

# ACSJC Monthly Briefing November 2015 No 173



## From the Secretariat November 2015

Dear Friends,

News that a former prime minister has spoken on the world stage usually stimulates great interest. Even if it is soon after their departure from office, there is an expectation that they may reveal views on important issues free from the pressure of pollsters, an inspiring truth they would not have expressed in office, or a pearl of wisdom based on deeply held convictions to help create a better, more compassionate world.

There is something we are looking for here that can be ascribed to the role of statesperson.

In this case, however, maybe it's just too soon.

It was not surprising that our former prime minister highlighted in a London address the policy of 'stopping the boats' as one of his greatest achievements. It was not that surprising that he used the Margaret Thatcher lecture to urge Europe to employ the deterrence and detention methods that Australia has perfected.

It was somewhat surprising that he proposed an [approach](#) that is, in the words of the European Migration Policy Institute's Demetrios Papademetriou, 'completely unrealistic' and impossible to implement because of the European Union's legal framework and the international conventions to which it is a signatory.

What was shocking was the invocation of Our Lord's commandment, a moral absolute if ever there was one, to then argue for its limitation; relativised in [these words](#):

*Implicitly or explicitly, the imperative to "love your neighbour as you love yourself" is at the heart of every Western polity. It expresses itself in laws protecting workers, in strong social security safety nets, and in the readiness to take in refugees. It's what makes us decent and humane countries as well as prosperous ones, but – right now – this wholesome instinct is leading much of Europe into catastrophic error.*

*... no country or continent can open its borders to all comers without fundamentally weakening itself. This is the risk that the countries of Europe now run through misguided altruism.*

The next day, Latika Bourke [reported](#) on the responses of Bishop Patrick Power and Fr Frank Brennan in *The Sydney Morning Herald*:

Retired Bishop Pat Power told Fairfax Media ...

*"I'm ashamed that a former Australian PM would be putting out a message like this," he said.*

*"People will make their own judgements but that's completely at odds with what's at the heart of Christianity. I'm certainly offended."...*

*Father Brennan said the parable of the Good Samaritan was “just as relevant” as it had ever been in relation to the plight of asylum seekers and said Mr Abbott's advice for European leaders was simplistic and wrong. ...*

*“The appalling thing is that ex-PM Abbott has no right to preach to the world because, having stopped the boats, he insisted on maintaining the facilities at Nauru and PNG,” he said.*

*“They are not just harsh, but cruel, and they don't deter asylum seekers because we've now locked the front door.”*

Of course, it is easy to promote the harsh policy of deterrence and detention when these policies operate under the veil of operational secrecy, when asylum seekers are kept faceless and nameless, when political diatribe casts people as ‘illegals’, aliens and a threat to sovereignty, and when media focuses on the interception of people at borders rather than revealing the full story of their journey and the atrocities causing them to take flight.

Against a view of the world in which the door is shut to refugees and where the full plight of the world's 60 million forcibly displaced are ignored stands just one image, now burnt into the collective consciousness. It has aroused the kind of response Jesus seeking when he called on us, ‘love your neighbour’.

That tragic image of the little boy Aylan Kurdi whose drowned body was found on a Turkish beach in early September opened the mind of people around the globe to the disastrous situation of Syrian and other refugees streaming into Europe from Turkey, Lebanon and elsewhere. His death jolted the national conscience. Reports of the thousands of asylum seekers looking for refuge in Europe then became real and personal. To his credit, the former prime minister announced a one-off increase of 12,000 places for Syrians and Iraqis in the humanitarian intake.

This was welcomed by ACSJC Chairman Bishop Vincent Long, who said: ‘This is a generous response to suffering that demonstrates the compassion of the Australian people. These are the sort of vulnerable people we should focus on when responding to claims for refugee status.’ The Refugee Council of Australia also welcomed the commitment. Phil Glendenning applauded the then prime minister's leadership and added: ‘We want to also applaud the Australian community who have demanded that our Government act to assist the Syrians who are in such great need. In recent days our office has been inundated with offers of support from the general public to assist in whatever way they are able.’

The extra places should be taken as an important first step in lifting Australia's humanitarian intake to better reflect the global increase in the need for protection.

But if we are moved to act by the death of Aylan, we must also be moved to act for the children Australia continues to hold offshore. This is not ‘misguided altruism’. This is about human rights. A recent Senate Inquiry revealed at least 67 cases of child abuse on Nauru, including 30 cases against Australian staff. The government's own Moss Review highlighted the risks to women and children on Nauru being exposed sexual abuse, including rape, violence, and the trade of drugs and other items for sexual favours.

The inhumane conditions in Australia's offshore locations have again been highlighted, this time in instances of the rape of women and the inadequate care and medical attention offered to them

following the traumatic crimes against them. 'Abyan', a Somali refugee, is reportedly pregnant following an assault on her and, after some delay, was brought to Australia purportedly to seek an abortion. When she expressed hesitation about proceeding with the abortion she was then summarily returned to Nauru. The Minister for Immigration is now returning her to Australia. 'Nazanin' also reported that she had been sexually assaulted, and she and her family and supporters have voiced strong complaints about the aggressive and inappropriate questioning by Nauruan police and the lack of medical or psychological support offered.

Serious doubts have been expressed about whether the police in a nation of only 10,000 people have any real capacity to deal with reports of sexual abuse, especially where the likely victims are already traumatised members of a group of outsiders. The Nauruan justice minister [says](#) the police are considering charging a sexual assault complainant with making a false statement.

Australia's Catholic bishops have condemned victimisation of women in detention and offered support to help Abyan. In a media release, Bishop Vincent Long [said](#): 'Given Abyan was raped and that it was Australia who released her into the community in Nauru, we have a duty to provide her the appropriate services and care in Australia. We want to honour the human dignity of both Abyan and her child. Both Abyan and her child are victims of an unjust and immoral system.'

How can we deny our responsibilities to those we have detained in our offshore detention centres? The UNHCR, the UN Committee on Torture and other monitoring bodies have stated that Australia cannot absolve itself of its human rights obligations by shipping people to other jurisdictions. Its responsibilities stand as extraterritorial obligations because it has been instrumental in establishing the offshore arrangements, wholly responsible for transporting people there and it holds effective power and control over the detention centres.

But just last month the UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants, François Crépeau, postponed a visit to Australia, citing Australia's Border Force legislation as the reason for his decision. The *Border Force Act 2015* exposes doctors and other professionals to prosecution and imprisonment if they report on conditions or incidents in detention centres. Mr. Crépeau said that the Act's provisions 'would have an impact on my visit as it serves to discourage people from fully disclosing information relevant to my mandate. This threat of reprisals with persons who would want to cooperate with me on the occasion of this official visit is unacceptable. The Act prevents me from fully and freely carrying out my duties during the visit, as [required](#) by the UN guidelines for independent experts carrying out their country visits.'

A spokesperson for the Immigration Minister maintained that the government had no role in organising access to offshore detention centres, [saying](#) that 'access to Regional Processing Centres in Papua New Guinea and Nauru is the responsibility of these sovereign nations and needs to be addressed with their governments'.

We cannot absolve ourselves of our international obligations by deferring responsibilities to a poor nation with a population equivalent to a small metropolitan suburb.

The situation of these offshore centres is untenable in terms of Australia's human rights obligations. What is our role as a good global citizen?

The Catholic Bishops have said in their Social Justice Statement:

*Because the safety of these asylum seekers cannot be guaranteed and durable solutions are unlikely to be found for them immediately in Papua New Guinea and Nauru, both of these detention facilities should be closed.*

*The billions of dollars spent each year on deterring and detaining thousands of vulnerable people would be better spent in our region on policies that are far more humane and effective.*

The Bishops have called for Australia to work:

- globally to develop in-country solutions that can effectively protect displaced people
- regionally to increase genuine protection spaces in countries such as Malaysia and Indonesia, and
- locally by substantially [increasing](#) Australia's humanitarian intake.

The current approach and the situation faced by those people in Australia's offshore centres is untenable in terms of the fundamental Gospel value.

The real catastrophic error is a nation whose leaders spend billions of dollars every year stunting its wholesome instinct of love of neighbour – shutting the door to vulnerable people, incarcerating them and exposing them to abuse. This is the real threat to the heart of Western polity.

John Ferguson (National Executive Officer)



## Current Issues/Resources October 2015

### CATHOLIC ALLIANCE FOR PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM (CAPSA) PETITION

Australia's treatment of people seeking asylum ought to reflect our collective values of solidarity, compassion, respect for human dignity, and our desire to do good.

Detaining people seeking safety on Nauru and Manus Island does harm. We CAN do better. Let's tell our politicians today we want better treatment of people in need, and policies that reflect our common values. [Click here](#) to sign the CAPSA petition - it takes just 28 seconds to add your voice to growing calls for change.

### VIDEO ANIMATION CHALLENGES CRIMINALISATION OF MIGRANTS

The image of the dead body of the toddler Aylan, who washed ashore near a Turkish tourist resort in early September, stirred up emotions worldwide and led to a sudden new awareness among the general public of the risks, dangers and human rights violations which migrants face, particularly children. A new video animation entitled 'Migration is Not a Crime' calls on the general public to hold their governments accountable. The short video, which was produced by Motion Designer Roald Seeliger in cooperation with the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM), underscores the need to ensure regular ways for people to come to Europe safely, for work, study, and protection and to join family living in Europe. [View the video here](#).

### NEW BOOK: 'SETTLING CHILDREN AND YOUTH FROM REFUGEE BACKGROUNDS'

This book has been written at a time when as many children are on the move as forced migrants as at any time in human history. Rather than focus on how children seek protection, this book is about what happens afterwards. Essays by distinguished professionals in the field examine the law, policy and practice governing how refugee children are admitted and 'settled' into Australian society. The centrepiece of the work, however, are essays on what can and should be done to support and assist young refugees after they enter Australia. The core premise is that settlement matters. Good settlement experiences can facilitate healing, reduce traumas associated with transition into a new society and create a solid foundation for growth and development into productive adulthood. Editor: Mary Crock. [Purchase the book here](#). Price \$49.95.

### **LAUNCH OF MICAH AUSTRALIA**

Micah Australia is a coalition of church and Christian organisations from all denominations with a mission to gather, inspire and empower Australian Christians to raise a powerful voice for global justice and a world free from poverty. It is the successor to the Micah Challenge campaign, which has equipped Christians to help ensure Australia does its fair share to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. A few weeks ago Australia joined the international community in unanimously adopting the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to fight poverty, address inequality and build a more secure, prosperous and sustainable world by 2030. The global picture relating to poverty and sustainable human development have changed dramatically over the past decade and it has never been a more important time for Christians to be intentional and strategic in prayer and action for justice. [Find resources and information here](#).

### **JUBILEE AUSTRALIA IS MERGING WITH THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE (TAI)**

With TAI, a think tank on economic, social and environmental issues, Jubilee Australia will be 'connecting the dots' regarding government, corporate and financial institutional behaviour that hurts people, whether it be here in Australia or overseas. Post-merger, they will continue to conduct ground-breaking research as the Jubilee Australia Research Centre (JARC). They will also be keeping in close contact with their friends at the National Council of Churches and with faith-based communities. Read more about the development of JARC and their valuable research [here](#).

### **CATHOLIC EARTHCARE RELEASES VIDEO ABOUT *LAUDATO SI'***

Catholic Earthcare Australia is celebrating the very first World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation today by releasing a short video entitled *Laudato Si' – An urgent appeal for action*. The video features three prominent Catholic leaders - Archbishop Adolfo Tito Yllana (Apostolic Nuncio to Australia), Bishop Michael Kennedy (Bishop of Armidale and Chair of Catholic Earthcare Australia) and Jacqui Rémond (Director of Catholic Earthcare Australia). It offers a unique Australian perspective on Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, and a direct call to action for the Australian Catholic community. [The video can be viewed online here](#).

### **REPORT: 'WEST PAPUA: THE IRREPRESSIBLE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM'**

A new report by Peter Arndt, Executive Officer of the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission of Brisbane, highlights the ongoing human rights challenges faced by the people of West Papua. Earlier this year, Peter joined a peace pilgrimage to West Papua, where he encountered the control of Indonesia's security system and witnessed the resilience of the Papuan people. Peter has been working with

organisations inside West Papua and within the Papuan diaspora in their campaign for membership of the Melanesian Spearhead Group which met in the Solomon Islands in June. In his report, 'West Papua: The Irrepressible Struggle for Freedom', Peter outlines the pilgrimage through Mansinam Island, Manokwari, Jayapura, Biak and the Paniai highlands. He highlights how past atrocities from the time Indonesian military forcibly annexed West Papua, and ongoing human rights abuses and constant monitoring by security and intelligence forces, have come to characterise life for indigenous communities in West Papua. [Download the report here.](#)

### **NEW BOOK: PRAYING A SCRIPTURE ROSARY IN AN ABORIGINAL WAY**

Recently Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACMV) for Victoria published this book. It is the completion of many years of prayer and consideration as to different ways of promoting the Rosary from an Aboriginal perspective. In 1997, the first 15 mysteries of the Rosary were painted by Maria Galea, Doug Smith and Lorraine Nelson. The paintings were called The Happy Stories (Joyful Mysteries), The Sad Stories (Sorrowful Mysteries) and the Wonderful Stories (Glorious Mysteries). Before the painting of each picture, the staff of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Melbourne, prayed with the artist and a consensus was made as to how each painting would be depicted. In 2002 St John Paul II gave us the Luminous Mysteries which contained the Public Life of Jesus, the only part of Jesus' life not included in the other Mysteries. In 2010 again the ACMV team prayed with the artist, Melissa Brickell. The Rosary paintings are now complete with the addition of the Mysteries of Light. The book is available for \$15 a copy and can be ordered from ACMV by [downloading an order form.](#)

### **PUBLICATION: RELIGION AND VIOLENCE: A DIALECTICAL ENGAGEMENT THROUGH THE INSIGHTS OF BERNARD LONERGAN**

Author: Dominic Arcamone, Mission Manager in Healthcare, sessional Lecturer, Australian Catholic University. The aim of this book is to engage dialectically key symbols of religiously motivated violence through the insights of Bernard Lonergan. Lonergan's insights have helped the author arrive at a number of conclusions regarding the link between religion and violence. He argues that there is a difference between distorted religion and genuine religion, between authenticity and inauthenticity of the subject. Distorted religion has the capacity to shape traditions in ways that justify violence, while genuine religion heals persons, helps them make different moral decisions when confronted with situations of conflict, and aims to explore new ways of understanding themselves as shaping history toward progress. [Order here.](#)

### **NEW BOOK: 'POPE FRANCIS' INSPIRING VISION'**

Fr Noel Connolly's new book reflects on Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*. Fr Noel says, 'The *Joy of the Gospel* is an inspiring and demanding document. It is Francis' programme for the Church and will take us years of prayerful thought, action and discernment before it starts to shape our hearts and reform the Church'. The 24 page booklet contains ten reflections on what might be involved. \$7.50 including GST and postage. [Buy online.](#)

### **CAMPAIGN: THE POKIES PLAY YOU**

Industry whistle-blowers broke the silence on poker machines in an explosive documentary *Ka-Ching! Pokie Nation* ([see it on ABC iView](#)). Composers, mathematicians and animators went on the record to reveal the truth: you don't play the pokies, the pokies play you. For too long the pokies industry has

deflected attention away from its machines, targeting the “irresponsible gamblers” who play them. *Ka-Ching!* went inside the machines to show how addictive technologies are used to keep people playing well beyond their means. GetUp will be working with Tim Costello and the Alliance for Gambling Reform, who have all the expertise needed to take on the pokies industry. Read more about the campaign and [sign the petition here](#).

### **DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMUNITY – NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED**

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) have launched a new website for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The launch coincided with National Week of Deaf People, which took place from October 18 to 24. Developed by the Australian Catholic Disability Council with the support of the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life, the new website contains a series of liturgical resources with Australian Sign Language (Auslan) and live captioning. The ACBC said the new website will encourage and challenge all to celebrate the beauty and strength of the Body of Christ by promoting participation and inclusion of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Catholic community. The statement went on to say that the new website will be a call to create opportunities for participation and inclusion where everyone is valued, gifted and acknowledged. [Visit the website here](#).

### **JUST RELEASED: POSITIVE PEACE REPORT 2015**

Positive Peace is a transformational approach to achieving development, resilience and peace. It offers an alternative perspective to identify and measure long-term investments that create an optimum environment for human potential to flourish. The Positive Peace Report 2015 analyses the factors that build sustainable peace, and includes a statistical analysis of Positive Peace in 162 countries, covering 99 per cent of the world’s population. It is the first global, quantitative approach to defining and measuring Positive Peace and is based on the social factors that have the strongest statistically significant relationships with the absence of violence. [Read the report here](#).

### **NEW BOOK: ‘BIOETHICS AT THE CROSSROADS OF RELIGIONS: THOUGHTS ON THE FOUNDATION OF BIOETHICS IN CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM’**

Lebanese Maronite Bishop, Antoine-Charbel Tarabay, launched his book on 18 September at the Australian Catholic University in Sydney. It is a ground-breaking book that casts a bird’s eye view over the foundations of bioethics in the world’s two largest religions. “At a time when ethical principles are challenged and questioned, there is a need for such a work to appear,” Bishop Tarabay pronounced. “This book is an invitation to Christianity and Islam to collaborate more on bioethical matters for the benefit and respect of human beings and humanity.” [Purchase the book here](#). Price \$29.95.

### **FAIRTRADE PETITION AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

The 193 Member Countries of the United Nations came together to chart a new path for humanity based on a universal vision for a better world. This vision, known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), provides a road map with bold goals and measurable targets - a 15 year ‘to do’ list for all countries of the world. With the Australian government signing up to these important global goals, we are now an integral part of this global movement. With over 2,500 Fairtrade products available throughout Australia and New Zealand, we encourage you to head out, buy your favourite Fairtrade product, and enjoy it while knowing that your purchase is helping take action for the SDGs! You may even choose to share a photo of yourself enjoying your Fairtrade product on our Facebook, Twitter or

Instagram accounts. [Sign the Fairtrade petition here](#) asking the Australian Government to make trade fair.

## THE FACE OF MERCY

In April this year, Pope Francis announced a 'Year of Mercy' to commence on 8 December. As part of Canberra Goulburn's Archdiocesan response to this, an online daily Advent resource connecting the season of Advent with the theme of mercy will be provided. You can subscribe now for this free daily resource. For more information, please [visit here](#).



## ACSJC Publications November 2015

### ORDER NOW! – 2016 SOCIAL JUSTICE DIARY

The 2016 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. Diaries will be available in November. Cost: \$7.50 (including postage). To download an order form, [click here](#).

## SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2015–2016

This year's Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement is entitled 'For Those Who've Come Across the Seas: Justice for refugees and asylum seekers'. PDF and Word versions of the Statement can be downloaded from the ACSJC website. Hard copies of the document are now sold out. On the ACSJC website you will also find a range of print and multimedia resources – available [here](#).

Prayer Cards and 'Ten Steps' leaflets can be ordered from the ACSJC on (02) 8306 3499 or by email: [admin@acsjc.org.au](mailto:admin@acsjc.org.au)

## SERIES PAPER 77 – 'BEAUTY AND OUR BIBLICAL CALLING TO PEACE, JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY'

In this paper Professor McCormick explores the Biblical account of the Creation and its vision of a rich and bountiful world in which we are called to live as responsible and loving members of a community, caring for and cherishing our world and all that lives in it. He shows how the teaching and actions of Jesus bring this vision to its culmination to become our Christian mission. Available [here](#).

## SERIES PAPER 76 – 'I WAS IN PRISON'

*I Was in Prison: A window into prison ministry*, by Dr Ruth Webber, explores the work of prison chaplains serving prisoners, ex-prisoners and the families of all who are or have been imprisoned. Dr Webber investigates the various ways in which chaplaincy is able to bring comfort to prisoners, meet their spiritual needs and provide practical help. The paper is based on interviews with prison chaplains, prisoners, ex-prisoners and families of prisoners. The paper draws on the 2011–12 Social Justice Statement *Building Bridges, Not Walls* and revisits some of the issues raised in that Statement. Available [here](#).

## BUILDING BRIDGES



The book, *Building Bridges: Social Justice Statements from Australia's Bishops 1988 to 2013*, brings the Statements together in an attractive and readable format. The publication is fully indexed, making this an exceptional resource for education and research. It offers an invaluable insight into Catholic social teaching brought to life in an Australian context over the past 26 years. This collection is a vital resource for anyone interested in the Church's teaching on justice. It is of special interest to schools and universities and to parish and diocesan groups.

*Building Bridges* is available from the ACSJC for \$35.00 per copy including postage anywhere in Australia. Order forms are available [here](#).

(Catholic Social Justice Series papers: \$7.50 a copy, including postage)



## News Monitor November 2015

### [Frank Brennan and Bishop Pat Power slam Tony Abbott's anti-immigration lecture in UK](#)

The two said they were “appalled, ashamed and offended” that former prime minister Tony Abbott would cite the Bible on the world stage to argue for anti-immigration measures.

### [Church leads fight against sorcery violence in PNG](#)

The Church has a unique role in combatting belief in sorcery and mob reprisal attacks against “sorcerers,” a bishop in Papua New Guinea said.

### [Free hugs score hot deal for homeless](#)

A young woman's sharing of hugs to raise money for a Queensland Catholic charity moved an Australian packaging company to donate a year's supply of coffee cups to the homeless.

### [UK govt reluctant to call Christian persecution 'genocide'](#)

The British government agreed to consider whether the slaughter and expulsion of Christians from the Middle East by Islamist terrorists constitutes genocide, but said it was reluctant to use the term.

### [World's bishops issue appeal to Paris climate talks](#)

Catholic clergy representing five continents appealed to climate negotiators to approve a “transformative” and fair, legally binding agreement that sets global temperature limits and decarbonisation goals to save the planet.

### [Advocates urge Minister to dump single income cuts](#)

Leading Catholic employment and social welfare advocates have urged the Federal Social Services Minister Christian Porter to dump plans to cut the income of most single breadwinner families by more than \$54 a week.

### [Vinnies launches 'Sick with Worry' report](#)

The St Vincent de Paul Society marked Anti-Poverty Week with the launch of the *Sick with Worry* report containing stories from the frontline of inequality, and 14 recommendations for the Federal Government.

### [Nobel-nominated priest rescues refugees from Mediterranean](#)

A 40-year-old priest from tiny Eritrea, north of Ethiopia, opened a centre to help migrants trapped in the North African deserts and rickety wooden boats drifting across the sea.

### [Vatican opens new dorm for Rome's homeless men](#)

Pope Francis and his brother Jesuits in Rome have converted an old travel agency building into a new homeless shelter for men, just in time for the cold winter months.

### [CRA criticises Australian bid for UN Security Council](#)

Fr Claude Mostowik msc, Justice Network Coordinator for Catholic Religious Australia, criticised the move by Australia to seek a place for membership on the UN Security Council or on the UN Commission for Human Rights.

### [After hearing Francis, 18 US mayors vow to accept more refugees](#)

On the same day Pope Francis urged members of the US Congress to help people fleeing horrific violence, 18 Democratic mayors sent a letter to President Obama telling him that they are willing and able to accept refugee families into their cities.

### [CRA calls for task force on refugees](#)

Catholic Religious Australia leaders and other faith heads called on Federal politicians to join them in establishing a task group “to change the political and public narrative regarding asylum seekers and refugees.”

### [CSSA says new family payments still penalises the poor](#)

The Government’s revised family payments legislation still means many low income families face significant cuts to their income, said Catholic Social Services Australia.

– courtesy [cathnews.com](http://cathnews.com)



## Social Justice Diary November 2015

November 2015

1	Sun	<a href="#"><u>All Saints</u></a>
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2	Mon	<a href="#">All Souls</a>
3	Tue	
4	Wed	<a href="#">Day of prayer for Anglican–Roman Catholic Reconciliation</a>
5	Thu	<p><a href="#">2014: Sydney Peace Prize awarded to Julian Burnside AO QC</a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a></p> <p><b>READ MORE</b> ↓</p>
6	Fri	<a href="#">International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict</a> - ACSJC Resources on the <a href="#">Environment</a>
7	Sat	
8	Sun	<p>Thirty-Second Week in Ordinary Time</p> <p><a href="#">1907: Minimum wage judgement handed down by Justice Higgins in Harvester case</a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#">Workplace Justice</a></p>
9	Mon	<p><a href="#">1989: Berlin Wall opened</a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a></p> <p><a href="#">International Week for Science and Peace</a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a></p>
10	Tue	<a href="#">World Science Day for Peace and Development</a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a>

		<a href="#">1995: Nine Nigerian environmentalists and human rights activists hanged</a>
11	Wed	<a href="#">Remembrance (Armistice) Day</a> , commemorating the end of World War I in 1918 - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a> <a href="#">2014: European Space Agency's Rosetta mission placed lander Philae on a comet 510 million km from Earth</a>
12	Thu	<a href="#">1991: Dili Massacre, Timor-Leste: more than 271 people killed</a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a>
13	Fri	
14	Sat	<a href="#">World Diabetes Day</a>
15	Sun	Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
16	Mon	<a href="#">International Day for Tolerance</a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a> <a href="#">1989: Six Jesuit priests and two co-workers murdered in El Salvador</a>
17	Tue	
18	Wed	
19	Thu	<a href="#">World Philosophy Day</a> <a href="#">World Toilet Day</a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#">World Poverty</a>

		<b>READ MORE ↓</b>
20	Fri	<a href="#"><u>Universal Children's Day</u></a> 1959: UN adopted Declaration of Rights of the Child
21	Sat	<a href="#"><u>World Television Day</u></a>
22	Sun	Christ the King
23	Mon	<a href="#"><u>1964: Parliament passed the National Service Act</u></a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#"><u>Peacebuilding</u></a>
24	Tue	
25	Wed	<a href="#"><u>International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women</u></a> -ACSJC Resources on <a href="#"><u>Peacebuilding</u></a> <b>READ MORE ↓</b> <a href="#"><u>1981: Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief</u></a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#"><u>Confronting Racism</u></a>
26	Thu	
27	Fri	<a href="#"><u>1998: First Sydney Peace Prize awarded to Muhammad Yunus</u></a> - ACSJC Resources on <a href="#"><u>Peacebuilding</u></a>

28	Sat	
29	Sun	<p>First Sunday of Advent</p> <p><a href="#"><i>International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People</i></a></p> <p><a href="#">1980: Death of Dorothy Day, Founder of the Catholic Worker Movement</a></p>
30	Mon	<p>1971: Synod of Bishop's Statement <a href="#"><i>Justicia in Mundo (Justice in the World)</i></a></p>