ACSJC Monthly Briefing June 2016 No 179



From the Secretariat June 2016

Dear friends,

This coming week we observe and celebrate National Reconciliation Week, which runs from 27 May through to 3 June.

The week spans two important commemorations – the 1967 referendum, in which over 90 per cent of Australians voted for the constitution to be emended to include Indigenous people in the census and for the Commonwealth to create laws for them, and the High Court's 1992 Mabo decision that introduced native title into Australian law and removed the myth of *terra nullius*.

Reconciliation Australia says this week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort.

That effort has faced many challenges. But, thanks to the commitment of groups like the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, now Reconciliation Australia, with countless organisations and groups of Australian citizens, National Reconciliation Week has become an important fixture in the national calendar of commemorations and celebrations.

This year is particularly important. We mark 25 years since the establishment of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation – with Professor Pat Dodson as the inaugural Chair. It is also 15 years since the establishment of Reconciliation Australia and 10 years of Reconciliation Australia's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) program.

The first 'Week of Prayer for Reconciliation' was held in 1993, and later it became known as National Reconciliation Week. There were significant developments at that time: the Mabo decision and prime minister Keating's 'Redfern Speech', the passage of the Native Title Act and the UN's declaration of an International Year of the World's Indigenous People.

It comes as no surprise that Reconciliation Week had its beginnings as a week of prayer. Church and religious communities wanted to play a strong part in developing a national commitment to genuine reconciliation – one that goes to the very heart of the national psyche, seeking to draw on the good will of each person and every community.

The theme of this year's Reconciliation Week is 'Our History, Our Story, Our Future'. The organisers say that reconciliation is at the heart of our nation and that the three aspects of the theme are critical for a genuine reconciliation.

'Our History reminds us all, that historical acceptance is essential to our reconciliation journey. Historical acceptance will exist when all Australians understand and accept the fact that past laws, practices and policies deeply affected the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, often having devastating immediate impact and causing much of the disadvantage that exists today. It is also a commitment to ensuring these wrongs are never repeated in the future.'

Reconciliation Australia goes on, 'Our Story reflects the fact that the journey towards reconciliation forms a significant part of Australia's story, as do the stories of both trauma and triumph told by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It also encourages each and every one of us to make reconciliation part of our own story.

'Our Future reinforces that reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, in the knowledge that we believe in fairness for everyone, that our diversity makes us richer, and that together, we are stronger.'

This year Reconciliation Week falls during a long federal election campaign, heightening the importance of the week and highlighting its forward-looking agenda. If our shared hope is for a reconciliation that lives in the 'hearts, minds and actions' of the community, and that the spirit of this week is based on fairness and solidarity, then this is surely a critical moment in our nation's history.

The need to push ahead with Constitutional Recognition for the First peoples is obvious. Addressing the faltering performance of all levels of government to meet their established 'Close the Gap' targets is becoming more apparent. And the national disgrace of the ever-increasing imprisonment of Indigenous people is staring this nation in the face.

Speaking at the National Press Club on the 25th anniversary of final report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, Pat Dodson, a member of that Commission, reiterated the call for prison to be a last resort:

'A quarter of a century after we handed down our findings the vicious cycle remains the same. Accepting the status quo permits the criminal justice system to continue to suck us up like a vacuum cleaner and deposit us like waste in custodial institutions. Family violence, substance abuse and neglect of children should not be tolerated as the norm. And those that perpetuate and benefit from the misery caused to our people need to be held accountable.'

He called for a new approach that empowers individuals and communities through self-determination. 'If we are to be the authors of our own destinies, then government must stop treating us as passive clients or as targets of the policy of mainstreaming. It is imperative that the policy context change. And these changes are necessary so that Indigenous people are viewed as part of the solution, not just as a problem to be resolved. For that to happen we must recognise the common humanity we share,' he <u>said</u>.

The recognition of our 'common humanity' remains the basis for initiating, progressing and achieving reconciliation. It encapsulates the inherent dignity of each person and their culture, a solidarity that is inclusive and that values diversity, with a 'preferential option' that always keeps an eye out for the vulnerable and seeks to give voice to those who are voiceless.

The Catholic Bishops of Australia are emphasising the need to consider those who are voiceless or who have been thrown away by our society. During this election campaign, the bishops say, there will be much talk about the need for good economic management at a time of some uncertainty, with both sides of politics promoting their economic credentials in a bid to win power.

But there remains the risk that 'the voices of the thrown-away people will not be heard in the long and rowdy campaign [and that] their faces will not be seen in all the advertising.' Among many who are

ignored or even vilified in national political debate, they recognise Indigenous peoples, 'whose cry for recognition has barely been heard and who suffer injustice at the hands of our justice system.'

They have <u>expressed their hope</u> – 'that this campaign - for Christians at least and especially for Christian politicians - will be a time not of spin and bombast but a time of wise and true speaking that comes from deep and humble listening. Then our vote may be a vote in favour of a community where no-one is thrown away, where all the voices are heard and all the faces seen'.

The bishops have called for Christians and all people of faith to ensure prayer is an essential part of the journey to the election. It seems fitting during this week and in the context of a federal election that we pray for a renewed commitment to national reconciliation.

Just as we are revisiting a Royal Commission and considering the national failure of high levels of Indigenous incarceration, so we might revisit the words of a prayer written by Elizabeth Pike of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in Melbourne in 1997.

NATIONAL PRAYER

Creator Spirit,

All creation once declared your glory,
Your laws were honoured and trusted,
Forgive us our neglect as our country approaches
the most critical moment in its history.
Listen to our prayer as we turn to you,
Hear the cry of our land and its people,
Just as you heard the cry of Jesus,
your Son, on the Cross.
Help us to replace our national shame
With true national pride by restoring the
dignity of our First People whose antiquity is
unsurpassed.

May our faith and trust in you increase.

Only then will our nation grow strong and be
a worthy place for all who wish to make their home in our land.

Amen.

© Elizabeth Pike, September 1997 Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Melbourne.



IN AUSTRALIA

Current Issues/Resources June 2016

REPORT: 'THE STATE OF RECONCILIATION IN AUSTRALIA'

While the nation has developed a strong foundation for reconciliation, significant challenges remain. Launched by Reconciliation Australia, the Report measures our progress toward reconciliation against five dimensions: race relations, equality and

equity, institutional integrity, unity, and historical acceptance. It cites significant milestones over the last 25 years, including the establishment of native title, Closing the Gap, the national Apology and progress

towards constitutional recognition of First Australians. The Report includes a series of recommendations to advance Australia towards reconciliation. These include, but are not limited to, zero tolerance for racism, renewed focus on *Closing the Gap*, and reaffirmed recognition and respect for the rights of First Australians. To access the report, visit here.

25 YEARS AFTER THE ROYAL COMMISSION, WHAT HAS CHANGED?

In 2017 we mark the 25th anniversary of the handing down of the report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. Since that report, tragically, the rate of imprisonment for Indigenous people has more than doubled. Recently one of the Royal Commissioners, Professor Pat Dodson, known as the 'Father of Reconciliation', addressed the National Press Club and called for a radical change in discriminatory legislation and state and federal policies: 'For our communities, the storyline is all too familiar: the minor offence, the innocuous behaviour, the unnecessary detention, the failure to uphold the duty of care, the lack of respect for human dignity, the lonely death, the grief, loss and pain of the family.' See his address here.

ELECTION STATEMENT: 'VOICE OF THE VOICELESS'

Australia's Catholic bishops have called for the voices of the thrown-away people to be heard in the long federal election campaign. The bishops' 2016 Federal Election statement is addressed to Catholics and all people of goodwill. 'Both sides of politics will state their economic credentials in a bid to win power', the bishops say. 'The economy of course is important and there does need to be sound management. But, as Pope Francis has pointed out, there is also a danger that the economy can become a kind of false god to which even human beings have to be sacrificed. This leads to what the Pope has called the throwaway culture - a culture of over-consumption where all kinds of things are thrown away, wasted, even human beings.

That is why we bishops want to speak a word as part of this campaign - not in order to push an ideological line or simply to defend the Church's interests but to give a voice to the voiceless and make their faces seen, however briefly in a statement such as this.' The bishops' statement can be downloaded here.

A prayer for the election can also be found here.

FEDERAL BUDGET COVERAGE

Responses of key Church and community sector agencies to the 2016-17 Federal Budget can be found here:

Catholic Social Services Australia
Society of St Vincent de Paul
Australian Council of Social Service
Caritas Australia
Refugee Council of Australia

ANU REPORT: DISTRIBUTIONAL MODELLING OF FEDERAL BUDGET

Associate Professor Ben Phillips of the Australian National University Centre for Social Research and Methods has undertaken analysis of the distributional household impact of the main 'hip-pocket' Budget measures contained in the 2016–17 Federal Budget. The report models a range of budget measures that directly impact households such as changes to family payments, childcare, taxation, tobacco excise and superannuation. The modelling finds that the largest financial impacts fall upon lower income families

with children while high income groups are, on average, less impacted. The report can be accessed here.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE ACBC MEDIA BLOG

Are you interested in knowing about what's happening across our Church agencies and dioceses, or reading about what our bishops are doing and saying? Please consider subscribing to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Media Blog! Stories from the bishops, ACBC and diocesan agencies are shared on the Media Blog daily. The blog will be emailed to you on a weekly basis. Just add your email address on the right column.

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL: 'RETHINK HOMELESSNESS'

There are 45,813 women in Australia facing homelessness. This an alarming figure. But what's more alarming is the fact that 59 per cent of Australians seeking help from homelessness services are actually women. That's a significantly higher rate than the UK's 26 per cent and the USA's 38 per cent. By donating to the Vinnies Winter Appeal, you will be helping to make a real and remarkable difference to the lives of the women the St Vincent de Paul Society assists. To donate a financial gift call 13 18 12 or visit the website.

VINNIES REPORT: 'THE ACHE FOR HOME'

Prepared by the National Social Justice Committee of the St Vincent de Paul Society, this report presents a plan to address chronic homelessness and housing unaffordability in Australia. Australia has a crisis in the supply of social and affordable housing. This is evidenced by the hundreds of thousands who are experiencing homelessness, on wait-lists for public housing, or living in severe housing stress. There are over 105,000 people experiencing homelessness and 875,000 households experiencing housing stress. The Society proposes the Federal Government establishes a \$10 billion Social and Affordable Housing Fund; that all governments formally recognise the human right to housing as a basis for housing policy and accept the obligations this entails; and, that there is reform of housing policy to sustain and adapt the supply of housing to meet the needs of all in the community. To access and download this report, visit here.

ASYLUM SEEKER RESOURCE CENTRE WINTER APPEAL

When we think of people without enough food to eat, we don't usually think of people in our own backyard. But in this lucky country of ours, 22,000 people seeking asylum will run out of food this month and cannot afford to buy more. Among this number are over 4000 children. These people have little - if any - financial assistance. And, depending on where they are in the refugee determination process, they do not have the right to work. The ASRC Foodbank provides vital support for these people, but demand has increased: in order to feed 600 people each week, we need to raise \$1 million. Your support can make a world of difference. To make a donations, visit the website.

CATHOLIC ALLIANCE FOR PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM

The Catholic Alliance for People Seeking Asylum aims to change hearts and minds in support of the abolition of harsh asylum seeker policies. CAPSA was formed in 2014 to challenge the current inflammatory national debate on asylum seekers and to promote an Australia that welcomes and respects people seeking asylum. It is supported by an advisory group of national representatives that includes the ACSJC, the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office as well as Jesuit Social Services, the Australian Catholic University, Caritas, Catholic Health Australia, Catholic Mission, Catholic Religious Australia, Catholic Social Services Australia, Catholics in Coalition for Justice and Peace, the National

Catholic Education Commission and the Society of St Vincent de Paul. To find out more and get involved, visit <u>here</u>.

TASMANIAN STUDENTS: ENTER THE TCJPC COMPETITION!

The Tasmanian Catholic Justice and Peace Commission (TCJPC) will again be running a competition in secondary schools based on the Australian Bishops' 2015–2016 Social Justice Statement 'For Those Who've Come Across the Seas: Justice for refugees and asylum seekers'. The competition is open to all Secondary and College Students in Tasmania. There are two prizes: one for secondary students and one for university students. Entries may be either literary – a short story, poem or argument – or visual art – visual piece no larger than the size of A3 paper (including any framing). The competition closes on 23 September 2016, the last day of Term Three. For conditions and more information contact Paulette Marsh, Resource Officer for the TCJPC, on (03) 6208 6271 or email tcjpc@aohtas.org.au

REPORT & PETITION: EDUCATION FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

In December 2015, the Refugee Council of Australia released the <u>report</u> – Barriers to Education for People Seeking Asylum and Refugees on Temporary Visas. A large number of the 30,000 people who arrived here seeking safety and protection face insurmountable barriers in pursuing this dream. The Refugee Council is calling for these groups to have the same rights to access education as every other Australian. A petition to the Education Ministers of Federal and State and Territory Governments is calling for equal access to education support. Sign the petition <u>here</u>.

REFUGEE COUNCIL 'HUSHTAG' SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN

The Refugee Council of Australia has launched a campaign for Twitter and Instagram users against provisions of the Border Force Act. The campaign says: 'In 2015, Section 42 of the Australian Border Force Act made it illegal for Detention Centre workers to talk about offshore refugee abuse. The penalty: two years in prison. Under the recent government's Pacific Solution, there have been over 100 alleged cases of sexual assault, child abuse – even death. Someone needs to speak up for the victims. Help us give the workers back their voice, by taking over Twitter.' To be part of the campaign, go to http://hushtag.sh and tweet or share the 'hushtag' on your Twitter or Instagram account.

REPORT: 'WE WILL LOSE EVERYTHING'

A new report has just been issued by the Brisbane Archdiocesan Catholic Justice and Peace Commission. It presents findings on a fact finding mission undertaken by Mr Peter Arndt and Sr Susan Connelly rsj to the Indonesian provinces of Papua and West Papua in February. Based on over 250 interviews with community leaders in Jayapura, Merauke, Timika and Sorong, the report reveals how Papuans are becoming a small minority in their own land, living with unrelenting intimidation and brutality at the hands of the Indonesian Government's security apparatus together with rapidly growing economic and social marginalisation. There is a call for urgent action to stop the violence and to secure an international commitment to give the people of West Papua a genuine opportunity to freely determine their future. To download the report, visit here.

REPORT: HUMAN RIGHTS IN WEST PAPUA 2015

The International Coalition for Papua reports on the situation of human rights, indigenous peoples' rights and the conflict situation. It details in particular the demographic development and its causes as well as the ongoing violence by security forces that targets indigenous Papuans. The development of the human rights situation in West Papua during 2013 and 2014 shows a deterioration compared to the period covered by the ICP's previous report. The two east Indonesian provinces of Papua and Papua

Barat continues to be one of the regions of Asia most seriously affected by human rights violations and an unresolved long standing political conflict. To access the report, visit here.

CAMPAIGN: 'LEGAL AID MATTERS'

Legal assistance helps ordinary people facing extraordinary problems in relation to debt, family or criminal law matters, welfare benefits, landlord and tenant problems, discrimination at work or community care needs. Most people don't think they will ever need legal assistance but if your circumstances change you may need to rely on it. The 'Legal Aid Matters' campaign aims to improve access to justice for some of our society's most vulnerable members. The Legal Aid Matters campaign objective is simple: To persuade the government to guarantee an adequately funded legal aid system ensuring a cooperative, nationally consistent and fair approach to provision of legal aid and access to justice for all. To find out more and to lend your support to this campaign of the Law Council of Australia, visit <a href="heterotype-people-state-



ACSJC Publications June 2016

Start or Champleyment Allowances

DISCUSSION GUIDES: DIGNITY AND WORK 2016

The Australian Catholic Social Justice Council has issued three short discussion guides that address critical issues concerning justice for Australia's most vulnerable workers or for those who confront the reality of unemployment. These vital aspects of work

and dignity in our country address: the inadequate levels of income support offered to people who are unemployed; the risk that penalty rates will be cut for vulnerable workers; and the increasing intrusion of work demands into family time and weekends. We encourage you to promote these documents in your networks and publications. We hope that they will be a valuable resource for anyone who wants to be informed about the Church's commitment to justice and fulfilment in the workplace. The discussion guides can be accessed here.

SERIES PAPER 78 – 'PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST: PASTORAL LETTERS FOR THE FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 2010-2015.'

In the latest Catholic Social Justice Series, the ACSJC has brought together a collection of the Pastoral Letters issued by Bishop Christopher Saunders. *Putting People First: Pastoral Letters for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker 2010-2015*, provides an invaluable record of the significant issues relating to work and justice in that five-year period: the global financial crisis; the Northern Territory 'intervention' and the future of remote communities; the Insecure Work inquiry of the ACTU; and the public outcry at the inadequacy of allowances for the unemployed and sole parents. The letters include succinct and accurate summaries of the arguments with sufficient, reliable statistics. Professor Paul Smyth provides an extensive introduction to the series paper. [LINK]

DISCUSSION GUIDE: 2016 WORLD DAY OF PEACE MESSAGE

The theme for the 49th World Day of Peace Message from Pope Francis is *Overcome Indifference and Win Peace*. Pope Francis' message is a heartfelt plea to us all to engage with the world around us, not to turn our backs on suffering and injustice, and 'not to lose hope in our human ability to conquer evil and to combat resignation and indifference'. He highlights the responsibilities we share, not simply as individuals but as a society. If we are to honour the spirit of this Jubilee of Mercy – and the presence of a God who cares about us and will not abandon us – we need to show genuine and practical concern for

the most vulnerable among us. The ACSJC has prepared a Discussion Guide for the papal message, which is available on our website.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2015-2016: AVAILABLE AGAIN

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'. Due to overwhelming demand the original print run sold out, but the document has been reprinted and is now available. We have also reprinted the 'Ten Steps' leaflet that accompanies the Statement.

PDF and Word versions of the Statement can be downloaded from the ACSJC website. On the ACSJC website you will also find a range of print and multimedia resources – <u>available here</u>.

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

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



News Monitor June 2016

Employers who exploit workers are 'bloodsuckers'

20-May-2016

Pope Francis has condemned employers who only offer temporary contracts or no health insurance to employees, calling them "bloodsuckers," and saying they exploit

workers by turning under-the-table payment into "civilised slavery."

Bishops' election statement framed around the economy

19-May-2016

This year most comment on the Australian Bishops' election statement focused on the call for support for marriage and family. Its most distinctive feature, however, is that it frames its reflections around the economy, writes Andrew Hamilton SJ.

Priest on a mission to end 'gay panic' legal defence

18-May-2016

Father Paul Kelly is leading a campaign for the repeal of the "gay panic" defence under which lawyers get their clients' murder sentences downgraded to manslaughter when the victim was gay, writes Karen Skinner, head of Change.org Australia.

We need alternative strategies to help refugees

18-May-2016

When will our politicians put the lives of their fellow human beings ahead of their own political ambitions? Until they do, what has become a national infected sore will continue to bleed, writes Good Samaritan Sister Clare Condon SGS.

Euro leaders are undoing the Pope's good work over refugees

17-May-2016

I made peace with the Vatican when Pope Francis came along. I decided he was definitely a good guy when he went to Lampedusa in 2013 and asked if anyone had wept for the thousands who were dying in the coffin ships making for Italy, writes Robert Fisk.

Education staff take to the streets to fight domestic violence

13-May-2016

Staff from Brisbane Catholic Education schools and offices were among hundreds who ran, jogged or walked from darkness into daylight last week to speak out against domestic violence, reports *The Catholic Leader*.

JRS community centre provides boost for refugees

12-May-2016

NSW Labor MP Julia Finn has congratulated volunteers and staff at the Jesuit Refugee Service on the launch of a new community Centre in Parramatta, in Sydney's western suburb

Detention centres are prisons, says Bishop Long

12-May-2016

The Bishop of Parramatta-designate, Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, has labelled detention centres "prisons", and in his new role hopes to tackle youth radicalisation and the perception of asylum-seekers, reports *The Daily Telegraph*.

<u>Francis challenges European leaders to drop barriers</u>

09-May-2016

Pope Francis has lamented that Europeans "are tempted to yield to our own selfish interests and to consider putting up fences" as he accepted a prize for promoting unity across the continent, reports AP in *The Catholic Herald*.

UK Cardinal welcomes Britain's U-turn on child refugees

06-May-2016

Cardinal Vincent Nichols of Westminster has welcomed a U-turn by the British Government over the resettlement of child refugees, reports the Catholic News Service.

Poet, prophet, and a giant among American Jesuits

06-May-2016

Daniel Berrigan, the priest and poet who for decades challenged US Catholics to reject war and nuclear weapons, stands among the most influential American Jesuits of the past century.

European homeless invited to visit Rome in November

04-May-2016

Several thousand people who used to live or still live on the streets of Europe will travel to Rome in November to mark the Jubilee of Mercy, one week before the Holy Year draws to an end, reports *Vatican Insider*.

Venezuelan bishops want to bring in food, medicine

04-May-2016

Venezuela's bishops have urged the government of President Nicolás Maduro to allow the Church to bring in much-needed supplies such as food and medicine, reports the Catholic News Agency.

Budget cuts to needy and foreign aid criticised

04-May-2016

Leading Catholic social services groups have criticised the Federal Government's Budget over tax cuts for upper income earners, welfare cuts for the needy, and cuts to foreign aid.

Pope backs Joe Biden's affordable cancer campaign

02-May-2016

US Vice President Joe Biden won Pope Francis' backing for advances in cancer treatment to be made available to everyone, as he brought his "Moonshot" campaign to the Vatican, reports AFP/Seven News.

Daniel Berrigan, anti-war priest, poet and peacemaker, dies

02-May-2016

Jesuit Fr Daniel Berrigan, poet and peacemaker who was one of the most influential voices in shaping Catholic thinking about war and peace during the past century, has died, aged 94, reports NCR Online.

- courtesy cathnews.com



Social Justice Diary June 2016

June 2016

1	Wed	Global Day of Parents
2	Thu	
3	Fri	1886: Catholic and Anglican Martyrs of Uganda 1992: High Court hands down decision in Mabo Case - ACSJC resources on Justice for Indigenous People
4	Sat	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression 1989: <u>Tiananmen Square Massacre</u> - ACSJC resources on <u>Peacebuilding</u>
5	Sun	Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time World Environment Day - ACSJC resources on the Environment
6	Mon	
7	Tue	Ramadan begins
8	Wed	World Oceans Day - ACSJC resources on the Environment
9	Thu	

10	Fri	1838: Myall Creek Massacre - ACSJC resources on Justice for Indigenous People 1935: Alcoholics Anonymous established in New York
11	Sat	1971: Neville Bonner became first Aboriginal Australian to hold a seat in Federal Parliament - ACSJC resources on Justice for Indigenous People 1975: Australia ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination - ACSJC resources on Confronting Racism
12	Sun	Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
13	Mon	
14	Tue	
15	Wed	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
16	Thu	
17	Fri	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought - ACSJC resources on the Environment
18	Sat	
19	Sun	Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time National Refugee Week commences - ACSJC resources on Refugees 1945: Birth of Aung San Suu Kyi 1969: Arbitration Commission affirmed principle of equal pay for women performing equal work - ACSJC resources on Workplace Justice
20	Mon	World Refugee Day - ACSJC resources on Refugees READ MORE ↓
21	Tue	
22	Wed	Public Service Day
23	Thu	International Widow's Day
24	Fri	The Nativity of John the Baptist

25	Sat	Day of the Seafarer
26	Sun	Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time International Day in Support of Victims of Torture International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
27	Mon	
28	Tue	
29	Wed	Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles
30	Thu	1945: <u>Introduction of unemployment benefits in Australia</u> - ACSJC resources on <u>Social Security</u>