



No. 136 – July 2012

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

Social Justice Sunday this year falls on 30 September.

The Australian Catholic Social Justice Council is preparing for the launch in September of the Australia Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2012-2013.

This year's Statement is titled *The Gift of Family in Difficult Times: The social and economic challenges facing families today*. It celebrates the role of families in our society and urges all Australians to consider the pressures and challenges that families face today.

The Bishops remind us that families, the basis of our community of faith and the very foundation of society, can be beacons for a more compassionate and just society.

But Australian families are under pressure. When more and more parents are obliged to work outside traditional working hours,

including on weekends, they are robbed of time to nurture children and family relationships. Up to a quarter of Australian workers are in casual employment, many forced to find two or more jobs and many more in irregular working arrangements or accepting fly-in-fly-out work that can take them away from home for weeks.

Families face increasing financial pressure, including the spiralling cost of housing: house prices grew by 147 per cent in the last decade and 690,000 households now spend more than 30 per cent of their weekly income on rent or mortgage payments.

The Bishops express particular concern for vulnerable Indigenous families, refugees, those on welfare support or struggling on minimum wages, the homeless, and those with special needs. These are among many families in our prosperous nation find themselves at the margins.

As Christians we are called to be supportive of families, especially those who are most vulnerable. Our society cannot ignore the fundamental needs of families or fail to respond adequately to those families in crisis.

In this Year of Grace, we have the opportunity to celebrate the great gift of families. Australia's Bishops urge us to take the Holy Family as our inspiration, remembering the difficulties it faced from the moment of Jesus' birth until his death. The Bishops propose three challenges for the benefit of all families, especially those who are struggling.

They urge us to rediscover the importance of the Sabbath - the time of rest, peace and prayer that resists the forces that pull families apart and deny them time together. They call us to show a special concern for the poor, attending to the needs of families in crisis and welcoming the marginalised and

lonely. And they call us to share the love of God, participating in and sharing the gift of Eucharist.

Remembering that ‘the love of Christ urges us on’ (2 Co 5:14), we are inspired to respond to the needs of all families.

To Order

Parishes, schools and groups can order printed copies (minimum of 10) from the ACSJC. Order form and cost details can be found on the ACSJC website (<http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>) or call (02) 8306 3499.

Social Justice Sunday - Complementary Resources

The ACSJC produces a range of complementary resources to assist parish communities, schools and social justice groups to celebrate Social Justice Sunday.

Among the resources that will be available on the ACSJC website over the coming months will be:

- Social Justice Sunday Liturgy notes
- PowerPoint presentation
- Educational resources

Other resources that are very useful in parishes and schools are the Social Justice Sunday Prayer Card and “Ten Steps” leaflet. These can be ordered from the ACSJC Secretariat on (02) 8306 3499.

Promotion

A possible entry in your organisations newsletter could be:

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 30 September.

This year’s Social Justice Statement is titled: **The Gift of Family in Difficult Times: The social and economic challenges facing families today.**

The Statement celebrates the vital role of family in our society and examines the pressures that threaten its stability. Work demands, living costs and forces of consumerism are some aspects of our society that impact on families. As Christians we are called to be supportive of all families, especially those in crisis and greatest need.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website (www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or call (02) 8306 3499.

Any assistance you can give in spreading the word about Social Justice Sunday and this Bishops’ Statement about families would be greatly appreciated.

John Ferguson
National Executive Officer



Current Issues / Resources

NATSICC ASSEMBLY: ‘CULTURALLY ENRICHED THROUGH THE GOSPEL’

The 2012 National Assembly of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council will be held in Melbourne on 1-4 October. The theme of the event is ‘Culturally enriched through the Gospel’. A strong emphasis has been placed on the incorporation of Catholic faith into the lives of Indigenous people. NATSICC Assemblies occur only once every three years and hold an important

place on the Indigenous Catholic Calendar. For further information and to register, visit: http://www.natsicc.org.au/assembly_2012.html

CHURCH GROUPS OPPOSING ‘STRONGER FUTURES’ LEGISLATION

In late April, the Yolngu Nations Assembly, representing the people of eight Aboriginal nations in Arnhem Land, issued a statement registering their strong objections to the

proposed legislation. A broad variety of church and community sector groups issued supporting statements, including the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia, Aboriginal Catholic Ministries, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council, Australian Catholic Social Justice Council, the Society of St Vincent de Paul, Edmund Rice Centre, Sisters of St Joseph, the Presentation Sisters Victoria, Sisters of Mercy, the Uniting Church in Australia National Assembly, and the Religious Society of Friends in Australia. To view the statements, visit: <http://www.concernedaustralians.com.au/>

ANTaR RESOURCES ON CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

The Australian Constitution is currently silent on the existence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Our Constitution even permits laws that prevent people from voting, owning property or working in certain professions on the basis of race. Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation have produced helpful material supporting the movement in every State and Territory, in communities across the country, calling for Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Resources include Event hints and tips, a factsheet, information on how to take action, and a PowerPoint presentation. Visit: <http://www.antar.org.au/>

ANTI-POVERTY WEEK 2012

Anti-poverty week 2012 begins on Sunday 14 October. The United Nations has designated Wednesday 17 October as International Anti-Poverty Day. This year, Anti-Poverty Week is 10 years old. The Week is concerned with poverty around the world, especially in the poorest countries, but also in wealthier countries such as Australia. The main aims of the Week are to strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty, and to encourage research, discussion and action to address the issues. For further information and ideas on how you can participate, visit: <http://www.antipovertyweek.org.au>

NOMINATIONS OPEN - HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS

The Australian Human Rights Commission is taking nominations for people whose dedication and commitment has made a real

difference in promoting a fairer society. Categories include the Human Rights Medal, Young People's Human Rights Medal, Law, Business, Community (Individual), Community (Organisation). Media categories include Literature (Non-fiction) Print and Online Media, Radio and Television.

Categories include: the Human Rights Medal; Young People's Human Rights Medal; Law Award; Business Award; Community Award - Individual; Community Award - Organisation; Literature (non-fiction) Award; Radio, Television and Print Media Award. To find out more, visit: <http://www.humanrights.gov.au/hrawards/nominations.html>

ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE: MYTH BUSTERS

The ASRC has a collection of helpful information that informs about all the issues facing asylum seekers and challenges the current asylum seeker debate in Australia. The 'learn more' section provides resources for the general community, students, concerned citizens, the media, refugee advocates, health professionals and for people seeking asylum. Very helpful are the range of 'mythbuster' fact sheets on various aspects of the asylum seekers debate. Visit: <http://www.asrc.org.au/media/documents/offshore-processing-mythbuster-2012.pdf>

PETITION: END IMMIGRATION DETENTION OF CHILDREN

Every day around the world, thousands of children fleeing abuse, poverty, human trafficking and war are locked up simply because they do not hold the right documentation. Many of these children are unaccompanied minors. Immigration detention has a devastating effect on the physical, emotional and psychological development of children and must be stopped. **The International Detention Coalition (IDC) is conducting a campaign on this vital matter.** You can support the global campaign to end this damaging practice by signing a petition at <http://endchilddetention.org/>.

PETITION: END INHUMANE TREATMENT OF ASYLUM SEEKERS IN AUSTRALIA

Asylum seekers are subjected to long-term and sometimes indefinite detention, often in

remote locations.

This petition calls on the Australian Parliament end mandatory detention and endorse the majority recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on Australia's Immigration Network 2012, in particular recommendations 22 and 23 which call on Government to adhere to its commitment of only detaining asylum seekers as a last resort, and for the shortest practicable time and that all reasonable steps be taken to limit detention to a maximum of 90 days.

You can find the petition at: <http://www.communityrun.org/petitions/end-inhumane-treatment-of-asylum-seekers-in-australia>

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (3 December)

The theme of this year's International Day of Persons with Disabilities is 'Removing barriers to create an inclusive and accessible society for all'. Barriers can take a variety of forms, including those relating to the physical environment or to information and communications technology, or those resulting from legislation or policy, or from societal attitudes or discrimination. Based on this theme, sub-themes can be selected to cover aspects of society and development, such as: removing barriers to education, employment, transportation, travel and tourism or sports. To find out more, visit: <http://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp?id=1597>

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/OrderFormPublications.pdf>)

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2012-2013 - ORDER NOW!

This year's Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement is entitled 'The Gift of Family in Difficult Times: The social and economic challenges facing families today'. The ACSJC is now taking orders for the Statement. An order form, letter from the President of the Bishops Conference and summary material are available on the ACSJC website: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

PASTORAL LETTER - FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 2012

The Pastoral Letter for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker for 2012 is entitled 'The Dignity of Work - More than a casual concern'. It is available for download in regular and 'three-column' versions at: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

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)

DISCUSSION GUIDE - WORLD DAY OF PEACE MESSAGE 2012

On 1 January, the Holy Father delivered his World Day of Peace message. The theme of his message is *Educating Young People in Justice and Peace*. The ACSJC discussion guide can be downloaded in pdf or word formats from the ACSJC homepage: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>

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)

(Catholic Social Justice Series papers: \$6.60 a copy, plus postage. Postage rates for Catholic Social Justice Series Papers: 1 copy \$1.20; 2



This Month's Notices

NATIONAL

UNTIL SEPTEMBER. RED CROSS HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING SESSIONS. The Red Cross is providing free community awareness-raising training on Human Trafficking. Sessions are being held across Australia. The 2-3 hour introductory level workshops are designed for frontline staff, caseworkers, volunteers or people involved in community service organisations. Contact: training_stpp@redcross.org.au. Location of training: <http://awava.org.au/2012/05/25/red-cross-human-trafficking-training-sessions/>.

1 - 8 JULY. NAIDOC WEEK: 'SPIRIT OF THE TENT EMBASSY: 40 YEARS ON'. The Tent embassy became a powerful symbol of unity; its founders instilled pride, advanced equality and educated the country on the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. To move forward, we must acknowledge our forbears, learn from their experiences and ask ourselves ... what have their sacrifices meant for me and my family today? Events and ideas: <http://www.naidoc.org.au/>.

6 - 12 AUGUST. HOMELESS PERSONS WEEK: 'HOMING IN ON THE REAL ISSUES OF HOMELESSNESS'. The main reason clients give for seeking assistance are related to domestic and family violence, followed by the housing crisis and financial difficulties. Contact: info@homelessnessaustralia.org.au. Events and resources: <http://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/site/HPW%202012.php>.

QUEENSLAND

UNTIL 8 JULY. NANDJIMADGI ART EXHIBITION: 'TO LIGHTEN THE LOAD'. This exhibition will be showcasing the artwork of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders living with or caring for someone who has a mental illness, disability or is frail aged. Through traditional and contemporary Aboriginal art the artists tell their story, connect with their culture and maintain spiritual strength. Novotel Brisbane and Novotel Twin Waters Resort. Contact: 07 5409 5900. Web: <http://www.suncare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Nandjimadjiflyer.pdf>.

5 JULY. ONE MAN SHOW: 'CHASING THE LOLLYMAN'. This show is a joyous sharing of stories, a celebration of urban Indigenous identity and takes a satirical look at the media and popular culture. Playing a variety of characters, and weaving stand-up with storytelling and clowning, Mark Sheppard pokes fun at everything from Neighbours to politics. Suitable for 13+. Cost: \$32. 7.30 to 8.40 pm, Empire Theatre Toowoomba. Book: http://purchase.tickets.com/buy/TicketPurchase?agency=EMPIRE&organ_val=20814&schedule=list or 1300 655 299. Web: <http://www.tsjc.org/events/>.

12 JULY. ASYLUM SEEKERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS PUBLIC FORUM. The forum will discuss the current myths surrounding the asylum seeker debate and how to create change within our local communities. Speakers:

Shayne Neumann MP; Ursula Monsiegnur, Queensland Greens; Peter Arndt; and David Forde, Amnesty International. 6.30 pm, Supper Room, St Paul's Anglican Church, 124 Brisbane Street, Ipswich. Contact: tracey.foley@amnesty.org.au. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/qld/event/25762/>.

18 JULY. QCOSS ENERGY CONSUMER RESEARCH SHOWCASE. Tap into the expertise of consumer researchers looking at pricing and tariffs, energy market contracts and debt collection practices, and some of the issues faced by vulnerable customers. Take the opportunity to network with researchers and consumer advocates over lunch. Cost: \$30-75. 10.00 am to 2.30 pm, Brisbane Powerhouse, Rooftop Terrace, 119 Lamington Street, New Farm. RSVP by 6 July. Register: <http://www.qcoss.org.au/energy-consumer-research-showcase>.

20 JULY. GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY BREAKFAST SEMINAR: 'RISING ELECTRICITY PRICES AND THE IMPACT OF THE CARBON TAX'. After almost two decades of real reductions, electricity prices have been rising rapidly since 2008. What is driving electricity prices higher? Speaker: Professor Paul Simshauser, Chief Economist and Group Head of Corporate Affairs, AGL energy. Cost: \$45. 7.00 to 9.00 am, The Sebel and Citigate, King George Square, Brisbane. Contact: 07 3735 7648 or gbs-alumni@griffith.edu.au, RSVP by 16 July. Book: <http://www.cvent.com/events/rising-electricity-prices-and-the-impact-of-the-carbon-tax/event-summary-f1f33680b10a4891833ca5d80e3c9fd8.aspx>.

23 JULY. QCOSS STATE CONFERENCE: 'A FAIRER QUEENSLAND - INVESTING IN A STRONGER COMMUNITY'. The conference will discuss: developing a responsive community services sector; community resilience-indicators and statistics; building blocks for strong communities and working together for sustainability and better outcomes. Cost: \$195-245. 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Rockhampton Leagues Club, Cambridge Street, Rockhampton. Contact: 07 3004 6936 or donettef@qcoss.org.au. Web: <http://www.qcoss.org.au/qcoss-state-conference-2012>.

28 JULY. AUNTY HONOR AND AUNTY FAYE'S MOST EXCELLENT ADVENTURE. Hear first hand what life was like living under the Act on the government controlled mission formerly called Barambah. Head to Cherbourg for morning tea and a tour of Cherbourg Historical Precinct. Lunch and wine tasting at Moffatdale Ridge Vineyard on the Barambah wine trail. Cost: \$50. 7.30 am to 6.00 pm, Ettamogah Pub car park. Contact: Sarah.Larsen@deta.qld.gov.au or 0417 198 354, RSVP essential.

29 JULY. MARY MACKILLOP CONNECTING DAY AND YEAR OF GRACE EVENT: 'EXPLORING MARY MACKILLOP'S GOD AND OUR LEGACY'. Come and explore three major ways in which Mary MacKillop talked about God: our Good God of providence and hospitality; God as the Sacred Heart; and God as inspiration for mission. Speaker: Ann Gilroy rsj. Cost: \$25. 9.00 am to 3.30 pm, O'Shea Centre, 19 Lovedale Street, Wilston, Brisbane. Contact: 07 3266 1300 or sosjadminqld1@bigpond.com, RSVP by 16 July. Web: http://www.sosj.org.au/news-events/view_event.cfm?id=221&loadref=8.

NEW SOUTH WALES

UNTIL 13 JULY. CESSNOCK YOUTH NAIDOC EXHIBITION. Indigenous students of Mt View and Cessnock high schools have been mentored by Elder and NAIDOC artist of the year 2008, Les Elvin. Les has educated students in local Aboriginal heritage, Indigenous art techniques and the interpretation and meaning of Indigenous symbols. The students of this Aboriginal Art and Culture program, would like to share with you their works of art. The program was brought together by Cessnock's CatholicCare Youth and Family Support Service. The exhibition is open at Cessnock Library, 65-67 Vincent Street: Monday & Fri: 9.00 am - 5.30 pm; Tuesday to Thursday: 9.00 am - 7.00pm, Saturday: 9.00am - 1.00 pm. To find out more, contact kpratt@catholiccare.org.au or 0409 921 083.

UNTIL 8 JULY. PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: 'MANUWANGKU, UNDER THE NUCLEAR CLOUD'. An exhibition by renowned photographer Jagath Dheerasekara which aims to break down the preconception that

an area proposed for a nuclear dump is in the middle of nowhere. An Amnesty International Human Rights Innovation Fund Grant project. No cost. Level 2, Customs House, Circular Quay. Contact: 02 9242 8551. Web: <http://jd.photoshelter.com/page1>.

2 JULY. TALK: 'NEW WAYS OF LIVING THE GOSPEL - WHAT MARY MACKILLOP MAY BE ABLE TO SAY TO US DURING THE YEAR OF GRACE'. Speaker: Fr Peter Brock, Project Officer of the Year of Grace National Committee. Cost: donation. 7.00 to 9.00 pm, 1 - 5 Marion Street, Blacktown. Contact: 02 9831 4911 or mh@instituteformission.com.au. Web: <http://www.corpuschristi.org.au/news.htm>.

2 JULY. NAIDOC CELEBRATION. Aboriginal Catholic Services (ACS) are celebrating NAIDOC week. The ACS program includes an acknowledgment of country, Elders awards presentation, music and entertainment by the 'Black Elvis' Steven Fogarty, 'Smart, Strong and Deadly' children's puppet show by Yarramundi Kids, face painting and a barbecue lunch. 10.00 am to 3.30 pm, ACS Community Centre, Holy Family Centre, 254 Luxford Road, Emerton. Contact: 02 9628 0084. Web: <http://www.parra.catholic.org.au/news---events/events/events.aspx/celebrate-naidoc-with-aboriginal-catholic-services.aspx>.

2 JULY. COSMOPOLITAN CIVIL SOCIETIES RESEARCH CENTRE PUBLIC LECTURE: 'THE ARAB SPRING: ROOT CAUSES AND IMPLICATIONS'. The growing sea of change has serious implications not only for the Arabs but also for the region as a whole and for the global community at large. The success of the Arab Spring is not assured. What is definite is the fact that region has reached a point of no return. Speaker: Professor Jamal R Nassar, leading international authority on the politics of the Middle East. 6.00 to 7.30 pm, Room 413, Level 4, Building 2, UTS Broadway. Contact: ccs@uts.edu.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://newsroom.uts.edu.au/events/2012/07/the-arab-spring-root-causes-and-implications>.

3 JULY. FILM SCREENING: 'BEFORE THE FLOOD: TUVALU'. This film describes the impact of the modern Western lifestyle in a thoughtful and melancholic way, while

pointing out the challenge of forgoing short-term consumption for the benefit of increased long-term quality of life, even when the terrible consequences are literally on their front doorstep. Courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive. No cost. 12.30 to 1.30 pm, Mitchell Theatre, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, Level 1, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9262 7300. Web: <http://smsa.org.au/events/event/screening-before-the-flood-tuvalu/>.

5 JULY. BLACKTOWN COMMUNITY SERVICES CONFERENCE: 'STANDING TOGETHER: COURAGE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT'. Speakers: Ed Husic MP, Federal Member for Chifley; Dr Richard Denniss, Executive Director of The Australia Institute; Dr. Margot Rawsthorne, lecturer, Community Development, University of Sydney; etc. No cost. 9.00 am to 3.30 pm, The Mount Druitt Hub, 9 Ayers Grove, Mount Druitt. Contact: 02 9839 6082. Register: <http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=26626>. Web: <http://www.communitynet.tricomm.org.au/index.php/gws-news/cumberland-prospect/blacktown/58352-blacktown-community-services-conference-5-jul-2012-mt-druitt>.

6 JULY. TWEC SPIRIT OF THE TENT EMBASSY IN NAIDOC WEEK.

A time of prayer to celebrate the achievements of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. 7.30 pm, Tenison Woods Education Centre, New England Highway, Lochinvar. Contact: 02 4930 9601, RSVP by 29 June. Web: <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/newsroom/pdf/2012/TWEC%20Aboriginal%20naidoc%20Week%20Event%202012.pdf>.

6 - 8 JULY. TEAR CONFERENCE: 'ENOUGH'.

We live in a culture that is held captive to a vision of growth: where privilege, entitlement, exploitation and endless accumulation are the norm. This conference is a chance to explore what it means to have had enough (of poverty, injustice and excuses), and what it means to have enough (sufficient for our needs). Cost: various. The Tops Conference Centre, 51 Bendena Garden, Stanwell Tops. Contact: 1800 244 986. Web: <http://enough.org.au/>.

6 - 21 JULY. MAKE POVERTY HISTORY EXHIBITION: 'THE ROAD TO 2015'. The world promised in 2000 to halve poverty by 2015, and with only three years left there is still a lot of work to do. Through a collection of compelling pictures and stories from Make Poverty History partners, learn how Australian aid organisations are working with overseas neighbours to improve the quality of life for those living in poverty. Goulburn Library, Civic Centre, corner of Bourke and Clifford Streets, Goulburn. Contact: admin@makepovertyhistory.com.au. Web: <http://www.makepovertyhistory.com.au/events/90/road-to-2015-goulburn/>.

7 OR 10 JULY. VINNIES REFUGEE CHILDREN HOMEWORK TUTORS TRAINING DAY. SPARK is an after-school program that provides curriculum, social and cultural support to newly arrived refugee children and their families in selected primary schools in Western Sydney with significant numbers of refugee students. Volunteers are required one afternoon a week. 9.00 am to 3.00 pm, Parramatta. Contact: 02 9568 0280 or spark@vinnies.org.au. Web: <http://vinnies.org.au/spark/home>.

8 JULY. NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATION MASS: 'BY THE POWER OF FAITH, WE SHALL BE HEALED'. You are invited to celebrate this NAIDOC Week event at the Annual Diocesan liturgical celebration. The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday provides Catholic communities around the country with a timely opportunity to offer thanks to God for the wonderful contribution that Indigenous communities and individuals have made and continue to make to the cultural fabric of Australia in general and to Christian and Catholic communities in particular. 2.00 pm, St Francis Xavier Cathedral. Contact: 02 4253 0934 or helen.bennett@woll.catholic.org.au, RSVP by 2 July. Web: http://dow.org.au/news/news/item/news-in-brief-134?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+dow-news+%28Diocese+of+Wollongong+News%29.

9 JULY. THEOLOGY ON TAP: 'CATHOLIC THEOLOGY: WHAT SHOULD IT LOOK LIKE?' Have you ever wondered why the Church has

one faith but many (orthodox) theologies: how is this possible? What elements should enter into the making of a Catholic theology (philosophy, Scripture, Tradition, the magisterium)? How are those elements to be arranged among themselves? Speaker: Fr Aidan Nichols OP. 6.30 pm, Commercial Hotel, Parramatta. Web: <https://www.facebook.com/events/483350365025207/>.

9 JULY. JAMBEROO SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'FEMININE, FAITHFUL AND FREE?' Speaker: Emmy Silvius is a Catholic lay theologian who writes regularly for *Catholica* on issues of justice and equality in the Catholic Church, particularly in relation to women. Emmy is also a founding member of 'Catholics for Renewal'. This organisation was originally formed in 2011 to present the Pope and Australian Catholic Bishops an Open Letter which was signed within a short period by Catholics throughout Australia who want their Church to be as effective as possible in living the mission and teachings of Christ. 7.30 pm, Jamberoo Pub. Contact: 02 4232 2735. Web: http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=124:jamberoo&catid=8:nsw-sip-venues&Itemid=94.

10 JULY. SYDNEY CONGRESS ON THE NEW EVANGELISATION (SCENE) DEBATE: 'REDEFINING MARRIAGE ... THE IMPLICATIONS'. This event will highlight implications for our laws, culture and religious liberty. Speaker: John Fernon, Special Counsel, Barrister. No cost. 7.30 pm, The Auditorium, Parliament House, Sydney. Register: bishop@sydneycatholic.org, RSVP essential. Web: http://www.sydneycatholic.org/news/latest_news/2012/2012615_1835.shtml.

10 JULY. FILM SCREENING: 'ABOUT WATER 'ÜBER WASSER''. As result of climate change, water-related problems are becoming increasingly severe in many corners of the world. About Water (Über Wasser) makes it clear that this is an issue of global justice; the regions where the consequences of climate change are most dramatic are those which contributed least to the problem. Courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive. No cost. 12.30 to 1.50 pm, Mitchell Theatre, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, Level 1, 280 Pitt

Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9262 7300. Web: <http://smsa.org.au/events/event/screening-about-water-uber-wasser/>.

11 - 12 JULY. NOT FOR SALE (NFS) FREE2WORK ACADEMY: 'JUST MARKET SUPPLY CHAINS'. NFS is running an academy on supply chain research and advocacy. Free2work is an app that enables consumers to scan a barcode and instantly determine the transparency of the supply chain of the item with respect to people trafficking. The aim is to train activists hopefully leading to implementation of the app in Australia. Cost: \$99. University of Technology, Sydney. Contact: theacademy@notforsalecampaign.org. Web: <http://www.nfsacademy.org/sydney-academy/>.

11 - 13 JULY. SEMINAR: 'ECOLOGY, COSMOLOGY AND SPIRITUALITY'. This seminar will explore how ecological conversion is central to following Jesus. The Broken Bay Institute in affiliation with the University of Newcastle is offering this seminar. Speaker: Rev Dr Denis Edwards, Professor of Theology, Flinders University. Cost: various. 9.00 am to 4.00 pm, Caroline Chisholm Centre, Pennant Hills. Contact: 02 9847 0030 or info@bbi.catholic.edu.au. Web: <http://www.dbb.org.au/ourparishesandpriests/Documents/Ecology%20Cosmology%20and%20Spirituality%20Denis%20Edwards%20July%202012%20.pdf>.

14 JULY. THE INAUGURAL NSW TIMOR-LESTE FORUM 'BUILDING COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS FOR TIMOR-LESTE'. The forum will facilitate the exchange of different perspectives and practices, and offers the opportunity for those committed to change in Timor-Leste to identify collaborative initiatives between government aid agencies, researchers and community organisations currently involved in the provision of aid in the country. Speakers: Ms Kirsty Sword Gusmão, Former First Lady of Timor-Leste and Goodwill Ambassador for Education, Director of Alola Foundation; Jude Finch, Blue Mountains East Timor Sisters, Former AVI Timor Leste; etc. Cost: \$65, concession \$45. 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, University of Western Sydney, Parramatta Campus. Contact: 02 9685 9844 or w.fallon@uws.edu.au. Web: <https://www>.

conferenceonline.com/bookingform/index.cfm?page=booking&object=conference&id=16951&categorykey=1C6F1976-5F54-4AA1-A1DE-3C7BD A049449&clear=1&bookingid=0&bookingkey=&.

14 JULY. FILM SCREENING: 'OUR GENERATION'. This documentary by Sinem Saban and Damien Curtis explores the Yolngu people of Northeast Arnhem Land's struggle for their land, culture and freedom. It will be followed by a question time with Damien Curtis. 5.00 to 7.30 pm, Manly Art Gallery and Museum, West Esplanade, Manly. Contact: 02 9976 1421 or ai_in_manly@hotmail.com. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/event/28814/>.

18 JULY. SUTHERLAND SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'WHAT IF ALL AUSTRALIANS FELT VALUED AND HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN SOCIETY?' Speakers: Janet Meagher and Paul Harris. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, Sutherland United Services Club, East Parade, Sutherland. Contact: 02 9520 0617 or 02 9548 2475. Web: http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=129:sutherland-shire&catid=8:nsw-sip-venues&Itemid=94.

20 - 22 JULY. FUSION FAMILIES CONFERENCE. Speakers: Steve Biddulph, renowned educator, therapist and author; Colleen Hirst, clinical psychologist and family therapist. **20 July:** Steve Biddulph 'Raising Girls' - a talk for parents, cost \$10, 7.30 pm. **21 July:** Steve Biddulph and Colleen Hirst - training to equip family and community workers, church and youth leaders, cost from \$60, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. FUSION Youth and Community Centre, 12 Carsons Lane, St Marys. Contact: registration@fusion.org.au or 02 8805 5900, RSVP essential. Web: <http://fusionwesternsydney.org.au/families-conference-2012/>.

21 JULY. 'COME TO THE FEAST' A WORKSHOP ON HOSPITALITY - MORE THAN A CUPPA. The way we welcome others, especially those who enquire about joining our community, reflects on who we are as disciples and stewards of God's mission. Speaker: Chris Ehler, Archdiocese of Brisbane, will lead in exploring the meaning of hospitality and in developing

ways for creating hospitable and welcoming communities in all areas of ministry and community life. 10.00 am to 2.30 pm, Thomas More Parish, Acacia Avenue, Ruse. Contact: 02 4253 0985 or darren.mcdowell@woll.catholic.org.au, RSVP by 18 July. Web: <http://www.dow.org.au/news/news/item/news-in-brief-133>.

24 JULY. PRESENTATION: 'WATER FOR LIFE'.

Without access to clean water or sanitation facilities, children are more susceptible to diarrhoea and disease. Yet providing proper sanitation to everyone who needs it, is often more complex than just simply building a toilet. Work must be done with communities to bring about behaviour change and community ownership of sanitation facilities. Speaker: Andrew Parker, primary advisor on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) UNICEF. No cost. 12.30 to 1.30 pm, Mitchell Theatre, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, Level 1, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9262 7300. Web: <http://smsa.org.au/events/event/water-for-life/>.

26 JULY. WOMEN'S RECONCILIATION NETWORK FORUM FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE. Speakers: Jody Broun, Joint Chair, National Congress of First People; Linda Burney MP, Member for Canterbury; and Jacqui Phillips, National Director of ANTaR. 10.00 am to 12.30 pm, Redfern Community Centre, Hugo Street, Redfern. Contact: 02 9909 0203 or 02 4758 9123.

31 JULY. STARTTS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP: CORE CONCEPTS IN WORKING WITH PEOPLE FROM REFUGEE BACKGROUNDS. This introductory workshop is designed to put a framework of understanding around working with refugees and asylum seekers. It focuses on understanding the link between what refugees have been through, the sorts of issues and behaviours refugees may present with, and how to work in a way that promotes recovery and minimises the risk of retraumatisation. Cost: \$149, concession \$99. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm, The Boardroom, City Diggers Wollongong, corner Church and Burelli Streets, Wollongong. Web: <http://www.startts.org.au/default.aspx?id=473>.

31 JULY. SPRC SEMINAR: 'INCOME INEQUALITY AND INCOME MOBILITY'. Speaker: Associate Professor Roger Wilkins, Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research. 12.30 to 1.30 pm, John Goodsell Room, John Goodsell Building (F20), UNSW. Contact: sprcseminars@unsw.edu.au or 02 9385 7800. Web: http://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/media/File/Seminar_Series_2012_S2.pdf.

2 AUGUST. MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY FAIR TRADE FESTIVAL. This is an interactive community event that aims to raise awareness of fair trade, promote Fairtrade businesses in NSW and celebrate Macquarie University's efforts which made Macquarie together with RMIT one of the first Fairtrade certified universities in Australia. The market aims to provide a large variety of fairly traded products that will demonstrate the diversity of fair trade products. 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, Macquarie University, Central Courtyard, North Ryde. Web: <http://www.fta.org.au/node/828>.

2 - 3 AUGUST. TREEHOUSE THEATRE PERFORMANCE: TREE OF LIFE: 'STORIES OF REFUGEE EXPERIENCE'. 'Tree of Life' is developed from the verbatim stories of young refugees from south-western Sydney. The performance will be a sharing of the joys, sorrows, terrors, relief and humour of their refugee experiences. Cost: \$20, concession \$12, school group \$2 each. Casula Powerhouse, 1 Casula Road, Casula. Book: <http://www.casulapowerhouse.com/booknow/>. Contact: 02 9824 1121. Web: <http://www.communitynet.tricomm.org.au/index.php/events/community-events/58429-tree-of-life-stories-of-refugee-experience-2-3-aug-2012-casula>.

3 AUGUST. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'SRI LANKA - DISAPPEARANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE SURVIVAL OF THE TAMILS'. Speakers: Dr Sam Pari, Human Rights Spokesperson Tamil Community; and Brami Jegan, Human Rights activist and media co-ordinator for Greens Senator Lee Rhiannon. 6.00 pm 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/>.

4, 11 AND 18 AUGUST. WORKSHOPS: PACE E BENE 'NONVIOLENT PEACEMAKING IN YOUR COMMUNITY ... IN YOUR WORLD'.

Tunisia and Egypt have shown the world the power of active nonviolence. This programme of Pace e Bene is a small-group learning process in personal and social transformation suitable for a wide audience. A 12 session programme offered over 3 Saturdays. Cost: \$90 (plus Course book \$37). 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, Edmund Rice Centre, 15 Henley Road, Homebush West. Contact: gill@ozburrows.com. Web: www.paceebene.org.au/workshops.html

9 AUGUST. MARY MACKILLOP FOUNDATION SYDNEY FUNDRAISING GALA DINNER.

All donations from the dinner to the foundation will go toward small life-changing projects in Australia. Come along and join in the fun and make a difference for those less fortunate. Cost: \$250. 7.00 pm, Sergeants' Mess, Chowder Bay. Contact: 02 8912 2714 or events@mackillopfoundation.org.au. Web: <http://www.mackillopfoundation.org.au/index.php?section=events&type=future&eventID=61>

9 - 10 AUGUST. FAMILY ADVOCACY ODYSSEY CONFERENCE: '...CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS, PROGRESS AND CHANGE'.

This conference, celebrating achievements, progress and change, will again bring together local, national and international speakers who have information and stories to share about people with disability having a good life - whatever their age. Speakers: Dr Michael Kendrick, independent consultant in human services and community around the world; Dr Patrick Schwarz, professor, author, motivational speaker and leader in Education and Human Services; etc. Cost: \$260-500. Parkroyal Parramatta, 30 Phillip Street, Parramatta. Contact: 02 9869 0866 or conference@family-advocacy.com, RSVP by 24 July. Web: <http://www.family-advocacy.com/conference-2012.html>.

9 - 11 AUGUST. ACBC PROCLAIM CONFERENCE. This conference on the New Evangelisation is organised on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference by the National Office for Evangelisation and Catholic Mission, and primarily sponsored

by Invocare. Speakers: Archbishop Salvatore Fisichella, President, Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization; Martha Fernández-Sardina, Director, Office for Evangelization, Archdiocese of San Antonio, Texas. cost: \$95-396. 409 Victoria Avenue, Chatswood. Contact: 1300 432 484 or contact@proclaimconference.com.au. Web: <http://www.proclaimconference.com.au/>.

10 AUGUST. SOCIAL JUSTICE AND LITURGY WORKSHOP: 'BRANCH OUT: ECHOING SEEDS OF JUSTICE'.

A combination of speakers, social justice expo, small group workshops, music and ritual experiences, all nurturing the connection between living justly and worshipping with honesty. Enabling a return to your community with a clearer vision and the tools to branch out, echoing seeds of justice. This event is for Year 9-11 students, Religious Education Coordinators, teachers, Music Coordinators/music groups, Social Justice Coordinators/groups, Parish administrators and volunteers, Sacramental Coordinators, Diocesan Liturgy Commissions, etc. Cost: \$40, concession \$30. 9.30 am to 3.00 pm, St Augustine's College, Alfred Road, Brookvale (opposite Brookvale Oval). Web: http://www.bethebestwecanbe.com.au/main/page_social_justice__liturgy_workshop.html.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

4 JULY. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB: DR DAWN CASEY: 'INDIGENOUS ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT IN PROSPEROUS TIMES - MORE THAN JUST JOBS'.

Chair of Indigenous Business Australia, the Indigenous Land Corporation and Director of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences. Cost: \$77. 11.30 am to 1.30 pm, 16 National Circuit, Barton. Contact: npc@npc.org.au or 02 6121 2199. Web: <http://www.npc.org.au/speakers/dr-dawn-casey.html>.

5 JULY. ABRAHAMIC FAITHS IN DIALOGUE:

'WATER: A MATTER OF LIFE'. A discussion on the social, economic, political, spiritual and theological significance of water, with Mr Harry Oppermann, State and National Curriculum Administrator 1969-2012; Bishop George Browning, Environmental Network of the International Anglican Communion; and

Mr Mehmet Ozalp, Lecturer, Charles Sturt University and Executive Director of Islamic Science and Research Academy. 5.30 to 7.00 pm, The Chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: acc-c@csu.edu.au or 02 6272 6203.

1 AUGUST. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB:

PROFESSOR ALLAN FELS. Professor Allan Fels, AO Chair of the National Mental Health Commission. Professor Fels is a long term advocate of mental health policy reform. He is a carer for his daughter Isabella who has schizophrenia. He, Isabella and his family featured in an episode of Australian Story in 2002 about Isabella's mental illness and the impact on the family. Cost: \$77. 11.30 am to 1.30 pm, 16 National Circuit, Barton. Contact: npc@npc.org.au or 02 6121 2199. Web: <http://www.npc.org.au/speakers/professor-allan-fels.html>.

VICTORIA

UNTIL 20 JULY. PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION:

'MANUWANGKU, UNDER THE NUCLEAR CLOUD'. An exhibition by renowned photographer Jagath Dheeraseskara which aims to break down the preconception that an area proposed for a nuclear dump is in the middle of nowhere. Curated by Dr Vincent Alessi, Artistic Director, La Trobe University Art Museum. La Trobe University, Library, Bundoora Campus, Plenty Road, Bundoora. Web: <http://jd.photoshelter.com/page1>.

6 - 8 JULY. AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC STUDENTS

ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE: 'DEFENDING HUMAN DIGNITY'. A chance for Catholic students and other young people to come together to socialise, strengthen their faith and receive the sacraments. Speakers: Fr Aidan Nichols OP; Fr Bill Miscamble. Cost: \$130-160. Queen's College, University of Melbourne, 1-17 College Crescent, Parkville. Contact: functions@catholicstudents.org.au. Web: www.catholicstudents.org.au/conference2012.php.

10 JULY. MEDICAL ASSOCIATION FOR PREVENTION OF WAR (MAPW) DINNER.

Speaker: Professor Louise Newman,

psychiatrist and director, Centre for Developmental Psychiatry and Psychology, Monash University. Prof. Newman, a strong advocate for refugees and asylum seekers, has researched the link between time in detention and rates of mental illness. Cost: \$30, concession \$15. 6.30 to 10.00 pm, La Notte Restaurant, 140 Lygon Street, Carlton. Contact: secretary@mapw.org.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/mapw-dinner-prof-louise-newman>.

11 JULY. REFUGEE ACTION COLLECTIVE PUBLIC FORUM: 'ASIO ASSESSMENTS, LEAVING REFUGEES IN LIMBO'.

Around 60 refugees are facing indefinite detention on the basis of adverse security assessments made by ASIO. This includes families with young children. None of them have been given the reason for these assessments, there is no trial, and no right to appeal. Come to a meeting to discuss how to get the Government to end indefinite detention and release the refugees into the community. Speakers: Julian Burnside (AQ), barrister, author and refugee advocate; Niromi de Soyza, author; Declan Murphy, Refugee Action Collective VIC; and Greens and ALP speakers invited; 6.30 to 9.30 pm, Multicultural Hub, 506 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne. Contact: refugeeactioncollectivevic@gmail.com or 0400 863 038. Web: <http://rac-vic.org/>.

20 JULY. ANNUAL CASTAN CENTRE

CONFERENCE - HUMAN RIGHTS. Speakers: Mr Gareth Evans AO QC, former Australian Foreign Minister and CEO, International Crisis Group; Professor Tim Flannery, Professor, Macquarie University and 2007 Australian of the year; Ms Susan Ryan AO, Commonwealth Age Discrimination Commissioner; etc. Registration: <http://ecommerce.law.monash.edu.au/product.asp?pid=188&cID=4&e=1>. Cost: \$90-220. 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Spring Street Conference Centre, 1 Spring Street, Melbourne. Contact: castan.centre@monash.edu or 03 9905 3327. Web: <http://www.law.monash.edu.au/castancentre/conference/>.

21 JULY. CARE4CONGO ANNUAL FUNDRAISING

BALL. More than six million Congolese men, women and children have died in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as a result

of war and ongoing conflict since 1997. Care4Congo aims to restore hope and develop a community agency to help Congolese rebuild their lives and communities. This fundraising event will include food and entertainment by guest performers Angels Voices Band, Vox-Congo and Afro Bongo Dance. Cost: \$40.00, concession \$30. 6.30 to 11.00 pm, Uniting Church Hall, 251 High Street, Northcote. Contact: 0437 724 469 or Care4Congo@gmail.com. Web: <http://www.care4congo.org>.

27 - 29 JULY. FAIRLY EDUCATED CONFERENCE. The purpose of the conference is to bring together university students with the aim of increasing their knowledge of Fair Trade, equipping them with excellent leadership and campaigning skills, as well as providing an invaluable opportunity to network with like minded students, staff, businesses and organisations. Speaker: Daniel Mackey, Fairtrade ANZ; Jeff Ward, Liminal Apparel; Chris and Vic Hoy Co-Founders, Fairly Educated; Steph Woollard, Seven Women Social Enterprise. Cost: \$50. RMIT University's 'Green Brain' Conference Space, Level 7, Building #16, 342 Swanston Street, Melbourne. Web: <http://www.fairlyeducatedconference.com/>.

29 JULY. FAIRLY EDUCATED CONFERENCE EXPO. This Expo will be open to the public, and those attending the conference will be given opportunity to browse the stalls showcasing Fairtrade products from various suppliers and chat to representatives from NGOs about their campaigns. 12.00 to 5.00 pm, RMIT University. Web: <http://www.fairlyeducatedconference.com/>.

2 AUGUST. MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY SOCIAL JUSTICE SEMINAR: 'DISADVANTAGE AND LIFE SATISFACTION'. This seminar will take a utilitarian approach to disadvantage by using measures of life satisfaction to identify disadvantaged groups and to assess their degree of disadvantage. Speaker: Ian McDonald, Professor in Economics, University of Melbourne. 1.00 to 2.00 pm, Theatre 1, Ground Floor, Arts West Building, University of Melbourne. Contact: hsaun@unimelb.edu.au or 03 8344 1997. Web: <http://www.socialjustice.unimelb.edu.au/Disadvantage%20and%20life%20satisfaction.pdf>.

TASMANIA

12 - 13 JULY. AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY CONFERENCE: 'CHANGING THE WAY WE THINK ABOUT CHANGE: SHIFTING BOUNDARIES, CHANGING LIVES'. The conference encourages critical analysis of changing contexts, innovative approaches, and emerging challenges in criminology. Convenor: Professor Rob White, School of Sociology and Social Work. No cost. 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Faculty of Arts, Sandy Bay campus. Contact: R.D.White@utas.edu.au or 03 6226 2877, RSVP by 2 July. Web: <http://www.events.utas.edu.au/2012/july/the-australian-and-new-zealand-critical-criminology-conference-2012>.

13 JULY. UTAS PUBLIC LECTURE: 'ERADICATING POVERTY'. Speaker: Nobel prize winner, Professor James Mirrlees. 5.30 to 7.30 pm, Centenary Lecture Theatre, Grosvenor Crescent, Sandy Bay campus, UTAS. Contact: UTAS.Events@utas.edu.au or 08 6226 2521. Web: <http://www.events.utas.edu.au/2012/july/public-lecture-by-nobel-prize-winner,-professor-james-mirrlees>.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

3 JULY. FLINDERS UNIVERSITY PUBLIC LECTURE: 'ENGINEERING HAPPINESS IN CHILDHOOD'. This paper draws on comparative research on child well-being and research undertaken in the UK in collaboration with the Children's Society. This lecture is presented by the Flinders Institute of Public Policy and Management (FIPPM) and the School of Social and Policy Studies. Speaker: Professor Jonathan Bradshaw, University of York. No cost. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Level 1, Flinders University, 182 Victoria Square, Adelaide. Contact: ssps.admin@flinders.edu.au or 08 8201 2026, RSVP by 28 June. Web: http://www.flinders.edu.au/events/images/event/559_1_Lecture%20Flyer.pdf.

4 JULY. GLADYS ELPHWICK AWARDS AND LUNCHEON FOR OUTSTANDING ABORIGINAL WOMEN. The Gladys Elphick Awards are the first Aboriginal Women's Awards to be created in SA for and by Aboriginal women. InterContinental Hotel, North Terrace,

Adelaide. Contact: digitill@tandanya.com.au or 08 8224 3200. Web: <http://www.adelcathparish.org/announcements/gladys-elphwick-awards-and-luncheon-for-outstanding-aboriginal-women>.

25 JULY. LAW EVENINGS SEMINAR: 'CREATING A FAIR CARBON PRICING POLICY: ARE WE LOOKING AFTER OUR MOST VULNERABLE?'

This presentation analyses the fairness of Australia's carbon pricing policy for Australia's indigenous communities, using a framework developed by the author. The presentation is set in the context of Australia's international obligations and includes a comparison with British Columbia's carbon tax. Speaker: Karen Bubna-Litic, Associate Professor in Law, University of South Australia. 5.30 to 7.30 pm, Bradley Forum, Level 5, Hawke Building, 50-55 North Terrace, Adelaide, UniSA's City West Campus. Web: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/Calendar/Law-Eve-2012-07-25/>.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

2 JULY. ARMS TRADE TREATY PRESENTATION.

Amnesty International's WA Community Organiser Wendy Watson will give a presentation about the Arms Trade Treaty as the campaign reaches its final stages. 6.15 to 8.15 pm, Melville Glades Golf Club, Beasley Road, Leeming. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/wa/event/29032/>.

4 JULY. PUBLIC FORUM: THE POLITICS OF ASYLUM SEEKERS. This public forum will reflect on the 20 year anniversary of the mandatory detention policy and discuss how Australia might shift the political debate to focus on the needs of those seeking asylum. Speakers include Greens spokesperson on asylum seeker policy Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Dr Caroline Fleay, representatives from the Afghanistan community and other former asylum seekers. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Curtin University, Kent Street, Bentley. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/wa/event/28762/>.

7 JULY. NAIDOC BALL. Performers include: Archie Roach, Tony Minniecon and Warren Milera. Cost: \$75, Senior Card \$65. 6.30 pm to midnight, Adelaide Convention Centre. Book: <http://bass.net.au> or 131 246. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/sa/event/29004/>.

14 JULY. PERTH'S FUNDRAISING GALA DINNER: 'BASTILLE DAY BALL'. An exclusive French evening with exquisite food, delightful wine and grand entertainment. All donations from the dinner to the foundation will go toward small life-changing projects in Australia for those less fortunate. Speakers: The Hon Fred Chaney AO; Michael Alfred Chaney AO. Contact: 02 8912 2714 or events@mackillopfoundation.org.au. Cost: \$165. 7.00 pm, The Ballroom, Government House, Perth. Web: <http://www.mackillopfoundation.org.au/index.php?section=events&type=future&eventID=62>

NORTHERN TERRITORY

2 JULY. DARWIN ASYLUM SEEKER SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY NETWORK MEETING.

Featuring a presentation by Mehdi, a refugee with a Bridging Visa who spent 10 months in detention on Christmas Island and six months in the Northern Immigration Detention Centre. 5.30 to 7.00 pm, Melaleuca Refugee Centre, Rapid Creek Business Village, Trower Road, Rapid Creek. Contact: dassan2011@gmail.com or 0429 694 083. Web: <http://dassan.weebly.com/>.

10 - 26 AUGUST. DARWIN FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: 'MANUWANGKU, UNDER THE NUCLEAR CLOUD'. An exhibition by renowned photographer Jagath Dheeraseskara which aims to break down the preconception that an area proposed for a nuclear dump is in the middle of nowhere. An Amnesty International Human Rights Innovation Fund Grant project. Christ Church Cathedral. Web: <http://jd.photoshelter.com/page1>.

[Catholic groups call for new asylum seeker policy](#)

Two leading Catholic social justice groups called on the federal government to change its approach to asylum seekers, following the tragic loss of life on a boat that capsized off Christmas Island.

[Vatican calls for AIDS medicine to be free](#)

At the 8th International AIDS Conference in Rome, the Vatican urged that medicines used to treat afflicted patients in Africa be provided free of charge, reported the Catholic News Agency.

[A new ministry of welcome for refugees](#)

The Divine Word Missionaries welcomed the first group of asylum seekers into their communities at Boronia in Melbourne and at Marsfield in Sydney, as part of a new ministry aimed at fulfilling the mission to “Welcome the Stranger” in our midst, reported the newsletter of Catholic Religious Australia.

[Balance environment with human dignity, warns Vatican](#)

While the world looks for ways to protect the environment while promoting development, it must remember to keep human wellbeing and the protection of human dignity as its central goals, argues the Vatican, reported *America* magazine.

[Green Filipino priest speaks out against mining law](#)

Award-winning Filipino environmental activist Fr Edwin Gariguez led calls for the government and the public to support a new draft mining law he said would lead to “rational change” in the way the Philippines manages its natural resources, reported UCA news.

[Rich families could sponsor poor ones, says pope](#)

Families from rich countries could sponsor families from poor ones, Pope Benedict XVI suggested at a gathering of around 350,000 people in Milan, reported *The Courier Mail*.

[Caritas compares poverty in Spain to post-war Europe](#)

Julio Beamonte, the director of Catholic charity Caritas in Madrid, warned that current poverty levels in Spain are rivalling those experienced in post-World War II Europe, reported Catholic News Agency.

[ERC supports Yolngu call for Senate to reject bills](#)

The Edmund Rice Centre supported the call of Yolngu Elders for the Stronger Futures Bills to be rejected by the Senate, it said in a media statement.

[Tackling poverty could save \\$2.3b in hospital costs: CHA study](#)

Australia could save \$2.3 billion a year on hospital costs, avoid 60,000 admissions and cut the number of chronic illness sufferers by up to 500,000 by tackling poverty, a study commissioned by Catholic Health Australia found, reported *The Age*.

[Vinnies joins call for pay rise to help battlers](#)

The St Vincent de Paul Society joined the Australian Catholic Council for Employment Relations in calling on Fair Work Australia for an increase in safety net wage rates and the national minimum wage for the nation’s 1.4 million lowest paid workers, reported *The Catholic Weekly*.

- for details, click on headlines or to cathnews.com



Social Justice Calendar

- 1 Sun Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday
NAIDOC Week begins
Tartan Day
- 5 Thu 1935: The Dalai Lama born in Tibet - awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989
- 7 Sat International Day of Cooperatives
1945: Blessed Peter To Rot - killed in Papua New Guinea, recognised as a martyr
- 8 Sun Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Apostleship of the Sea
- 10 Tue 1985: Sinking of Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior in Auckland
- 11 Wed World Population Day
- 12 Thu 1971: Aboriginal Flag first flown in Adelaide
- 14 Sat 1995: Aboriginal Flag and Torres Strait Islander Flag proclaimed official flags of Australia
- 15 Sun Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 16 Mon 1945: First atomic bomb detonated in New Mexico
- 18 Wed 1918: Nelson Mandela born
- 20 Fri Ramadan begins
1969: First moon landing accomplished by Neil Armstrong, Edwin Aldrin and Michael Collins
- 22 Sun Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Bible Sunday
- 26 Thu 1833: Emancipation Bill approved, abolishing slavery throughout the British Empire
- 27 Fri Schools Tree Day
- 29 Sun Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
National Tree Day
- 30 Mon Missing persons week begins

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.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE COUNCIL PO Box 7246, Alexandria NSW 2015. Tel: (02) 8306 3499, Fax: (02) 8306 3498, Email: admin@acsjc.org.au
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.