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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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Dear Friends,

The National Apology to the Stolen Generations, delivered four years ago, was a great achievement but it showed us how much work is still to be done, say three noted writers on issues affecting Indigenous people.

The Australian Catholic Social Justice Council issued a collection of essays by these writers to mark the anniversary of the Apology to the Stolen Generations on 13 February. The paper's title is *Take Off Your Shoes, Walk on the Ground: The journey towards reconciliation in Australia* (Catholic Social Justice Series No. 71).

The three authors are Professor Lyn Henderson-Yates, Deputy Vice-Chancellor on the Broome Campus of Notre Dame University Australia; Fr Brian McCoy SJ, Senior Research Fellow in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health at La Trobe University; and Melissa Brickell, long-term member of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council.

Indigenous academic Lyn Henderson-Yates describes the Apology as 'our finest hour', but reminds us that it has to 'go beyond politics and be claimed by all Australians'.

'We need to heal the hearts and minds of all Australians so that we can enter a new phase of respect and shared understandings. Not to do so means we will continue to practice our divisions ... and we will continue to have groups of people living lives of trauma, poverty and sorrow. Can we live with that?'

Fr Brian McCoy SJ draws on the Gospel of Luke, when Jesus tells to story of Lazarus, who lies poor and hungry outside the house of a rich man. The passage speaks of 'our human ability to live our lives separated from others who are physically close to us ... The Gospel is telling to story of a gap between people that was human-made, created and established by wealth, privilege and indifference. It was a gap sustained by self-serving human blindness.'

Fr Brian cites a phrase used by Aboriginal desert people. 'It is translated simply as: *let us be strong together*. Let us be strong in listening to our past and finding common paths that we can share together'.

Melissa Brickell says that the Apology was never expected to resolve all the problems faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. 'But the full effect of the Apology is still to be experienced. So the pressure still exists by the people for a government to fully realise justice for Stolen Generations peoples.'

Melissa says, 'While there still remains an uplifting euphoria about the Apology as one of the greatest moments in Australia's history, we cannot continue to dwell on the apology and glorify it, for these is still much-needed support and justice to be achieved for Stolen Generations and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia.'

The call of these authors resonates with that of Pope Benedict XVI when he issued his message for Lent 2012. Drawing on that same scriptural passage from Luke, the Holy

Father considers what hinders the humane and compassionate concern for our brothers and sisters. He says, 'Often it is the possession of material riches and a sense of sufficiency, but it can also be the tendency to put our own interests and problems above all else. We should never be incapable of "showing mercy" towards those who suffer. Our hearts should never be so wrapped up in our affairs and problems that they fail to hear the cry of the poor. Humbleness of heart and the personal experience of suffering can awaken within us a sense of compassion and empathy.'

He says that 'acts of charity towards our brothers and sisters - as expressed by almsgiving, a practice which, together with prayer and fasting, is typical of Lent - is rooted in this common belonging. Christians can also express their membership in the one body which is the Church through concrete concern for the poorest of the poor.'

The Pope says that 'in a world which demands of Christians a renewed witness of love and fidelity to the Lord, may all of us feel the urgent need to anticipate one another in charity, service and good works (cf. Heb 6:10). This appeal is particularly pressing in this holy season of preparation for Easter.' (refer: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/lent/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20111103_lent-2012_en.html)

Just as the three authors of the publication urge us to take off our shoes and walk on the ground in the journey to Reconciliation, the Holy Father is calling us to walk together in holiness this Season of Lent. We are reminded of that truth that Lent is not simply about 'giving things up', but of giving of ourselves to others.

John Ferguson



Current Issues / Resources

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S PROJECT COMPASSION

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which also marks the beginning of the annual Caritas Australia Project Compassion appeal. Donations to Project Compassion allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to work with local communities around the world to alleviate poverty, hunger, oppression and injustice. You can obtain a Project Compassion box and/or a set of envelopes for donations or you can donate online via the website at www.caritas.org.au. Marginalised communities focused on by Project Compassion 2012 include those in Timor-Leste, the Thai-Burma border, Zimbabwe, the Philippines, Peru and Indigenous Australian communities. Please put your compassion into action this Lent by supporting Project Compassion 2012.

PALMS AUSTRALIA'S ENCOUNTER TIMOR-LESTE

Palms Australia places volunteers to support local people in their development. Palms is now very pleased to be able to offer a 'taste' of this work in a 12-day Encounter in Timor-Leste. Encounter participants witness at very close range the lives of people seeking their own sustainable development and the volunteers who are helping them with it by sharing their skills and abilities. Two Encounters are scheduled for 2012: June 30th and September 22nd. Each trip will include 12 days in Timor, offering insights into eco-tourism, permaculture, development, volunteering and East Timorese culture. For more information on Palms Encounters please contact encounter@palms.org.au, ring (02) 9518 9551 or visit www.palms.org.au.

NEW BOOK - 'AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME: ESSAYS, REFLECTIONS AND POETRY ON EAST TIMOR 1999-2010'

The author, Pat Walsh, is a much respected and creative activist involved for 40 years in support of the people of East Timor/Timor Leste. This included Pat working in East Timor during the first ten years of its independence, especially as a key participant in the CAVR reconciliation commission. While focused on Timor Leste, the book addresses a wide range of issues, including reconciliation, forgiveness, human rights, the role of the church, historical justice and memory. The book is available from Mosaic Resources at <https://mosaicresources.com.au/> or phone (03) 9470 6650.

CHILOUT SEEKS YOUNG AMBASSADORS

The refugee group Children Out of Immigration Detention (ChilOut) is seeking young people to be part of their Youth Ambassador program. ChilOut's youth ambassadors have been former refugees, former detainees and Australian-born young people - all united by a desire to see an end to the indefinite detention of children seeking Australia's protection. Youth ambassadors will engage in activities such as meeting with politicians to lobby against children in detention, working with schools or local communities to raise awareness, writing articles, or anything that might help the campaign to get young people out of detention centres. If you would like to become a ChilOut youth ambassador, please get in touch with Sophie at: team@chilout.org. For more information on the Youth Ambassador program, refer: http://www.chilout.org/index.php?p=1_18.

AUSTRALIAN YOUNG CHRISTIAN STUDENTS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN - '100% RESPECT: YOUTH REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS'

The first action of this campaign included nearly 1000 people at the Facebook event 'bare skin for refugees and asylum seekers' which asked people to write 'for those that come across the seas, we've boundless plains to share' on their skin. This was a huge success, with hundreds of photos uploaded in support of refugees and asylum seekers. These will be forwarded to politicians to bring about just policies and practises that uphold the human dignity of these young people. Students

will continue to review the issues throughout the two year campaign and become equipped to take action. To see the photos visit: <http://www.facebook.com/AustralianYCW?sk=wall>.

2011 SOCIAL JUSTICE AND NATIVE TITLE REPORTS

Mr Mick Gooda, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission, recently launched the annual Social Justice and Native Title reports. To access the reports, community guides and associated resources, visit: http://www.humanrights.gov.au/social_justice/index.html

DEATHS IN CUSTODY CAMPAIGN

Brisbane's Catholic Justice and Peace Commission and the Archdiocesan Murri Ministry Team have joined together to launch a campaign to get Government action to address on-going Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths in custody. The campaign was launched at Musgrave Park, South Brisbane, on the anniversary of the death in custody of a 16-year-old Aboriginal youth, John Pat, in 1983. To find out more about the campaign, visit: <http://cjpcbrisbane.wordpress.com/2011/10/03/deaths-in-custody-campaign-launched/> Download the factsheet at: <http://cjpcbrisbane.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/deaths-in-custody-launch-fact-sheet11.pdf>

STAND FOR FREEDOM PETITION

The Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory are fighting for their freedom. The Stronger Futures legislation proposes to extend key elements of the Northern Territory Intervention until 2022. The Northern Territory Intervention has been condemned by the United Nations as racially discriminatory and contrary to international human rights principles. You can find out more and sign the petition to request the Government to withdraw the legislation at: <http://www.standforfreedom.org.au>.

NEW BOOK - 'NT CONSULTATIONS REPORT 2011: BY QUOTATIONS'

Consultations took place in the NT between June to August 2011, at the request of government. The stated purpose was to find out what worked and what didn't work under the Intervention introduced there in 2007.

Ten of these consultations were recorded and quotations from them are contained in this report. An order form is available at: <http://www.concernedaustralians.com.au/>.

CALL FOR PAPERS - 'HISTORIES OF VIOLENCE' CONFERENCE

The Humanities Research Institute at the University of Newcastle invites academics from a wide variety of disciplines - including anthropology, art, history, international relations, law, literature, psychology, philosophy, political science and sociology - to submit proposals for panels and individual papers at its conference, Histories of Violence, to be held in the city of Newcastle from 21 to 23 August 2012. The program committee welcomes panels and paper proposals that deal with the history of violence in the broadest sense, in all parts of the world, from the fifteenth century to the present day. To find out more, visit: <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/institute/humanities-research/historyofviolence/ViolenceStudiesConference2012.html>

VICTORIAN DISABILITY SECTOR AWARDS: 'CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN PRACTICE'

The awards celebrate and acknowledge those who demonstrate excellence, passion, vision and commitment to assisting people with a disability achieve their life goals. Nominations are now being accepted until 7 March 2012. Members of the public can nominate an

individual, team or organisation making a significant contribution to improving the lives of people with a disability at: <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disabilityawards>.

NEW BOOK - 'CATHOLICS AND CATHOLICISM IN CONTEMPORARY AUSTRALIA: CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS'

This collection of essays focuses on several themes including Catholic schools and universities, cultural pluralism, the media, religious education, civil engagement, spiritualism and interfaith dialogue, role of women, asylum seekers, mental health, mixed marriages, the clergy, identity, social services and institutions, personality type and church attendance, conversion to and from Catholicism, and challenges and future directions. The publication contains articles from prominent Catholic and non Catholic academics, clergy and journalists in Australia and overseas. For more information and an order form, see: <http://www.cathnews.com/uploads/doc/2012/02/Catholics%20in%20Australia.pdf>.

PARISH KIT - INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

A Parish Kit has been prepared by the members of the Council for Australia Catholic Women and the Office for the Participation of Women (OPW) to support parishes in celebrating International Women's Day in 2012. It can be downloaded here: <http://www.opw.catholic.org.au/index.php>.

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)

SERIES PAPER - 'TAKE OFF YOUR SHOES, WALK ON THE GROUND'

The ACSJC has published a collection of three essays under the title *Take Off Your Shoes, Walk on the Ground: The journey towards reconciliation in Australia* (Catholic Social Justice series paper No. 71). The authors are: Professor Lyn Henderson-Yates of the University of Notre Dame Australia; Fr Brian

McCoy SJ, Senior Research Fellow in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health at La Trobe University; and Melissa Brickell, member of several Catholic and ecumenical commissions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, Director of Reconciliation Victoria and Chair of the Stolen Generations Victoria Alliance. (\$6.60 a copy plus postage - postage rates listed below)

SERIES PAPER - 'READING THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES'

The ACSJC Secretariat has releasing Catholic Social Justice Series paper No.70, 'Reading the Signs of the Times: A basic introduction to

Catholic social teaching'. This paper provides a brief analysis of the context in which the encyclicals were promulgated, some of the key themes of each, and a method for applying the permanent principles of social doctrine to the challenges of today. (\$6.60 a copy, plus postage - postage rates listed below)

ORDER NOW! - 2012 SOCIAL JUSTICE DIARY

The 2012 Social Justice Diary includes the dates of significant events, anniversaries and special days which celebrate particular aspects of social justice. The Diary provides a social justice program for the full year. Information and ideas for prayer and reflection are included. This is an essential resource for teachers and parishes. A great Christmas gift. Cost: \$6.60 (inc. GST), plus postage. To download an order form, go to: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2011-2012 - STILL TAKING ORDERS

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference 2011 - 2012 Social Justice Statement is entitled 'Building Bridges, Not Walls: Prisons and the justice system'. The ACSJC is still taking orders for the Statement. An order form and other information/resources are available on the ACSJC website: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

Prayer Card & Leaflet: Ten steps to Building Bridges, Not Walls.

Now available. Call (02) 8306 3499

Social Justice Statement Summary, Liturgy Notes, Community and Student Resources, PowerPoint Presentation - now available at: www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

Ecumenical resource: 'I Was in Prison and You Visited Me'. Download from the National Council of Churches website: <http://www.ncca.org.au/>

SERIES PAPER - 'THE LOVE THAT SURPRISES'

In Catholic Social Justice Series paper No.69, entitled 'The Love that Surprises: Lessons from Timor-Leste', Mark Green describes his experiences working for Caritas Australia in Timor-Leste. His work in remote communities prompted him to think deeply about the concrete reality of Catholic social teaching and our relationships with marginalised communities close to our shores. (\$6.60 a copy, plus postage - postage rates listed below)

(Catholic Social Justice Series papers: \$6.60 a copy, plus postage. Postage rates for Catholic Social Justice Series Papers: 1 copy \$1.20; 2 copies \$1.80; 3-5 copies \$3.00)

This Month's Notices

NATIONAL

1 - 31 MARCH. UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FUNDRAISER: 'SWAP TIL YOU DROP'.

Opportunity International Australia is inviting people to host an 'Opportunity Swap' clothes swap in honour of United Nations International Women's Day on 8 March. Bring your friends together for a clothes swap anytime during the month of March to recycle your wardrobe AND empower women in desperate need by raising much-needed funds for women and their families living in poverty in developing countries. Web: <http://opportunitieswap.gofundraise.com.au/>.

21 MARCH. HARMONY DAY: 'EVERYONE BELONGS'. The continuing message for Harmony Day in 2012 is that Everyone Belongs, which means all Australians are a welcome part of our country, regardless of their background. It's a time to reflect on where Australia has come from, recognising the traditional owners of this land. It's also about community participation, inclusiveness and respect - celebrating the different cultures that make Australia a great place to live. This day is also the United Nation's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Harmony Day is managed by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC). Events and resources: <http://www.harmony.gov.au/about/>.

22 MARCH. NATIONAL CLOSE THE GAP DAY: 'POWER THROUGH PARTNERSHIP'. This annual event enables people and organisations across Australia to demonstrate their support for achieving Indigenous health equality through hosting an event in their home, community, workplace or school. This active show of support is extremely important and effective in demonstrating to the Government a strong public desire for action on this issue to hold them to account with regards to their public commitments to take action to close the health and life expectancy gap. Register: <http://acoss.org.au/events/view/985/> or <https://www.oxfam.org.au/act/events/close-the-gap-day>.

25 MARCH. NEIGHBOUR DAY: 'CELEBRATE YOUR COMMUNITY'. Ten years ago the discovery of the lonely death of an elderly woman led to the founding of Neighbour Day. Each year since neighbours in the city and the country have used the last Sunday in March as the catalyst for stronger relationships between residents of all ages and backgrounds every day of the year. Whether you decide to celebrate the 10th annual Neighbour Day with a street party or attend a council run event in a local park - or simply have a cup of tea and a chat with a neighbour - you will be helping to strengthen your community.' Quentin Bryce. Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia. Web: <http://www.neighbourday.org>.

31 MARCH. EARTH HOUR. Hundreds of millions of people across the globe will switch off the lights of homes and businesses for one hour - Earth Hour, the world's largest public environmental action - acknowledging a commitment to go beyond the hour with actions that benefit the planet in the year ahead. 8.30 pm, your place. Web: <http://www.earthhour.org/>.

QUEENSLAND

UNTIL 26 MAY. EXHIBITION: 'FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS GROW: FIGHTING FOR INDIGENOUS RIGHTS 1920-1970'. This exhibition tells the largely unknown story of Indigenous and non-Indigenous activists who fought together for justice and equal rights for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from 1920 to 1970. It details the achievements

and sacrifices of the struggle through personal stories, rarely seen objects and protest material. Presented by the National Museum of Australia. 9.30 am to 5.00 pm, Queensland Museum, corner Grey and Melbourne Streets, South Bank, Brisbane. Contact: 07 3840 7555. Web: http://www.nma.gov.au/exhibitions/from_little_things_big_things_grow/home

1 - 31 MARCH. MULTIMEDIA CLIMATE CHANGE EXHIBITION: 'LAND IS LIFE'. In 2010, Australian photographer Rodney Dekker travelled to the Pacific island nations of Tuvalu and Kiribati to capture stories and images of how climate change is affecting daily life on these fragile islands. Contact: 07 5540 5473. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Mondays to Fridays, Mt Tamborine Library, Main Street, Mt Tamborine. Web: <https://www.oxfam.org.au/act/events/land-is-life>.

6 MARCH. THE GREY MAN FUNDRAISING MOVIE NIGHT: 'THIS IS WAR'. The Grey Man is an international organisation dedicated to eradicating the trafficking and exploitation of children. Movie - The world's deadliest CIA operatives are inseparable partners and best friends until they fall for the same woman. Having once helped bring down entire enemy nations, they are now employing their incomparable skills and an endless array of high-tech gadgetry against their greatest nemesis ever - starring Reese Witherspoon, Chris Pine and Tom Hardy. All profits go to The Grey Man. Cost: \$32. 6.00 pm, Palace Barracks Cinemas, 61 Petrie Terrace, Brisbane. Web: http://www.thegreyman.org/index.php?page=shop.product_details&flypage=flypage.tpl&product_id=33&category_id=5&option=com_virtuemart&Itemid=103.

8 MARCH. FR BARRON PRESENTATION: TALK AND PUBLIC SCREENING. This is an opportunity to hear one of the brightest minds of our generation reflect upon our past, our future and the meaning of faith in our global community. 7.30 pm, Edmund Rice Performing Art Centre, 82 Stephens Road, South Brisbane. Contact: 07 3623 7172. Web: http://students.acu.edu.au/student_life/campus_community/faith_on_campus2/upcoming_events/frrobertbarron/.

17 MARCH. HARMONY DAY FESTIVAL. Aim: To celebrate and promote multiculturalism and enhance solidarity between diverse communities through collaborative fund raising events. MC: The Hon Gary Hardgrave, Former MP and Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, First Minister for 'Harmony Day'. Includes multicultural performances, martial arts performances, ethnic food stalls, fund rides, etc. Beneficiaries: Multicap, Africa Hunger, Leukaemia Foundation, Philippine Flood, Cancer Council QLD, Karen Refugees and various humanitarian charity organizations. Organiser: Global United Ethnics Inc. Cost: \$5, concession free. 11.00 am to 4.00 pm, Multicap, 269 Padstow Road, Eight Mile Plains. Contact: 0410 567 618 or unitedethics@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.unitedethnics.org/front/bin/ptdetail.phtml?Part=052&Rcg=565>.

21 MARCH. TABOR COLLEGE SEMINAR: GOD AND SCIENCE. This innovative series of regional science and faith seminars around Australia has been designed to meet the needs of those who have a significant role in shaping the minds and hearts of members of the Christian community. These seminars may be used as a platform to explore the relationship between science and faith in Christian life and ministry. Speaker: Mark Worthing, Lutheran pastor, Senior Research Fellow, Graeme Clark Research Institute. Cost: \$10 donation would be gratefully accepted. 3.00 to 4.30 pm, Pastors and church leaders; 7.00 to 8.30 pm, Principals and schoolteachers. Cherm-side-Kedron UC, 590 Gympie Road, Cherm-side South. Contact: 08 8373 8777. Web: http://taboradelaide.edu.au/about/gcri_godandscienceseminar.php.

30 MARCH. ABC RADIO NATIONAL'S BIG IDEAS PROGRAM STUDIO AUDIENCE: ANITA HEISS 'AM I BLACK ENOUGH FOR YOU?' Anita Heiss will be in conversation with ABC's Paul Barclay. Anita is a successful author and passionate campaigner for Aboriginal literacy, was born a member of the Wiradjuri nation of central New South Wales, but was raised in the suburbs of Sydney and educated at the local Catholic school. No cost. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Avid Reader Bookshop, 193 Boundary Road, West End. Contact: 07 3846 3422. Register:

http://www.avidreader.com.au/index.php?option=com_registrationpro&view=event&temid=2&did=250.

3 APRIL. FESTIVAL: 'BOOIN GARI - COME THIS WAY'. Indigenous culture and heritage is the focus of the Booin Gari festival. The event will feature a range of guest presentations from local community, artists and performers, including cultural and art workshops, bush tucker tastings, traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander games, dance and didgeridoo workshops. The event is supported by the Sunshine Coast Council, the Queensland Government Department of Communities, Regional Arts Development Fund and Festivals Australia. No cost. 10.00 am to 2.00 pm, United Synergies, 12-14 Ernest Street, Tewantin. Contact: 07 5442 4277. Web: http://www.unitedsynergies.com.au/images/stories/USyn_Booin_Gari_Flyer_2012_for_web.pdf.

NEW SOUTH WALES

UNTIL 24 MARCH. CONOR ASHLEIGH PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION LAUNCH: 'OUR WORLD UNSEEN'. Conor has worked through Asia, the Pacific, Middle East Africa and Indian sub continent. He regularly works on assignments for organisations such as AusAID, UNICEF, Oxfam, and Red Cross. 9.30 am to 8.00 pm Mondays to Fridays, Newcastle Region Library, Lovett Gallery, Laman Street, Newcastle. Contact: library@ncc.nsw.gov.au. Web: <http://conorashleigh.wordpress.com/>.

2 MARCH. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'PEOPLE SMUGGLERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS: INDONESIAN CHILDREN IMPRISONED, INDONESIAN FISHING PEOPLE SCAPEGOATED'. Speakers: John Dowd AO, International Commission of Jurists; and Edwina Lloyd, Human Rights Lawyer. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, The Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: odl_bradley@pacific.net.au or 02 9692 0005. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au>.

2 MARCH. CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S PROJECT COMPASSION CHARITY NIGHT: GENESIAN THEATRE - 'THE MERCHANT OF VENICE'. The Genesian Theatre is holding this fundraiser event for the Project Compassion appeal held annually by Caritas. 50% of all ticket sales for

The Merchant of Venice for this performance will be donated to Project Compassion. Details about Caritas and the Project Compassion Appeal can be found at <http://www.caritas.org.au>. Cost: \$25. 8.00 pm, Genesian Theatre, 420 Kent Street, Sydney. Contact: 1300 237 217. Web: <http://www.genesiantheatre.com.au/index.php?mode=now>.

2 MARCH. ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER. All welcome. 10.30 am, Our Lady of Fatima Church, 389 Port Hacking Road, Caringbah. Contact: 02 9524 7283. Web: <http://catholicweekly.com.au/article.php?classID=3&subclassID=74&articleID=9587&class=Features&subclass=Parish%20noticeboard>.

2-4 MARCH. WEEKEND RETREAT: 'FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THOMAS MERTON'.

Thomas Merton was a Trappist monk of the Abbey of Gethsemani, Kentucky, he was a poet, social activist, and student of comparative religion. Merton wrote more than 70 books, mostly on spirituality, social justice and a quiet pacifism. Donation \$220 (accommodation). Hermitage, Old South Road, Mittagong. Contact: 02 6262 8974 or lorraine.pottershouse@virginbroadband.com.au, RSVP by 15 February. Web: http://www.cg.catholic.org.au/news/list_events.cfm?loadref=18.

3 MARCH. TRAINING FOR TRANSFORMATION WORKSHOP: 'MOBILISING THE GRASSROOTS'.

Community groups interested in helping to make a better life for members of their community are gathered together by an animator, who leads them through a process Freire devised in order to bring about radical change in their situation. The session will also prepare you to be able to say clearly what your aim is in mobilizing the grassroots, who you are and what you are about. Grail Centre, 22 McHatton Street, North Sydney. Contact: ruthcrowe@ozemail.com.au or 02 9955 6350. Web: http://thechangeagency.org/02_cal/index.asp.

3 MARCH. LOVE FOOD HATE WASTE EVENT: 'FORKS, TALKS AND WALKS'. There will be guided walks, displays and presentations focusing on locally produced foods, goods, land care and more. At 6.30 pm there will be a musical performance in the chapel, followed

by pre-dinner drinks, canapés and a three course meal prepared by renowned chef Serge Dansereau. Dinner cost: \$155. 11.30 am, St Clement's retreat and conference centre, Kalangang Road, Galong. Contact: 02 6380 5222 or info@stclement.com.au. Web; <http://www.stclement.com.au/>.

4 MARCH. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY MASS. Presider: Bishop William Wright. Followed by morning tea in the Toohey Room and guest speaker, Susan MacLeod. Susan is an advocate for justice, an Official Prison Visitor, a member of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry and a Special Religious Education teacher. 9.30 am, Sacred Heart Cathedral, 841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West. Contact: 02 4932 5601. Web: <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/newsroom/pdf/2012/International%20Womens%20Day%20Mass.pdf>.

4 MARCH. WELLSPRING COMMUNITY OPEN FORUM: 'THE COMMON GOOD: WHAT IS HAPPENING TO A 'FAIR GO' IN AUSTRALIA'. Speakers: Phil Glendenning, Director, Edmund Rice Centre; Niall Reid, former Moderator Uniting Church in NSW and ACT; Chantelle Ogilvie-Ellis, Justice and Peace Promoter, Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney; and Jim Tulip, Deputy Leader, Wellspring Community. Sponsored by the Wellspring Community. Cost: gold coin donation. 2.30 to 4.00 pm, Willoughby Uniting Church, 10 Clanwilliam Street, Chatswood. Contact: 02 9798 4663. Web: <http://www.eremos.org.au/news/wellspring-open-forum-on-the-common-good->.

5 MARCH. PAX CHRISTI AUSTRALIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. Speakers: Joe Collins and Anne Noonan speaking about their activities for justice in West Papua. Joe Collins is a founding member of the Sydney branch of the Australia West Papua Association (AWPA). Anne Noonan is the Medical Association for the Prevention of War (MAPW) representative to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Sydney section and national vice president and spokesperson on West Papua. 6.00 pm. Contact: 02 9550 3845, RSVP by 3 March. Web: <http://www.paxchristi.org.au/>.

5 MARCH. SYDNEY WOMEN'S FUND PROJECT: 'A PORTRAIT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN GREATER SYDNEY' (THE PORTRAIT PROJECT).

The Sydney Women's Fund has initiated this project to help everyone gain a deeper insight into the needs, aspirations and challenges faced by women across Sydney. Their goal is to present a picture that can be used for future action to inform and encourage support for women and girls from the community. 10.00 am to 12.00 noon, Sydney Mechanic's School of Arts (SMSA), 280 Pitt Street, Sydney. Contact: felicity.leitch@sydneycommunityfoundation.org.au, RSVP by 24 February. Web: <http://www.sydneycommunityfoundation.org.au>.

5 MARCH. SYDNEY DEVELOPMENT CIRCLE'S (SDC) INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SALUTE TO WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT. Speaker: Dr Barbara Ferguson OAM, a retired academic, makes short term visits as a volunteer worker in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. Dr Barbara Ferguson received an Order of Australia Medal in 2004 'for development of programs to meet the health, education and recreation needs of migrants, refugees and overseas students'. Feel free to bring along photos and other promotional materials that showcase women's roles in development for networking. Cost: \$5. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, UTS Broadway campus, 235 Jones Street, Building 10, level 5, Conference Room 580, Broadway. Contact: 0417 272 101 or lucy@claypartners.com. Web: <http://sdc.groupsite.com/calendar/event/2012/3/5/318606>.

5 MARCH-2 APRIL. INTRODUCTORY PASTORAL CARE COURSE. Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is designed to introduce the experience of pastoral care, and the nature, scope and philosophy of pastoral care. The CPE Courses incorporate a Multifaith approach. The 40 hours of training is provided by the Pastoral Care Council of the ACT. Cost: \$330. Mondays 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, Wagga Wagga. Contact: 02 6244 2261 or lyn.kelly@act.gov.au. Web: <http://www.pastoralcareact.org/cpe>.

7 MARCH. PADDINGTON SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB (SIP): 'ARE WE THERE YET?' We are all hopefully on this journey in search of what it is to become more truly human. Speakers: Geraldine Doogue, TV and radio broadcaster, journalist and author; and Br David Hall fms, Headmaster, Marcellin College, Randwick. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, The Paddington Arms Hotel, 384 Oxford Street, Paddington. Contact: 02 9387

3152, 0414 873 910 or dfdlaw@infolearn.com.au. Web: http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=127:paddington&catid=8:nsw-sip-venues&Itemid=94.

7, 8, 10, 11 MARCH. FR BARRON PRESENTATION. This is an opportunity to hear one of the brightest minds of our generation reflect upon our past, our future and the meaning of faith in our global community. Contact: 02 9701 4365.

7 March: 8.00 pm, Guardians, St Charbel, 142 Highclere Avenue, Punchbowl.

8 March: 11.00 am, Talk and public screening, ACU Strathfield Campus, 25A Barker Road, Strathfield.

10 March: 10.00 am, Talk for priests, religious and educators, ACU Strathfield campus, 25A Barker Road, Strathfield.

11 March: 8.00 pm, Talk and screening, Our Lady of Lebanon Parish Centre, 40 Alice Street, Harris Park.

Web: http://students.acu.edu.au/student_life/campus_community/faith_on_campus/.

8 MARCH - 14 APRIL. INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S EXHIBITION: 'THE BRIGHT THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL'. An exhibition curated as a vibrant and colourful celebration of Australian Indigenous Women. Opening night, International Women's Day, 6.00 to 8.00 pm, 8 March. Exhibition hours: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, Tuesday to Saturday, Coo-ee Aboriginal Art Gallery, 31 Lamrock Avenue, Bondi Beach. Contact: 02 9300 9233 or info@cooeart.com.au. Web: http://www.cooeeart.com.au/aboriginal_exhibition/109.

9 MARCH. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'ABORIGINAL WELFARE REFORM UNDER THE GILLARD GOVERNMENT - HOUSING, HEALTH EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT - THE REAL RESULTS'. Speakers: Paul Pholeros, Director Health Habitat; and Warren Mundine, Chair, Australian Indigenous Chamber of Commerce. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, The Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: odl_bradley@pacific.net.au or 02 9692 0005. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au>.

9 MARCH. ONE JUST WORLD FORUM: 'CLOSING THE POVERTY GAP'. Poverty in Australia is a contentious issue. It raises

questions of the definitions of poverty, the distribution of wealth, the difference between developed and developing countries, as well as about the limits to growth, and how we can create a fair and sustainable world. Speakers: Daniel Ben-Ami, Finance and economic journalist, Author of *Ferraris for All*; and Nick Savaidis Founder, Etiko Fair Trade. No cost. 6.00 pm, Hamilton Public School, Corner Steel and Tudor Streets, Newcastle. Register: <http://www.onejustworld.com.au/Upcoming-Forums#closing-the-poverty-gap>.

9 MARCH. INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY LUNCH. Women in Focus, Commonwealth Bank's online community for women in business, and the Sydney Women's Fund are holding this lunch. Sydney Women's Fund will launch their research paper, A Portrait on Women and Girls in Sydney which sheds light on vulnerable sectors of women in Sydney. Speakers: Catherine Burn, Deputy Commissioner, NSW Police Force and Telstra Business Woman; Rosalind Strong AM, Chair, Sydney Community Foundation; and Kalinda Griffiths, Indigenous Health Researcher and NT Young Australian of the Year. All proceeds go to the Sydney Women's Fund. Cost: \$80. 12.00 to 2.00 pm, Level 19, 201 Sussex Street, Sydney. Register: <https://www.womeninfocus.com.au/events/1132>.

9 MARCH. STARTTS WORKSHOP: 'CORE CONCEPTS IN WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS FROM REFUGEE BACKGROUNDS'. This workshop focuses on providing a framework for understanding the unique issues and challenges faced by refugee children and adolescents. It will look at the impact of war and violence from a developmental perspective, with attention paid to attachment and resilience. Cost: \$149, students \$99. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, STARTTS, 152-168 The Horsley Drive, Carramar. Contact: 02 9794 1900. Register: <http://www.startts.org.au/default.aspx?id=389>.

10 MARCH. LUNCHTIME SEMINAR SERIES: 'FROM MOREE TO MABO: THE MARY GAUDRON STORY'. From Moree to Mabo is the remarkable story of Mary Gaudron QC, the first female justice of the High Court of Australia. In a groundbreaking career, Mary

Gaudron passionately championed gender equality and indigenous rights, ruling on landmark decisions such as Mabo and Wik. Speaker: Pamela Burton, author. No cost. 1.00 to 2.00 pm, Sydney Law School, Building F10, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney. Contact: law.events@sydney.edu.au or 02 9351 0429. Web: <http://sydney.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventid=7253>.

13 MARCH. UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY SEMINAR: 'UNDERSTANDING KINSHIP: INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND LAW'. Lynette Riley, Academic Coordinator of the Koori Centre, University of Sydney, will take participants through a kinship system demonstrating the components of moiety, totem, skin names, language and traditional affiliations, and individual identity. Through Lynette's presentation participants will see why Aboriginal people face particular problems when interacting with the (colonial) Australian legal system. The workshop will be facilitated by Tanya Mitchell, Lecturer in Criminal Law and Indigenous People and the Law at Sydney Law School. Cost: \$16.50-27.50. 5.30 to 8.00 pm, Faculty Common Room 432, Level 4, Sydney Law School, New Law Building, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney. Register: http://sydney.edu.au/law/criminology/seminars_events/upcoming_events.shtml#Kinship.

13 MARCH. THE CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF CONTEMPORARY MUSLIM SOCIETIES, UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY SYMPOSIUM: 'RELIGIOUS CHANGE AND INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS IN THE ANTIPODES'. This symposium explores some of the religious and spiritual changes which have been taking place among indigenous populations in Australia and New Zealand. The analytical focus draws on both local social and political debates on these matters, while contextualising the discussion in a wider global discourse on changing religious affiliation, especially the growth of Islam. No cost. 1.00 to 4.00 pm, UWS Parramatta campus, Building EZ (Female Orphan School), corner of Victoria Road and James Ruse Drive, Rydalmere. Contact: e.garcia@uws.edu.au by 9 March. Web: http://www.uws.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/279008/Symposium.pdf.

14 MARCH. YOUTH OFF THE STREETS FUNDRAISER: EDEN GARDENS MORNING TEA. Father Riley will speak on the work of Youth Off The Streets, there will be opportunities to meet young people from Youth Off The Streets and there will be a complimentary tour of the garden. All proceeds go towards Youth Off The Streets. Cost: \$10. 10.00 am, Eden Gardens, corner Lane Cove and Fontenoy Roads, North Ryde. Contact: 02 9491 9900 or info@edengardens.com.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.youthoffthestreets.com.au/support-an-event/w1/i1001897/>.

15 MARCH. BOOK LAUNCH: 'GLOBALISATION AND THE CHURCH: REFLECTIONS ON CARITAS IN VERITATE'. The Faculty of Theology and Philosophy, Australian Catholic University is holding the launch of this book edited by Professor Neil Ormerod and Professor Paul Oslington. The book will be launched by Bishop Anthony Fisher OP, Diocese of Parramatta. 5.00 to 6.30 pm, The Function Room, Edmund Rice Building, Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus, 25A Barker Road, Strathfield. Contact: truc.nguyen@acu.edu.au or 02 9701 4252, RSVP by 9 March.

15 MARCH-12 APRIL. INTRODUCTORY PASTORAL CARE COURSE. Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is designed to introduce the experience of pastoral care, and the nature, scope and philosophy of pastoral care. The CPE Training incorporates a Multifaith approach. The 40 hours of training is provided by the Pastoral Care Council of the ACT. Cost: \$330. Thursdays 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, Braidwood. Contact: 02 6244 2261 or lyn.kelly@act.gov.au. Web: <http://www.pastoralcareact.org/cpe>.

16 MARCH. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'EXTRAORDINARY ABUSE OF ASIO POWERS - SECRET SECURITY CLEARANCE POWERS DENYING BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS TO REFUGEES AND LONGTERM AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS'. Speakers: Stephen Blanks, Secretary, NSW Council of Civil Liberties; and Dr Clinton Fernandez, Political Program UNSW Canberra. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, The Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: 02 9692 0005 or odl_bradley@pacific.net.au. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au>.

20 MARCH. PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE COURSE: 'INTRODUCTION TO ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNING'. This course provides an introduction to advocacy, and how to advocate for issues to government. Participants will have the opportunity to plan an advocacy campaign around a real issue from their work. Speaker: Carolyn Grenville, former PIAC Training Co-ordinator. Cost: \$240, concession \$120. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Sydney CBD. Register: <http://www.piac.asn.au/training>. Contact: 02 8898 6531. Web: <http://www.piac.asn.au/trainingevent/introduction-advocacy-and-campaigning-1>.

24 MARCH. LENTEN REFLECTION: 'RECEIVE A HEART OF FLESH - GRACE AND JUSTICE IN LENT'. A reflection afternoon from the Justice and Peace Office in Sydney with input from Professor Neil Ormerod and Beth Doherty as well as time for prayer and conversation. Neil Ormerod is Professor of Theology at Australian Catholic University. Beth Doherty has worked as a lay missionary in a poor barrio of Asuncion, Paraguay. She is now Communications Director for the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. No cost. 1.30 to 4.30 pm, St Mary's Catholic Church, 21 Swanston Street, Erskineville. Contact: 02 9390 5319 or chantelle.ogilvie-ellis@sydneycatholic.org, RSVP by 19 March. Web: http://www.sydneytalks.com.au/index.php?option=com_events&task=search&Itemid=25&keyword=peace&submit=Go.

25 MARCH. WALK FOR THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION AND THE UNBORN CHILD. The Annunciation (when the Angel Gabriel appeared to the Blessed Virgin Mary and asked her to be the Mother God) is a much celebrated feast day among Catholics. It marks the day Our Lord Jesus Christ became a tiny unborn child in His mother's womb. On this day, we also celebrate all unborn children, and the mothers, fathers and families who welcome new life. 10.30 am, mass with Bishop Julian Porteous, St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. 12.00 noon, Angelus, followed by a prayerful procession through the streets of Sydney. 1.30 pm, Benediction, St Mary's Cathedral. This is a project of Family Life International. Contact: 02 9519 9111 or mail@fli.org.au. Web: http://www.fli.org.au/?page_id=195.

26 MARCH. ANTA INNER WEST FILM

SCREENING: 'HERE I AM'. The film is the story of a young Aboriginal woman's struggle to stay off drugs and reconnect with her young daughter and her Mother now that she's out of jail. Support (of a kind) is provided at a shelter she finds herself using, in desperation. It's a moving story, compellingly told. No cost. 6.30 pm, Greater Union Cinema, 100 Burwood Road, Burwood. Contact: 02 9719 8773 or brennan@pip.com.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.wiserearth.org/event/view/5514aaff710da2b8b5ee318565b2fd82>.

26 MARCH. MARY WARD INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA (MWIA): 'LISTEN TALK ACT: INDIGENOUS CONVERSATIONS'.

The Conversations will focus on the Constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the value of education for Indigenous peoples. Speakers: Mick Gooda, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner; Renee Coffey, Programs Director at Australian Indigenous Education Foundation; and Jane Kemp, a Kamillaroi woman, the Team Leader of Strong Young Mums in rural NSW, an MWIA supported program. Kathryn Greiner AO will act as moderator. There will be an opportunity for audience participation in the conversations. No cost. 6.00 pm, The Auditorium, Loreto Kirribilli, 85 Carabella Street, Kirribilli. Bookings: www.trybooking.com/BDLF, RSVP essential by 20 March. Contact: mwiaustralia@loreto.org.au. Web: <http://www.loreto.org.au/Home/News-Media/News/Listen-Talk-Act-Indigenous-Conversations.aspx>.

27 MARCH. BATHURST SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB (SIP). Speakers: Geraldine Doogue, Radio/TV journalist, anchor of ABCTV 'Compass'; and Fr Paul Devitt, Parish Priest of Orange, Vicar for Education for the Bathurst Diocese. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, The Oxford Hotel, corner of William and Piper Streets, Bathurst. Contact: 02 6331 2440 or dickson.sue@gmail.com. Web: http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=119:bathurst&catid=8:nsw-sip-venues&Itemid=94.

27 MARCH. EDMUND RICE CENTRE (ERC) BUSINESS ETHICS BREAKFAST: 'ETHICAL LEADERSHIP'. As the last in the Edmund Rice

Business Ethics Initiative's breakfast series on ethical leadership, Ged Kearney, President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), will present some of her experiences and reflections on leading with ethics. Cost: \$40, concession \$25. 7.30 to 9.00 am, Gilbert and Tobin Lawyers, Level 37, 2 Park Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 8762 4200 or johns@erc.org.au. Web: http://www.erc.org.au/index.php?module=pagemaster&PAGE_user_op=view_page&PAGE_id=148.

27 MARCH. TABOR COLLEGE SEMINAR:

GOD AND SCIENCE. This innovative series of regional science and faith seminars around Australia has been designed to meet the needs of those who have a significant role in shaping the minds and hearts of members of the Christian community. These seminars may be used by teachers or pastors as a platform to explore the relationship between science and faith in Christian life and ministry. Speaker: Reverend Chris Mulherin has degrees in Engineering, Philosophy and Theology and is currently writing a doctorate on scientific and religious knowledge. He is an Anglican Minister and has spent 13 years working in Argentina. Cost: \$10 donation would be gratefully accepted. 3.00 to 4.30 pm, Pastors and church leaders; 7.00 to 8.30 pm, Principals and schoolteachers. St Thomas's Anglican Church, corner Church and McLaren Streets, North Sydney. Contact: 08 8373 8777. Web: http://taboradelaide.edu.au/about/gcri_godandscienceseminar.php.

29 MARCH. AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY VOICE: 'REFUGEES: HUMAN RIGHTS AND OUR ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS'.

There are more than 5,700 asylum seekers and refugees in immigration detention centres across Australia. More than two thirds have been in detention for at least six months, and 97 people have been held for more than two years. Is it ethical to detain individuals who have fled from persecution and war? How long is too long? What role do we as a country play in protecting their human rights? And how does our treatment of refugees stack up against other developed nations? Speaker: Dr Deborah Zion, Senior Lecturer, Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University. No cost. 5.30 to 8.00 pm, The Australian Museum

Theatrette, 6 College Street, Sydney. Contact: acuvoice@acu.edu.au or 02 9739 2221. Web: http://www.acu.edu.au/about_acu/research/about_us/news_and_events/acuvoice_speaker_series/upcoming_lectures/refugees_human_rights_and_our_ethical_obligations/.

29 - 30 MARCH. ACOSS NATIONAL CONFERENCE: 'SHARING THE WEALTH OF THE LUCKY COUNTRY'. This conference is a national event for policy-makers, researchers and those engaged in social services or advocacy. At a time when Australians' material wealth has been booming, the ACOSS National Conference will provide a forum for a diverse range of people to discuss the policy and practice which will put equality in Australia at the forefront of public debate. Speakers: Cassandra Goldie, ACOSS CEO; Robert McClelland, MP, Minister for Emergency Management, Minister for Housing and Homelessness; Sarah Toohey, Campaigns Manager, Australians for Affordable Housing; etc. Cost: \$75-675. 9.00 am, 29 March to 5.00 pm, 30 March, Australian Technology Park, Locomotive Street, Eveleigh. Contact: 02 9310 6200 or info@acoss.org.au. Web: <http://acoss.org.au/events/view/933/>.

30 MARCH. WORLDCHANGERS FAIR TRADE AND ETHICAL MARKET. More than 30 fair trade and ethical traders under one roof. Live music, international food hub, fair trade cafe, children's activities, fair trade tasting kitchen and much more. Cost: free entry. 5.30 to 9.00 pm, Wollongong Church of Christ, 25 O'Briens Road, Figtree. Contact: anne@wgongcoc.org or 0411 801 553. Web: <http://www.fta.org.au/node/745>.

30 MARCH. COMMUNITY FORUM - ABORIGINAL RECOGNITION IN AUSTRALIA'S CONSTITUTION: 'ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR'. The government has received the recommendations of an expert panel on amendments to the Australian Constitution to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Hornsby Area Residents for Reconciliation is holding this forum. Speakers: Mick Gooda, the Aboriginal Social Justice Commissioner; a member of the expert panel; Philip Ruddock MP; and a number of Aboriginal people, young people and community leaders.

After some opening remarks from forum speakers, they will respond to questions submitted by the public. You may forward your questions to be put to the forum by e-mailing hornsby.area.residents.for.reconciliation@hotmail.com. Refreshments and ochre tree painting after the forum. No cost. 4.00 pm, PCYC Performing Arts Centre, Edgeworth David Avenue and Waitara Avenue, Hornsby. Web: <http://www.nswreconciliation.org.au/events-1/advance-australia-fair>.

30 MARCH. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'WEST PAPUA - INDONESIAN VIOLENCE, AUSTRALIAN INDIFFERENCE, WEST PAPUA HOPES'. Speakers: Dr Peter King, Government and International Relations, Sydney University; and Dr Cammi Webb-Gannon, Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Sydney University. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, The Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: odl_bradley@pacific.net.au or 02 9692 0005. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au>.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

1 - 29 MARCH. INTRODUCTORY PASTORAL CARE COURSE. Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is designed to introduce the experience of pastoral care, and the nature, scope and philosophy of pastoral care. The CPE course incorporates a Multifaith approach. The 40 hours of training is provided by the Pastoral Care Council of the ACT. Cost: \$330. Thursdays 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, Canberra. Contact: 02 6244 2261 or lyn.kelly@act.gov.au. Web: <http://www.pastoralcareact.org/cpe>.

3 MARCH, 7 APRIL. ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE: 'CITY CALL TO PRAYER'. Come and join us together in unity we lift up the Name of Christ in worship and intercession over this city, for our politicians, leaders, families and churches. 7.30 pm, House of Prayer, 28 Guilfoyle Street, Yarralumla (next to Saudi Arabian Embassy). Contact: 0414 387 863. Web: <http://www.c-hop.org.au/Home.htm>.

8 MARCH. CHRISTIANS FOR AN ETHICAL SOCIETY FORUM: 'WHERE LIES HAPPINESS? THE CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDING OF CONTENTMENT AND COMMUNITY'. Speaker: Reverend Professor James Haire AM KSJ,

Executive Director, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture. Cost: \$5 donation. 7.30 pm, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, corner Blackall Street and Kings Avenue, Barton. Contact: canberra.admin@ces.org.au. Web: <http://www.ces.org.au/index.htm>.

12 MARCH. COMMONWEALTH DAY MULTI-FAITH CELEBRATION: 'THE COMMONWEALTH: CONNECTING CULTURES'. The Commonwealth Day Celebration Committee, supported by the Royal Commonwealth Society (ACT) and the Commonwealth Round Table in Australia, is currently finalising plans for the annual multi-faith celebration. It will involve leaders from all of the major religions as well as cultural performances representing various Commonwealth countries. The Governor-General, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC, will participate and will read the Queen's Commonwealth Day Message. 11.00 am, Chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 17 Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: 0407 065 570 or terry.walls@solutionsfocussed.com.au. Web: <http://www.csu.edu.au/special/accc/>.

13 MARCH. FR BARRON PRESENTATION. This is an opportunity to hear one of the brightest minds of our generation reflect upon our past, our future and the meaning of faith in our global community. 6.30 pm, Guinness and God, King O'Malley's Irish Pub, 131 City Walk, Canberra. Contact: 02 6209 1284. Web: http://students.acu.edu.au/student_life/campus_community/faith_on_campus2/upcoming_events/frrobertbarron/.

17 MARCH. ECUMENICAL SERVICE FOR THE FEAST OF ST PATRICK. In attendance will be representatives from the Salvation Army, the Anglican, Catholic, Uniting, and Presbyterian Churches; ACT Irish organisations; and the Irish, British, and American and other embassies and local schools. Music by the Canberra Celtic Choir, Brian Hungerford, and Carl Sampson. Homily: Father Frank Brennan AO. 12 noon, The Chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall Street, Barton (corner Kings Avenue). Contact: acc-c@csu.edu.au or 02 6272 6201. Web: <http://www.csu.edu.au/special/accc/>.

23 MARCH. ACTCOSS TRAINING: 'APPRECIATION OF TORRES STRAIT CULTURE AWARENESS'. This training facilitated by Benny Hodges of Wis-Wei consulting aims to assist participants in developing a better understanding of the cultural perspectives of Torres Strait Islander people in Australia, such as culture, kinship and community. This training assists participants in developing and improving a range of cross-cultural communication skills. Cost: \$59-244. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, Level 1 meeting room, Weston Community Hub, 1/6 Gritten Street, Weston. Contact: actcoss@actcoss.org.au. Web: <http://www.actcoss.org.au/secdevel/seminars.html>.

26 MARCH. TABOR COLLEGE SEMINAR: GOD AND SCIENCE. This innovative series of regional science and faith seminars around Australia has been designed to meet the needs of those who have a significant role in shaping the minds and hearts of members of the Christian community. These seminars may be used by teachers or pastors as a platform to explore the relationship between science and faith in Christian life and ministry. Speaker: Reverend Chris Mulherin has degrees in Engineering, Philosophy and Theology and is currently writing a doctorate on scientific and religious knowledge. He is an Anglican Minister and has spent 13 years working in Argentina. Cost: \$10 donation would be gratefully accepted. 3.00 to 4.30 pm, Pastors and church leaders; 7.00 to 8.30 pm, Principals and schoolteachers. The Chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall Street (corner King's Avenue), Barton. Contact: 08 8373 8777. Web: http://taboradelaide.edu.au/about/gcri_godandscienceseminar.php.

VICTORIA

1 MARCH. BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE RESEARCH AND POLICY LUNCHTIME SEMINAR: 'THE ETHNIC PENALTY IN THE LABOUR MARKET: POTENTIAL CAUSES AND POLICY OPTIONS'. This seminar looks at contemporary ethnic minority experiences in the labour market by focusing on describing the 'ethnic penalty' that emerges when analysing the relationship between the educational and occupational levels of ethnic minority members. The seminar will consider potential

policy options to alleviate the 'ethnic penalty' by examining best practices from international jurisdictions. Speaker: Reza Hasmath, Lecturer, School of Social and Political Sciences, and the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Melbourne. 12.00 to 1.00 pm, Fr Tucker's room, 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. Contact: kphilipp@bsl.org.au or 03 9483 1364. Web: <http://www.bsl.org.au/About-the-Brotherhood/Whats-on.aspx?id=686>.

1, 4, 8 MARCH. PUBLIC FORUMS: 'THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP FREE TRADE AGREEMENT' The Trans-Pacific Partnership is a free trade agreement currently being negotiated between nine countries: Australia, the US, New Zealand, Chile, Peru, Singapore, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam. The eleventh round of negotiations is continuing in Melbourne from 1st to 9th March 2012. This public forum is a chance to expose these issues in public debate and demand transparency and accountability for a fair deal in the negotiations.

1 March. Free Trade or Fair Trade? Speakers: Ged Kearney, Australian Council of Trade Union; Professor Jane Kelsey, University of Auckland; Dr Kyla Tienhaara, Australian National University; Dr. Deborah Gleeson, Public Health, Association Australia; and Dr Patricia Randal, Australian Fair Trade and Investment Network (AFTINET). 6.00 to 8.00 pm, RMIT University (City Campus), Building 56, Level 4, Room 81, corner Queensberry and Lygon Streets, Melbourne.

5 March. Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement and access to medicines. Speakers: Ms Sanya Reid-Smith, Third World Network; Mr John Rock, APN + People Living With HIV in the Asia Pacific Region; and Mr Matt Cleary, Medecins Sans Frontieres. Sponsored by Public Health Association of Australia. 6.00 to 7.30 pm, University of Melbourne, Executive Lounge, 1st Floor, Alan Gilbert Building, 161 Barry Street (corner Grattan and Barry Streets), Melbourne.

8 March. Lunch time rally: 'Fair Deal or No Deal'. 12.30 to 1.15 pm, forecourt of the Melbourne Entertainment and Exhibition Centre, enter from the Convention Centre Place or from Clarendon Street. Contact: 03 9664 7385 or aschwebel@actu.org.au. Web: <http://aftinet.org.au/cms/get-involved/tppa-11th-round-negotiations-melbourne-1st-10th-march-2012>.

3 MARCH. CARDIJN COMMUNITY AUSTRALIA TRAINING: 'CONVENING SMALL GROUPS AND THE "SEE JUDGE ACT" METHOD'. A workshop on training convenors in leading small groups of adults in parish and other church settings. Topics include: Our dreams for the church, and how to translate them into action; writing an Inquiry; and starting Small Groups including the role of convenor, recruiting new members, support of leaders, issues to engage, etc. Cost: donation; bring own lunch. 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, St Augustine's Church Hall, Bourke Street, Melbourne. Contact: contact@cardijncommunityaustralia.org. Web: <http://www.cardijncommunityaustralia.org/>.

4 MARCH. JESUIT SOCIAL SERVICES' FUNDRAISING ALBUM LAUNCH: 'JUST MUSIC'. A benefit album for Jesuit Social Services, that includes great Australian artists performing original and rare tracks to raise funds and promote awareness for Jesuit Social Services' work with disadvantaged young people. Artists include: Paul Kelly, Waleed Aly and band, Angie Hart, Blue King Brown, Clare Bowditch, Xavier Rudd and more. Cost: \$35. 6.30 to 8.00 pm, Spiegel tent, Arts Centre, Melbourne. Contact: 1300 182 183. Web: <http://www.jss.org.au>.

4, 5, 6 MARCH. FR BARRON PRESENTATION. This is an opportunity to hear one of the brightest minds of our generation reflect upon our past, our future and the meaning of faith in our global community. Contact: 03 9953 3071.

4 March: 4.00 pm, Harman Lecture, John Paul II Institute, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne.

4 March: 7.30 pm, Theology in the Pub, Pumphouse Hotel, 128 Nicholson Street, Fitzroy.

5 March: 7.30 pm, Theology lecture, ACU St Patrick's Campus, 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy.

6 March: 5.00 pm, Talk and Public Screening, ACU Aquinas Campus, 1200 Mair Street, Ballarat.

Web: http://students.acu.edu.au/student_life/campus_community/faith_on_campus/.

6 MARCH. CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES VICTORIA BREAKFAST BRIEFING: 'PROTECTING VULNERABLE CHILDREN'. Background: In January 2011 the Victorian Government launched a wide-ranging inquiry into

Protecting Victoria's Vulnerable Children. The Inquiry was to investigate systemic problems in Victoria's child protection system and make recommendations to strengthen and improve the protection and support of vulnerable young Victorians. The inquiry Website is at <http://www.childprotectioninquiry.vic.gov.au>. Presenter: Bill Scales AO, Member of the Protecting Victoria's Vulnerable Children Inquiry. Cost: \$20. 7.15 to 8.45 am, Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Contact: lucia.brick@css.org.au or 03 9287 5566, RSVP by 2 March. Web: <http://www.css.org.au/>.

8 MARCH. DOWNING LECTURE: 'THE GREAT RECESSION AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME'. The headline findings are that for most countries, there was little change in household income distributions in the two years following the downturn (2007-09), but in the subsequent five to ten years, much greater change is likely, as a result of governments' fiscal consolidation and the slow pace of economic recovery. Speaker: Professor John Micklewright, Professor of Economics and Social Statistics and head of the Department of Quantitative Social Science at the Institute of Education, University of London. No cost. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Basement Lecture Theatre, 'The Spot', Business and Economics Building, 198 Berkeley Street, Carlton. Contact: 03 8344 3507 or fbe-lectures@unimelb.edu.au. Bookings online essential: http://www.fbe.unimelb.edu.au/alumni/events/2012/03_Downing_Lecture.html.

8 MARCH. BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE RESEARCH AND POLICY LUNCHTIME SEMINAR: 'DEMOGRAPHY IS NOT DESTINY'. In this seminar Age Discrimination Commissioner Susan Ryan will speak about discrimination on the basis of age in employment and her role in addressing this issue. Commissioner Ryan will look at the demographic and economic drivers which mean that people need to work longer, and the systemic attitudinal and policy problems which prevent them from doing so. 12.00 to 1.00 pm, Fr Tucker's room, 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. Contact: kphilipp@bsl.org.au or 03 9483 1364. Web: <http://www.bsl.org.au/About-the-Brotherhood/Whats-on.aspx?id=687>.

14 MARCH. CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES VICTORIA COMMISSIONING MASS AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. All are welcome to join staff, leaders, volunteers and friends of CSSV member organisations gathering as a community to celebrate the mission of justice and service. Guest speaker: Sr Margaret Mary Flynn ibvm, Provincial Leader of the Loreto Sisters, and formerly founding Director of CentaCare Wilcannia-Forbes. Topic: Responding to the needs of the most marginalised. 4.30 pm: Commissioning Mass, All Saints Church, 174 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. 6.00 pm: AGM, All Saints Hall. 7.00 pm, refreshments, Mary's House of Welcome, 165 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. Contact: Lucia.Brick@css.org.au or 03 9287 5566, RSVP by 8 March. Web: <http://www.css.org.au/>.

14 MARCH. SEMINAR: 'WORKING FAMILIES, SOCIAL INCLUSION, AND FAIR WAGES: MOVING BEYOND RHETORIC'. Brian Lawrence, Chair of the Australian Catholic Council of Employment Relations, has written detailed submissions for a decade to the annual wage reviews of Fair Work Australia and its predecessors. In this address, he shows what needs to change to restore equity and life opportunities to people on minimal wages. Cost: donation. 7.30pm, The Study Centre, Yarra Theological Union, Box Hill, (best entry via Bedford Street). Web: <http://www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au/?p=4217>.

15 MARCH. SACRED HEART MISSION FUNDRAISER: 'LIGHT UP A LIFE COCKTAIL PARTY'. This is a special evening of entertainment, delicious cocktail food and drinks at one of St Kilda's finest venues. Money raised from the night goes to Sacred Heart Mission's Women's House. Cost: \$120. 7.00 pm, Circa, The Prince Deck, 2 Acland Street, St Kilda. Contact: 03 9536 8418, RSVP by 8 March. Web: <http://www.probonoaustralia.com.au/events/2012/02/light-life-cocktail-party-fundraiser>.

21 MARCH. MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (MAV): 'BUILDING INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES - GOOD PRACTICE IN REFUGEE SETTLEMENT'. As part of Cultural Diversity Week, this forum focuses on the significant contribution that sport is making to the

social inclusion and successful settlement of refugees, including documented advances in literacy and numeracy. The school, Mother of God Primary School in Ardeer, has developed a number of tools that could be repeated in other schools, clubs, councils and community groups. Speakers: Peter Kenyon, a world authority on building communities; and Ahmed Dini, 2012 Young Australian of the Year. Cost: \$187. 9.15 am to 3.30 pm, MAV Conference room, Level 12, 60 Collins Street, Melbourne. Contact: events@mav.asn.au or 03 9667 5555. Register: <https://registration.mav.asn.au/eventregistration.aspx?id=bc55deed-0447-e111-8f29-005056b272d4>, RSVP by 20 March. Web: <http://www.mav.asn.au>.

22 MARCH. BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE RESEARCH AND POLICY LUNCHTIME SEMINAR:

‘DOES WORKPLACE AGE DISCRIMINATION EXIST? NEW DATA FROM A SURVEY OF THE AUSTRALIAN WORKFORCE’. Monash University together with Sydney University and Swinburne University of Technology have recently completed a national survey of 3200 Australians in paid work. The survey contained a range of questions concerning perceptions of ‘everyday discrimination’. In this seminar Philip Taylor will report on the incidence of reports of everyday discrimination by age and consider implications for the public discourse on age discrimination in the labour market. Speaker: Professor Philip Taylor, Director of Research and Graduate Studies, Monash University. 12.00 to 1.00 pm, Fr Tucker’s room, 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. Contact: kphilipp@bsl.org.au or 03 9483 1364. Web: <http://www.bsl.org.au/About-the-Brotherhood/Whats-on.aspx?id=689&dt=22/03/2012>.

23 MARCH. CONVERSATIONS WITH THE ARCHBISHOP: ‘A NEW SOCIAL CONTRACT FOR AUSTRALIA?’

Australia must have a vision of the common good, where business, government and union leaders work co-operatively towards a society which shares its prosperity equitably, and which tackles entrenched disadvantage. Anglican Archbishop Philip will discuss this vision with Ged Kearney, ACTU President and Saul Eslake, Economic commentator, and Chief Economist for Bank of America (Australia and New Zealand),

Merrill Lynch. No cost. 7.30 am, BMW Edge, Federation Square, Melbourne. Contact: 03 9653 4220. Web: <http://www.melbourne.anglican.com.au/NewsAndViews/WhatsOn>.

24 MARCH. BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY INC EVENT TO SUPPORT HOMELESS WOMEN:

‘HOMEWORK’. The chance to dine and dance while making a significant difference in the lives of hidden members of the community, the 9,230 women that are homeless in Victoria each year. HOMEWORK aims to give these women something most of us take for granted, a place to call home. Cost: \$220. 7.00 pm, Palladium Ballroom, Crown, 8 Whiteman Street, Southbank. Contact: homework@bethlehem.com.au or 0457 080 543. Web: <http://www.bethlehem.com.au/homework>.

24 MARCH. JESUIT SOCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER.

Guest speaker: Mick Malthouse (AFL legend). MC: Tim Lane (sporting commentator). Entertainment: The Sheilas - Rebecca Barnard, Monique Brumby and Kerry Simpson. Cost: \$150. 7.00 pm, Grand Ballroom, Sofitel Melbourne on Collins, 25 Collins Street, Melbourne. Contact: betty.munckton@jss.org.au or 03 9427 7388, RSVP by 9 March. Web: <http://www.jss.org.au>.

26 MARCH. TABOR COLLEGE SEMINAR:

GOD AND SCIENCE. This innovative series of regional science and faith seminars around Australia has been designed to meet the needs of those who have a significant role in shaping the minds and hearts of members of the Christian community. These seminars may be used by church leaders or teachers as a platform to explore the relationship between science and faith in Christian life and ministry. Speaker: Reverend Dr Mark Worthing, Lutheran pastor, Senior Research Fellow, Graeme Clark Research Institute. He is well-published and active as a conference speaker in the field of science and religion. Cost: \$10 donation would be gratefully accepted. 3.00 to 4.30 pm, Pastors and church leaders; 7.00 to 8.30 pm, Principals and schoolteachers. Glen Waverley Anglican Church, 800 Waverley Road, Glen Waverley. Contact: 08 8373 8777. Web: http://taboradelaide.edu.au/about/gcri_godandscienceseminar.php.

9 APRIL. MELBOURNE SOLIDARITY PROTEST: BROADMEADOWS DETENTION CENTRE. With over 4,500 refugees in detention including over 500 children, Bowen's promises look more false than ever. As well as the unrealised promise to release all children by June last year, Broadmeadows Detention Centre was supposed to be converted to a low-security hostel facility for families but instead has reached new levels of despair. Refugees have been on hunger strike, have sewn their lips, attempted suicide and many refugees recognised as such have not been given visas due to the long and unjustifiable wait for ASIO security checks. The one glimmer of hope, bridging visas, has fallen far short of the promised 100 detainees released a month. 2.00 pm, Hungry Jacks car park, corner Hume Highway and Camp Road, marching to Broadmeadows Detention Centre. Contact: 0404 728 104 or refugeeactioncollectivevic@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.rac-vic.org>.

TASMANIA

9 MARCH. THE EXAMINER-JOHN WEST MEMORIAL LECTURE: 'DEVELOPMENT AT ANY PRICE? THE CASE OF AUSTRALIA'S INDIGENOUS HERITAGE'. It is clear that Indigenous heritage is confronted by two main threats: the disruption of Aboriginal knowledge and culture; and the disturbance and destruction of sites due to urban expansion and resource extraction. Unless we re-weight the balance between economic activity and heritage and culture, priceless human assets will be lost forever and the wellbeing of Indigenous Australians will be compromised further. Speaker: Dr Carmen Lawrence, Director, Centre for the Study of Social Change, School of Psychology, University of Western Australia and Chair of the Australian Heritage Council. Presented in conjunction by the Launceston Historical Society and The Examiner. No cost. 8.00 to 9.00 pm, Sir Raymond Ferrall Centre, Newnham Drive, Newnham campus. Contact: launcestonhistory@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.events.utas.edu.au/2012/march/the-examiner-john-west-memorial-lecture>.

16 MARCH - 27 APRIL. EXHIBITION: CITY PROJECT. The City Project shares the ideas and opinions of Aboriginal children and young

people and the place and world they live in. The works are a culmination of our young people working together with their mentors over a three-month period drawing inspiration from both contemporary and traditional arts and cultural practices and materials. meenah mienne is auspiced by the Tasmanian Aboriginal Child Care Association. This project is supported by the Launceston City Council and the Tasmanian Community Fund. Academy Gallery, University of Tasmania, Inveresk campus. Contact: Malcom.Bywaters@utas.edu.au. Web: <http://www.events.utas.edu.au/2012/march/city-project>.

17 MARCH. SAMARITANS PURSE FUNDRAISER: 'WALK FOR WATER'. 884 million people do not have access to safe drinking water today. You can provide safe drinking water by walking for water around Risdon Brook dam (4 km) by yourself, with your family or a group of friends, and get your friends and family to sponsor you. Safe drinking water means less money spent on medical expenses, more time spent in school, more days available to earn an income, and decreases the likelihood of illness and death. Walk for Water 2012 is an initiative of ultra106five in conjunction with Samaritans Purse's Turn on the Tap project. 12.00 noon, Risdonbrook Dam. Contact: 03 6234 5900. Web: <http://ultra106five.com/index.php/ultra106five/comdiary/C19>.

28 MARCH. TABOR COLLEGE SEMINAR: GOD AND SCIENCE. This innovative series of regional science and faith seminars around Australia has been designed to meet the needs of those who have a significant role in shaping the minds and hearts of members of the Christian community. These seminars may be used by church leaders or teachers as a platform to explore the relationship between science and faith in Christian life and ministry. Speaker: Reverend Dr Graham Buxton, Anglican minister, Director, Graeme Clark Research Institute, and Head, Postgraduate Studies in the School of Ministry, Theology and Culture, Tabor Adelaide. Cost: \$10 donation would be gratefully accepted. 3.00 to 4.30 pm, Pastors and church leaders; 7.00 to 8.30 pm, Principals and schoolteachers. St George's, Battery Point, 30 Cromwell Street, Battery Point. Contact: 08 8373 8777. Web: http://taboradelaide.edu.au/about/gcri_godandscienceseminar.php.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

3 MARCH. CHOICES TEEN CHALLENGE PREGNANCY SUPPORT SERVICE FUNDRAISER: HIGH TEA. Sally Graham will be speaking. There will be games, prizes, music and lots of laughter. Cost: \$15. 2.00 to 4.00 pm, Hope Church, 11 Park Terrace, Gilberton. Contact: 0459 378 877 or hifive@adam.com.au, RSVP by 25 February. Web: <http://www.life.on.net/index.php/life-diary/currententries?view=joomd&layout=detail&id=415>.

14 - 16 MARCH. CATHOLIC EARTHCARE PROGRAM: 'ASSISI FORMATION - ANIMATORS FOR SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM'. A three-day intensive formation program for people interested in forming sustainability teams in their school, organisation or community. Themes: ecological theology, sustainability, building learning communities in your own context. Participants are required to do preparatory work and follow-up work. Cost: \$990. Hotel Victor, 1 Albert Place, Victor Harbor. Contact: admin@catholicearthcare.org.au. Web: <http://www.catholicearthcare.org.au>.

19 MARCH. TABOR COLLEGE SEMINAR: GOD AND SCIENCE. This innovative series of regional science and faith seminars around Australia has been designed to meet the needs of those who have a significant role in shaping the minds and hearts of members of the Christian community. These seminars may be used by church leaders and teachers as a platform to explore the relationship between science and faith in Christian life and ministry. Speaker: Mark Worthing, Lutheran Pastor, Senior Research Fellow, Graeme Clark Research Institute. He is well-published and active as a conference speaker in the field of science and religion. Cost: \$10 donation would be gratefully accepted. 3.00 to 4.30 pm, Pastors and church leaders; 7.00 to 8.30 pm, Principals and schoolteachers. The Chapel, Tabor Adelaide. 181 Goodwood Road, Millswood. Contact: 08 8373 8777. Web: http://taboradelaide.edu.au/about/gcri_godandscienceseminar.php.

22 MARCH. ONE JUST WORLD FORUM: 'TRADITIONS, CUSTOMS AND INTERNATIONAL

DEVELOPMENT'. In many ways, for many people, culture is everything. It can be a person's identity; it can exert a strong influence on human behaviour, potentially affecting economic choices and business decisions, as well as political and social behaviour and the roles of men and women in society. Poverty can render people powerless, which makes them vulnerable to the influences of more powerful organisations and institutions, often from foreign countries. With millions of people around the world living in poverty, it stands to reason that the key to effective, sustainable development is understanding the culture of developing communities. How do we best support and respect the role of culture and its significance to women's and men's lives, while also supporting groups seeking positive change? Dame Carol Kidu, Minister for Community Development and Women, and only female MP, PNG; Nic MacLellan, Journalist and Researcher in the Pacific Islands; Robyn Archer, singer, writer, director and public advocate for the arts; etc. 6.30 pm, Cinema 9, Palace Nova, 251 Rundle Street, Adelaide. Register: <http://www.onejustworld.com.au/Upcoming-Forums#traditions-customs-international-development>.

4 APRIL. CATHERINE HELEN SPENCE COMMEMORATIVE ORATION: 'PROTECTING VULNERABLE CHILDREN: CAN SOUTH AUSTRALIA RISE AGAIN TO THE CHALLENGE?' Over a century ago Catherine Helen Spence and her South Australian contemporaries led the world in improving the wellbeing of vulnerable children, developing kindergartens, child and family health nursing, and pioneering the first foster care programs to replace institutional care of children. We must again draw upon the moral, social and intellectual capital of South Australian society to rise to these challenges. Speaker: Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott, the Foundation Chair of Child Protection and the inaugural Director of the Australian Centre for Child Protection at the University of South Australia. Jointly presented by Catherine Helen Spence Memorial Scholarship Committee and The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre. No cost. 5.30 pm, Allan Scott Auditorium, UniSA City West campus, rear Hawke Building,

50-55 North Terrace, Adelaide. Register:
[http://www.unisa.edu.au/hawkecentre/
events/2012events/2012CHS_Oration.asp](http://www.unisa.edu.au/hawkecentre/events/2012events/2012CHS_Oration.asp).

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

2 MARCH. WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE: 'LET JUSTICE PREVAIL'. The service has been prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Malaysia.

Cannington: 7.30 pm, Cannington Uniting Church, 44 Woodloes Street, Cannington. Contact: 08 9458 3777. Web: <http://sonshinefm.ws/events/eventpage.cfm?ID=3859>.

Thornlie: 7.30 pm, Thornlie Baptist Church, Wynyard Way, Thornlie. Contact: thebrowncamp@multiline.com.au. Web: <http://sonshinefm.ws/events/eventpage.cfm?ID=3883>.

8 MARCH. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST: 'GIVING WOMEN A SPORTING CHANCE'. WA

Equal Opportunity Commissioner, Yvonne Henderson invites you to this breakfast including a discussion on the participation and perception of women in sport with Olympic gold medallist for Sailing, Tessa Parkinson and Anti-violence against women in sport advocate, Nina Funnell. Cost: \$40. 7.30 to 9.00 am, Pan Pacific Hotel, 207 Adelaide Terrace, Perth. Book: <http://www.trybooking.com/19469>. Contact: sarah.johnston@eoc.wa.gov.au or 08 9216 3911. Web: www.eoc.wa.gov.au.

15 MARCH - 15 APRIL. PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: 'MANUWANGKU, UNDER THE NUCLEAR CLOUD'. An exhibition by renowned photographer Jagath Dheeraseskara which aims to break down the preconception that area proposed for a nuclear dump is in the middle of nowhere and thus suitable for such a purpose. An Amnesty International Human Rights Innovation Fund Grant project. Exhibition open to public Wednesday to Saturday, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, FotoFreo 2012 Open Exhibition Program Perth, Midland Atelier, FORM, Yelverton Drive, Midland. Contact: 08 9226 2799 or mail@form.net.au. Web: <http://jd.photoshelter.com/page1>.

21 MARCH. TABOR COLLEGE SEMINAR: GOD AND SCIENCE. This innovative series of regional science and faith seminars around Australia has been designed to meet the needs of those who have a significant role in shaping the minds and hearts of members of the Christian community. These seminars may be used by teachers and church leaders as a platform to explore the relationship between science and faith in Christian life and ministry. Speaker: Reverend Dr Graham Buxton, Anglican minister, Director, Graeme Clark Research Institute, and Head of Postgraduate Studies in the School of Ministry, Theology and Culture, Tabor Adelaide. Cost: \$10 donation would be gratefully accepted. 3.00 to 4.30 pm, Pastors and church leaders; 7.00 to 8.30 pm, Principals and schoolteachers. St George's Cathedral, 38 St George's Terrace, Perth. Contact: 08 8373 8777. Web: [http://taboradelaide.edu.au/
about/gcri_godandscienceseminar.php](http://taboradelaide.edu.au/about/gcri_godandscienceseminar.php).

NORTHERN TERRITORY

10 MARCH. MARY MACKILLOP FOUNDATION'S 'BREAKFAST IN THE PARK'. Bring chairs, tables, blankets, umbrellas, sun screen, and smiles. Cost: \$15. 8.00 am, Charles Patterson Park, Burswood. Contact: 08 9271 5649 or ljmayne@optusnet.com.au, RSVP by 5 March. Web: www.sosj.org.au/e-news/redir.cfm?articleid=56092897-DBF0-5A67-40472E2B01B66C04&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Eesosj%2Eorg%2Eau%2Fnews%2Devents%2Fview%5Fevent%2Ecfm%3Fid%3D195%26loadref%3D8.

21 - 23 MARCH. JOBS AUSTRALIA CONFERENCE: 'INDIGENOUS FORCES AT WORK'. Speakers: Wendy Dawson, National Indigenous Manager, Sodexo; Charles Prouse, CEO National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy; Laura Egan, Enterprise Learning Projects; Toni Ah Sam, NT Indigenous Business Network; Jason Quin, Desert People Social Enterprise Hub; etc. This conference is sponsored by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. Cost: \$480-850. Crown Plaza, Alice Springs. Contact: itn@ja.com.au or 03 9349 3699. Web: [http://acoss.org.au/events/
view/1008/](http://acoss.org.au/events/view/1008/).

6-9 APRIL. REFUGEE ACTION COLLECTIVE: NATIONAL CONVERGENCE ON DARWIN. There are three detention centres in Darwin with up to 1000 asylum seeker and when the newly opened centre at Wickham Point is complete it will have capacity for 1500 people alone. Chronic levels of self-harm and protest have put the Northern Immigration Detention Centre (NIDC) in a state of perpetual crisis. The

convergence this Easter, centred on Darwin, with simultaneous protests at other detention centres around the country, can again focus attention on the reality behind the wire. 20 years of mandatory detention is 20 years too long. Contact: refugeeactioncollectivevic@gmail.com or 0404 728 104. Web: <http://www.rac-vic.org>.

News Monitor

CSSA welcomes Fair Work ruling on pay

Catholic Social Services Australia welcomed the Fair Work Australia ruling in the equal pay case for community sector workers, saying in a statement that it recognised the undervaluation of the sector's workforce.

Archbishop calls for govt response on children's welfare

Archbishop Barry Hickey of Perth highlighted a recent report, detailing the dramatic deterioration in the past 10 years of Australian children's welfare, in a weekly broadcast series by the archdiocese's Faith Centre, said a media release from his office.

Warning over proposed anti-discrimination laws

Proposed federal anti-discrimination laws are a threat to fundamental freedoms and could trigger a huge increase in complaints of bias, driving up costs for business and government, NSW Attorney-General Greg Smith warned, reported The Australian.

Vinnies joins group in call for housing help in Budget

The St Vincent de Paul Society is part of a coalition of welfare and community groups that called on the Federal Government to

commit to a \$2.5 billion stimulus package for the housing sector in the next Budget, reported The Catholic Weekly.

Reports of govt aid to asylum seekers 'misleading', says ACMRO

Media reports criticising the Government for providing asylum seekers released into community detention with up to \$10,000 of home goods are misleading and provocative, said the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office (ACMRO).

Church calls for peaceful Timor elections

The Church in Dili called for people to turn their backs on violence and ensure that presidential elections scheduled for March 17 are carried out peacefully, reported ucanews.com.

Korean naval base protest priest wants jail term

A priest in Korea arrested for protesting against the construction of a controversial naval base said he wanted to go to jail after being refused a prison term by a court in Jeju province, reported ucanews.com.

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



Social Justice Calendar

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| <p>1 Thu International Death Penalty Abolition Day
Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Day
1999: International Treaty to Ban Landmines becomes effective</p> <p>2 Fri World Day of Prayer: Let Justice Prevail (Malaysia)</p> <p>4 Sun Second Sunday of Lent
Clean Up Australia Day
1979: Pope John Paul II's encyclical <i>Redemptor Hominis</i></p> <p>8 Thu International Women's Day</p> <p>11 Sun Third Sunday of Lent</p> <p>15 Thu World Consumer Rights Day</p> <p>17 Sat St Patrick (Solemnity)</p> <p>18 Sun Fourth Sunday of Lent</p> <p>19 Mon St Joseph, husband of Mary (Solemnity)</p> | <p>2003: US and allies invade Iraq</p> <p>21 Wed UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
UN Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling Against Racism and Racial Discrimination begins
National Harmony Day (Australia)
World Poetry Day
World Forestry Day</p> <p>22 Thu World Water Day</p> <p>23 Fri World Meteorological Day</p> <p>24 Sat 1980: Assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero</p> <p>25 Sun Fifth Sunday of Lent
1877: Death of Caroline Chisholm</p> <p>26 Mon The Annunciation
1967: Pope Paul VI's encyclical <i>Populorum Progressio</i></p> |
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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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