverend Dr Ray Williamson, Centre for Ecumenical Studies. Lecturer: Reverend Dr John Gibaut, director, World Council of Churches' Faith and Order Commission; Reverend Professor James Haire Executive Director, ACC&C; Reverend Dr Erica Mathieson, Rector, Holy Cross Anglican Church, Hackett; Reverend Dr Gerard Kelly, President, Catholic Institute of Sydney. Cost: \$400-\$900. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, ACC&C, 15 Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: 02 6272 6213 or raywilliamson@csu.edu.au, RSVP by 1 May. Web: <http://www.nswec.org.au/images/events/event102.pdf?PHPSESSID=68860b30216a1bc5b6758d1af5fdec12>.

5 JULY - 20 AUGUST. MULTIMEDIA EXHIBITION: 'BLUEPRINT FOR A BETTER WORLD' (ACT). Caritas Australia and AusAID are exhibiting this display around Australia. It highlights the Millennium Development Goals and the promise of world Governments to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. Video, photographs, visual installation as well as contributions (such as posters, baskets, school books, readers) from Caritas partner communities make up the installation. No cost. Old Parliament House, Canberra. Contact: 02 8306 3490, siobhanj@caritas.org.au, alexandrae@caritas.org.au or 02 8306 3456. Web: <http://www.caritas.org.au/blueprint/Venues/index.html>.

6 JULY. NATIONAL ABORIGINAL CUSTOMARY LAW AND CULTURAL MOVEMENT (NT). The Alice Springs gathering, supported by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples from across Australia, will call on the Federal Government to end the intervention and unconditionally re-instate the Racial Discrimination Act. The continued suspension of the RDA with the full consent of the Rudd government allows for the contentious and racially discriminatory aspects of the NTER intervention to continue unabated. All are welcome to come and stand together to turn a new page in race relations. Alice Springs Showgrounds, Blatherskite Park, Alice Springs. Contact: 0428 611 169 or richard.downs12@gmail.com. Web: <http://>

indigenouspeoplesissues.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4747&Itemid=96.

6 - 10 JULY. INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (IPRA) CONFERENCE: 'COMMUNICATING PEACE' (NSW). Themes include: ensuring human protection and human rights in conflict zones; pressing for the abolition of nuclear weapons; indigenous and environmental activism; and art and creative agency in peace building. Speakers: Professor Johan Galtung, founder, TRANSCEND network; Irene Khan, former Secretary General, Amnesty International, Sydney Peace Prize Laureate; Patrick Dodson, 'father of reconciliation' in Australia; etc. Cost: \$175-\$375. Footbridge Theatre, University of Sydney. Contact: jake.lynch@usyd.edu.au. Web: http://www.iprasydne2010.org/Communicating_Peace.html.

7 - 13 JULY. ONLINE DIALOGUE: 'STAYING SAFE: SECURITY RESOURCES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS' (INTERNET). Human rights defenders are often met with oppression, discrimination and violence. It is important to identify strategies and methods for protection of these defenders. This dialogue will bring together practitioners that work with human rights defenders developing security strategies to share important resources and tools for the human rights community. Resource practitioners: Jane Barry, author of *Insiste, Persiste, Resiste, Existe: Women Human Rights Defenders Security Strategies* (with Vahida Nainar); Wojtek Bogusz, Frontline Defenders; Bobby Soriano, information and technology trainer, Tactical Tech; Rick P. Ruiz; President, VaultletSoft, initiator, Project Autonomy; etc. Register: <http://www.newtactics.org/en/blog/new-tactics/staying-safe-security-resources-human-rights-defenders>.

8 JULY. MULTICULTURALISM AND SOCIAL INCLUSION SYMPOSIUM (VIC). This event brings together academics, policy makers and practitioners to advance dialogue on multiculturalism and social inclusion. It also aims to foster networking in this key social policy area. Presenters: Professor Andrew Jakubowicz, University of Technology, Chairperson, Institute for Cultural Diversity;

Mr George Lekakis, Chairperson, Victorian Multicultural Commission; and Ms Jenny Semple, South Eastern Region Migrant Resource Centre and Settlement Council of Australia. No cost. 9.30 am to 1.00 pm, Multicultural Hub, 506 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne. Contact: tasa.migration@gmail.com, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/index.html>.

9 JULY. ECUMENICAL SYMPOSIUM: 100 YEARS OF THE ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT: 'OPENING HORIZONS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY' (ACT). An opportunity for Christians to mark the 100th anniversary of the Edinburgh International Mission Conference by identifying prospects and signs of hope, new methodologies and challenges. Speakers: The Revd Dr John Gibaut, World Council of Churches; The Revd Professor Emeritus Robert Gribben, Centre for Ecumenical Studies; Auntie Joan Hendriks, Ngugi elder Quandamooka people, Indigenous educator and researcher; Dr Shane Clifton, Alphacrucis College, Pentecostal tradition. Cost: \$40. 9.00 am to 3.30 pm, Australian Centre for Christianity & Culture, 15 Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: 02 9299 2215 or secretariat@ncca.org.au. Web: http://www.nswec.org.au/events.php?action=showevent&id=113&new_c_id=&PHPSESSID=d51210a644b122cc256cad43766db1e0.

9 JULY. NAIDOC AWARDS CEREMONY AND BALL (VIC). This is held in National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) week, 4 - 11 July, the theme for NAIDOC week is 'Unsung Heroes - Closing the Gap'. NAIDOC Awards Ceremony and Ball will honour the achievements of Indigenous Australians by presenting the National NAIDOC Awards. Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. Web: <http://www.naidoc.org.au/>.

9 JULY. NAIDOC WEEK: THULLII DREAMING DANCERS (NSW). Showcasing Aboriginal culture from the Ngemba tribe, North West NSW, a culture that is alive and strong. Come and enjoy their interactive and educational workshop/ performance. Organised in partnership by Lane Cove Residents for Reconciliation and Lane Cove Council. No cost. 10.30 to 11.00 am, Lane Cove Plaza, Longueville Road at Burns Bay Road, Lane Cove. Contact: 02 9911 3594. Web: <http://>

www.nswrecon.com/CustomContentRetrieve.aspx?ID=446668.

13 - 17 JULY. ECUMENICAL WINTER SCHOOL: 'LOOKING BEYOND DIVISION' (NSW). The Centre for Ecumenical Studies (Charles Sturt University, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture (ACC&C)) is holding this course. This unit will introduce students to the study of Ecumenics. Academic Coordinators: Reverend Professor Emeritus Robert Gribben, Centre for Ecumenical Studies; Reverend Dr Ray Williamson, Centre for Ecumenical Studies.

Lecturer: Reverend Dr John Gibaut, director, World Council of Churches' Faith and Order Commission; Reverend Professor James Haire Executive Director, ACC&C; Reverend Dr Erica Mathieson, Rector, Holy Cross Anglican Church, Hackett; Reverend Dr Gerard Kelly, President, Catholic Institute of Sydney. Cost: \$400-\$900. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, United Theological College, Centre for Ministry, 16 Masons Drive, North Parramatta. Contact: 02 6272 6213 or raywilliamson@csu.edu.au, RSVP by 1 May. Web: <http://www.nswec.org.au/images/events/event102.pdf?PHPSESSID=68860b30216a1bc5b6758d1af5fdec12>.

News Monitor

Abolish nuclear weapons, urge Japanese bishops

Archbishop Joseph Mitsuaki Takami of Nagasaki met with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon to appeal for the abolition of nuclear weapons and handed in a joint statement from himself and the Bishop of Hiroshima.

Caritas welcomes budget aid funding promise

Caritas Australia welcomed the Federal Budget commitment to increase Australia's Official Development Assistance (ODA) for the coming year, plus stronger support for Australian aid and development organisations.

Budget fails the disadvantaged, say welfare groups

Catholic Social Services Australia and the St Vincent de Paul Society said the Federal Budget failed to take into account the needs of the country's disadvantaged people.

Deported asylum seekers unsafe in Sri Lanka: refugee advocate

Edmund Rice Centre director Phil Glendenning said it is unsafe for Sri Lankan asylum seekers to return to their country, on the basis of his recent visit there.

Churches open to hosting asylum seekers

Ballarat's Anglican and Catholic churches were reportedly embracing the idea of housing asylum seekers, as detention centres near capacity.

Stang murder mastermind freed on appeal

Brazilian authorities freed a rancher convicted of masterminding the murder of Sr Dorothy Stang, pending an appeal of his 30-year sentence.

Caritas said public must be engaged to fight poverty

Caritas Australia said its mission is to deliver emergency assistance and long-term aid to the needy - but it also needs to engage the Australian public to the cause.

Tributes for Fr Cyril Hally, Columban missionary and priest

Father Cyril Thomas Hally, priest and missionary of St Columbans Missionary Society, died peacefully in Melbourne.

- For details, click on headlines or go to <http://cathnews.com>



Social Justice Calendar

3 THU Mabo Day - High Court Decision in Mabo Case, 1992

Catholic and Anglican Martyrs of Uganda, 1886

Day of Prayer for Catholic and Anglican Reconciliation

4 FRI International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

Tiananmen Square Massacre, 1989

5 SAT World Environment Day

6 SUN Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ)

10 THU Myall Creek Massacre, 1838

Alcoholics Anonymous established in New York, 1935

11 FRI Assent for Racial Discrimination Act, 1975: the Australian Government ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in 1975 and on this day made it part of Australian Law. Neville Bonner becomes the first Aboriginal Australian to hold a seat in Federal Parliament

12 SAT World Day Against Child Labour

Aboriginal Flag first flown in Adelaide, 1971

Barunga Statement presented to Prime Minister Bob Hawke by Aboriginal leaders, 1988

13 SUN 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
National Refugee Week commences

16 WED International Day of the African Child

17 THU World Day to Combat Desertification & Drought

19 SAT Equal pay for women in Australia, 1969

20 SUN 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
UN World Refugee Day
Simply Sharing Week commences

22 TUE Destruction of the Berlin Wall, 1989

23 WED UN Public Service Day

26 SAT International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug trafficking
International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

27 SUN 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jubilee Sunday

30 WED Introduction of unemployment benefits in Australia, 1945

Notes on these dates are available in the printed ACSJC's Seasons of Social Justice Diary. The cost is \$6.60. To order go to http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/publications/social_justice_calendar.html, or call 02 8306 3499.

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Website: <http://socialjustice.catholic.org.au>. ACSJC Briefing is sent by email at the beginning of each month (except January). To subscribe or unsubscribe, go to the front page of the website Comments and contributions are also welcome.