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

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

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FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Dear Friends,

When war breaks out in different parts of the world, it can often be difficult to see how peace, or even the possibility of peace, will emerge. In most cases, the indescribable violence we see or read about is not random or without cause. The call for peace can at times appear naïve. And the call for peace can sometimes easily be labelled unrealistic or discredited as biased because it does not acknowledge the complexities of the conflict.

Indeed, the kind of conflict the world has witnessed recently in Gaza and Sri Lanka emerges from prolonged and intractable discord, and is the subject of very complex competing claims. The causes of war and claims of warring parties are not just about land, resources or power, but are often intertwined with immediate human need, historical grievances, cultural identity and religious affiliation.

There can be many arguments about why peace is unlikely to prevail and why violence will continue. Fundamentally, however, it is

the news of massive civilian casualties during war that negates any justification by warring parties. The plight of civilians - families and children - trying desperately to escape the field of war and themselves becoming the target of hostility puts the call for peace beyond question. It is the face of the orphan child wandering among a multitude of people herded into displaced persons camps that provides the ultimate challenge to those who would argue that peace cannot prevail. With the image of this child's face, the complexities and competing claims fall away. The immediate conditions necessary for peace become most apparent.

The Church has spoken strongly of the duty to protect the innocent in times of war. To quote at length from the *Compendium of Social Doctrine of the Church*:

“The right to use force for purposes of legitimate defence is associated with the duty to protect and help innocent victims who are not able to defend themselves from acts of aggression. In modern conflicts, which are often within a State, the precepts of international humanitarian law must be fully respected. Far too often, the civilian population is hit and at times even becomes a target of war. In some cases, they are brutally massacred or taken from their homes and land by forced transfers, under the guise of ‘ethnic cleansing’, which is always unacceptable. In such tragic circumstances, humanitarian aid must reach the civilian population and must never be used to influence those receiving it; the good of the human person must take precedence over the interests of the parties to the conflict”. [n.504] (http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/justpeace/documents/rc_pc_justpeace_doc_20060526_compendio-dott-soc_en.html)

Responding to the recent conflict in Gaza, the Church was among many voices in the international community calling for peace.

Drawing from this call, which can be directed to many other conflicts around the world, we can see that some key components or immediate conditions for peace are:

- the cessation of hostilities by both sides with the establishment of a durable ceasefire
- access to humanitarian aid for the wounded and displaced as well as a reconstruction of basic infrastructure
- the investigation of alleged human rights violations and war crimes of both sides
- the establishment of a basis for a process of negotiation and some reconciliation - trust and mutual respect
- the pursuit of a political solution that recognises the valid claims of both sides but that is focused primarily on the protection of the human rights

Visit to the Holy Land

In his recent visit to the Holy Land, Pope Benedict XVI called for just and lasting solutions to the ongoing conflict. With Palestinians and Israelis he observed how the peace and stability for which countless people yearn depended on the outcome of negotiations for peace. “In union with people of good will everywhere, I plead with all those responsible to explore every possible avenue in search for a just resolution of the outstanding difficulties, so that both peoples may live in peace in a homeland of their own, within secure and internationally recognised borders,” he said. (refer: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/speeches/2009/may/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20090511_welcome-tel-aviv_en.html)

In his meetings with Presidents Shimon Peres and Mahmoud Abbas, the Holy Father highlighted the need for all people to respect the freedom and dignity of every person “whom Christians, Muslims and Jews alike believe to be created by a loving God and destined for eternal life.” He condemned anti-Semitism and terrorism in all their forms and called on all sides to halt the bloodshed, fighting and war.

The Holy Father’s call for peace in the Holy Land is perhaps best summed up in the words

he spoke to the people living in the Aida Refugee camp:

“It is understandable that you often feel frustrated. Your legitimate aspirations for permanent homes, for an independent Palestinian State, remain unfulfilled. Instead you find yourselves trapped, as so many in this region and throughout the world are trapped, in a spiral of violence, of attack and counter-attack, retaliation, and continual destruction. The whole world is longing for this spiral to be broken, for peace to put an end to the constant fighting.

“Towering over us, as we gather here this afternoon, is a stark reminder of the stalemate that relations between Israelis and Palestinians seem to have reached - the wall. In a world where more and more borders are being opened up - to trade, to travel, to movement of peoples, to cultural exchanges - it is tragic to see walls still being erected. How we long to see the fruits of the much more difficult task of building peace! How earnestly we pray for an end to the hostilities that have caused this wall to be built! ...

“Humanitarian aid, of the kind provided in this camp, has an essential role to play, but the long-term solution to a conflict such as this can only be political. No one expects the Palestinian and Israeli peoples to arrive at it on their own. The support of the international community is vital, and hence I make a renewed appeal to all concerned to bring their influence to bear in favour of a just and lasting solution, respecting the legitimate demands of all parties and recognising their right to live in peace and dignity, in accordance with international law. Yet at the same time, diplomatic efforts can only succeed if Palestinians and Israelis themselves are willing to break free from the cycle of aggression.” (refer: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/speeches/2009/may/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20090513_aida-refugee-camp_en.html)

All of the Holy Father’s addresses during his pilgrimage to the Holy Land can be found at: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/travels/2009/index_holy-land_en.htm

Horror in Sri Lanka

Another catastrophe in northern Sri Lanka has seen tens of thousands of civilians caught up in fighting between the Sri Lankan army and the now defeated Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

The recent carnage and unfolding humanitarian crisis comes after 27 years of conflict characterised by ethnic tension, assassinations, terrorism, and all-out war. The United Nations estimates that between 80,000 and 100,000 people have been killed during the conflict and hundreds of thousands, mainly Tamils, made homeless. The upsurge of violence of recent weeks has seen up to 80,000 people joining over 200,000 who have already reached government controlled camps.

At the height of the conflict, Pope Benedict urged both sides to ensure the safety of civilians who were trapped in the conflict. “There are thousands of children, women, and elderly there from whom the war has taken away years of life and hope. In this respect, I would like once again to address an urgent invitation to the opposing sides to facilitate the evacuation [of the civilians] and join my voice to that of the United Nations Security Council which just some days ago asked for guarantees for their safety and security. Furthermore, I ask the humanitarian organisations, including Catholic ones, to do all they can to meet the refugees’ urgent food and medical needs,” he said. (<http://www.zenit.org/article-25927?l=english>)

Here in Australia, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia called on the Australian Government to take a “leading role in advocating an immediate ceasefire and a return to the negotiating table.

“The protection of displaced persons continues to deteriorate as even safe zones have become targets of military operations, directly killing and injuring civilians.”

The Bishops and Religious Leaders echoed the sentiments expressed by the Bishops of Sri Lanka, “that ‘lasting peace can be

realised only through a negotiated political solution which recognises human dignity and equality ensuring the legitimate rights and aspirations of all citizens’.” (refer: <http://catholicreligiousaustralia.com/en/590>)

They urged Australians to lend their support through Caritas Australia’s **Sri Lanka Humanitarian Crisis Appeal on 1800 024 413** or by visiting www.caritas.org.au

The full horror experienced by civilians caught up in the conflict and becoming targets is captured in this account of Fr Amalraj, who fled the violence with his parishioners only to be caught up in the carnage of a so-called ‘safe zone’ where heavy calibre weapons, including mortars, were used. “There was heavy shelling from the army side. The LTTE shot people. The army were trying to capture us. The people were caught in between in the last moment for the LTTE and the crucial point in the battle, for the army. I cannot say which side was crueller.” Fr Amalraj said, “The shelling was just like raining. Within this two square kilometres there were more than 100,000 people, packed in and shells raining down.”

The priest describes the heavily guarded government-controlled camp he and his parishioners have been taken to by saying “the concentration camps of the Second World War are here in Sri Lanka.” (refer: <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,25536585-2703,00.html>; <http://www.cathnews.com/article.aspx?aeid=13992>)

UN Secretary Ban Ki-moon has visited a military camp in northern Sri Lanka and pressed Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa for three immediate conditions for building a just and lasting peace, noting the “the world will be watching”. First, to meet urgent human need, Ban Ki-moon is asking that UN agencies and international humanitarian organisations are given “immediate and unhindered access to all areas where there are displaced persons”. Second, he urged the Government to expedite the screening and processing of refugees with “full transparency and full respect for human rights”. Finally, he urged “powerful and immediate steps

to initiate a political process of dialogue, accommodation and reconciliation.” (refer: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2009/sgsm12266.doc.htm>)

But the President will only allow access to civilians into the camps once rebels among the displaced people have been weeded out. The Sri Lankan government continues to dismiss calls for an independent inquiry into violations of human rights and humanitarian law.

There are concerns for the welfare of inmates in these facilities, particularly for former child soldiers who had been abducted by the LTTE. The Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers says that children (under-18s) are being abducted from the camps by paramilitary groups that enjoy tacit support from the Sri Lankan government. Reportedly, these paramilitary groups have unhindered access to camps in Vavuniya. The Coalition says the precise motives for abduction remain unclear. Some children appear to have been abducted for alleged links with the LTTE, while others are kidnapped for ransom. Spokeswoman Ms Forbes Adam says, “The humanitarian crisis has put a severe strain on the capacity of agencies to protect children. It is vital that the government provide them with access to the camps so that they can do their job.” (http://www.child-soldiers.org/Sri_Lanka_Special_Envoy_press_statement_20may09.pdf)

Amnesty International has called for the establishment of “a fact-finding mission to inquire into allegations of serious violations and abuses of international human rights and humanitarian law by Sri Lankan forces and by the Tamil Tigers in the recent military hostilities, with a view to establishing the facts and making recommendations on how best to ensure accountability for those violations and abuses.”

Amnesty says it is concerned for the plight of civilians in what it is calling “de facto internment camps” and it continues to receive consistent reports of widespread and serious human rights violations, including enforced

disappearance, extra-judicial executions, torture and other ill-treatment, forced recruitment by paramilitary groups, and sexual violence. (refer: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/news/comments/21045/>)

On 26 May, at a special session of the Human Rights Council, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, said there were strong reasons to believe that both sides in the long conflict had “grossly disregarded the fundamental principle of the inviolability of civilians.” She said “an independent and credible international investigation into recent events should be dispatched to ascertain the occurrence, nature and scale of violations of international human rights and international humanitarian law, as well as specific responsibilities.”

Pillay said “The images of terrified and emaciated women, men and children fleeing the battle zone ought to be etched in our collective memory. They must spur us into action.” (refer: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/NeedOfUrgentAction.aspx>)

Foreign Affairs Minister Stephen Smith says Australia has maintained that the camps should be administered in line with international humanitarian standards and should also be open to monitoring by International Committee of the Red Cross and U.N. officials. He has also emphasised how the opportunity for peace to emerge from three decades of dispute will require political reform, political reconciliation and political rapprochement. (refer: http://www.foreignminister.gov.au/transcripts/2009/090518_an.html)

In addition to humanitarian aid, the immediate requirements for peace include the unimpeded access of international agencies to displaced persons, the monitoring of conditions in the camps and an independent investigation of alleged violations of international law. Australia has an important part to play in pressing Sri Lanka for these requirements to be met.



Current Issues / Resources

RESOURCE FOR WEEK OF PRAYER FOR RECONCILIATION

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ecumenical Commission of the NCCA has produced a prayer resource for the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation (26 May - 3 June). The Week of Prayer for Reconciliation, and National Sorry Day which occurs during the week, remind us of unfinished business concerning the needs of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia. Christ calls us to actively work for reconciliation and forgiveness, and to address the hardships and injustices experienced by our Indigenous sisters and brothers. This resource has also been prepared to compliment the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity which overlaps from the 24th May to the 31st May. Resources for this can be found at http://www.ncca.org.au/departments/faith_and_unity/weekofprayer

ANTaR CAMPAIGN - 'RESPECT'

Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation have launched a new campaign. The Respect campaign is calling on all Australians to commit to a new partnership between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians and non-Indigenous Australians. The campaign is aimed at the many non-Indigenous Australians who would like to work alongside Indigenous Australians to end the disadvantage faced by Indigenous communities, but don't know how. It provides people with ideas for action that are simple and effective. (refer: <http://www.antar.org.au/respect>)

ANALYSIS AND BRIEFINGS ON THE FEDERAL BUDGET

Budget analysis and briefings from various Church and community sector organisations can be found at the following links:
Catholic Social Services Australia: <http://www.catholicsocialservices.org.au/node/15154>
Catholic Health Australia: <http://www.cha.org.au/site.php?id=1658>
St Vincent de Paul: <http://www.vinnies.org.au/press-releases-national?link=626>

Australian Council of Social Service:
<http://www.acoss.org.au/Publications.aspx?displayID=1&subjectID=26>
Refugee Council of Australia:
<http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/media.html>

PUBLICATION - 'SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS'

Dr Michael Costigan traces the development of Catholic social action from the 19th century until 2006. He shows how the Bishops have for more than 100 years been at the forefront of action to improve social justice and human rights. The essays cover the Bishops' annual social justice statements, the major wealth enquiry which led to the publication of *Common Wealth for the Common Good*, consultations on young people and the role of women in the Church, and the emergence of ecology as a major priority. *Social Justice and the Australian Catholic Bishops* is Vol 2 No 1 in the Voices series of *Quarterly Essays on Religion in Australia*, available for \$24.95 from John Garratt Publishing, email: sales@johngarratt.com.au. (refer: <http://www.johngarratt.com.au/product.php?isbn=9781920721893>)

PUBLICATION - 'FREEDOM, JUSTICE AND SINCERITY: REFLECTIONS ON THE LIFE AND SPIRITUALITY OF MARY WARD'

This new book by Christine Burke ibvm reflects on the inspiring life and spirituality of Mary Ward, founder of the Loreto Sisters and Congregation of Jesus. Christine Burke's volume celebrates the life of a woman of great faith and insight - always loyal to the church, resourceful, courageous and determined. She was a woman who never gave up on her own truth. Copies of the book are available for purchase for \$25 from Australasian Theological Forum publishing; ph 08 83542299, Fax 08 83542399, email: hgregan@atf.org.au (refer: http://www.loreto.org.au/news/article_display.cfm?article_id=317)

PUBLICATION - 'FOOD: THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT'

Caritas Australia has called for a new system of agricultural production, distribution and allocation as the number of people on the brink of starvation hits 1 billion. Mr Jack de Groot, Caritas CEO said, 'The convergence of the food and financial crises has had a catastrophic effect on the most marginalised in our world. This staggering statistic calls for a reorientation of how we consider global food production and distribution'. The paper documents the latest episode in the ongoing food crisis, the causes of which involve complex and interrelated environmental, social and economic factors. Detailed case studies contained in the report from Nepal, Bangladesh, India, Uganda and East Timor illustrate that a community centred approach is fundamental to building food security. This report can be downloaded from the Caritas website at http://www.caritas.org.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Food_The_Fundamental_Right

ILO REPORT - 'THE COST OF COERCION'

The International Labour Office has launched

its *Forced Labour Global Report*, which provides a powerful economic argument, as well as a moral imperative, to why governments must give higher priority to combating forced labour practices in the private sector. Besides the criminal aspects surrounding forced labour, forced labour practices result in economic losses as the "opportunity cost" of coercion to the workers affected by these abusive practices now reaches over US\$20 billion, the report emphasises. (refer: <http://www.un-ngls.org/spip.php?article966>)

ANTI-POVERTY WEEK 11 - 17 OCTOBER

The organisers of the annual Anti-Poverty Week are encouraging individuals, communities, governments and organisations to hold an event, put up a display or conduct research - whether very small or quite large - that will raise awareness, provoke discussion and help to develop solutions to poverty related issues during Anti-Poverty week. Further information - including a resource kit showing types of events you could hold and advice about how schools can get involved - is available at: <http://www.antipovertyweek.org.au>

Latest Publications

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

PASTORAL LETTER - FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 2009

The Pastoral Letter for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker for 2009 is entitled "Working Families" and the minimum wage at a time of financial crisis'. It is available for download in regular and 'three-column' versions at: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

SERIES PAPER - 'REFUGEES AND AUSTRALIA'S RESPONSE'

In Catholic Social Justice Series paper No.65, David Holdcroft SJ provides readers with a valuable guide to the historical, legal and ethical issues at the heart of Australia's

immigration policy as the nation begins to assess the impact of the Rudd Government's approach to refugees and asylum seekers. (\$6.60 a copy, plus postage - postage rates listed below)

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY STATEMENT DISCUSSION SERIES

The ACSJC is launching a new and additional resource for the Social Justice Sunday Statement. This Discussion Guide is based on the 2008 Social Justice Sunday Statement and is designed to be used with the Statement. The Discussion Guide Series can be used for 3 sessions and is suitable for small group discussion in parishes, schools, communities and other organisations or gatherings. Available for download at <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>. Hard copies may be ordered.

SERIES PAPER - 'A GOD MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS'.

In Catholic Social Justice Series No.64, Old

Testament scholar Mark O'Brien invites readers to consider the roots of our modern concepts of justice and mercy. (\$6.60 a copy, plus postage - postage rates listed below)



This Month's Notices

1 MAY - 7 JUNE. EXHIBITION: CENTRE FOR MULTICULTURAL YOUTH (CMY) 20TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION: 'PARTICIPATION AND DIVERSITY AMONG YOUNG VICTORIANS' (VIC). Celebrate CMY as it supports the needs of migrant and refugee young people. The exhibition includes: 'Voices of Young Australia' - stories of strong, inspiring young people; and 'Multicultural Youth-led Futures' - a poster series of leadership initiatives by migrant and refugee young people. Cost: \$8 museum entry. 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, Immigration Museum, Old Customs House, 400 Flinders St, Melbourne. Contact: 13 11 02. Web: <http://museumvictoria.com.au/ImmigrationMuseum/>.

25 MAY - 5 JUNE. TRAVELLING EXHIBITION: 'BLUEPRINT FOR A BETTER WORLD: THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND YOU' (NSW). Nine years ago, the world made a promise, which by 2015 would lift millions of people out of poverty. The exhibition focuses on case studies of development programs around the world. Staff and volunteers from Caritas Australia will be on hand to personally guide you through the exhibition. No cost. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm weekdays, The Atrium, Auburn Council, Civic Place, 1 Susan Street, Auburn. Contact: 1800 024 490 or alanas@caritas.org.au. Web: www.blueprintforabetterworld.org.

27 MAY - 3 JUNE. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK: 'SEE A PERSON, NOT A STEREOTYPE' (NATIONAL). Each year NRW celebrates the rich culture and history of the First Australians. June 3 marks the anniversary of the High Court's judgment in the 1992 Mabo case. NRW and other events are posted on an Online Events Calendar at <http://www.reconciliation.org.au/home/get-involved/events-calendar>. Contact: (02) 6273 9200 or enquiries@

[reconciliation.org.au](http://www.reconciliation.org.au). Web: <http://www.reconciliation.org.au/home/reconciliation-resources/nrw-resources>.

NATSIEC has produced a resource for the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation now available on its website <http://www.ncca.org.au/natsiec>. Contact: (02) 9299 2215 or natsiec@ncca.org.au.

28 MAY - 20 JUNE. PLAY: 'MY NAME IS RACHEL CORRIE' (NSW). In 2003, Rachel Corrie left her American hometown and went to Palestine as a part of peaceful demonstrations in the Gaza Strip. In March that year she was killed by an Israeli Defence Force bulldozer. This play is the story of Rachel's journey in the global struggle for sense and justice. Cost: \$20-\$34. The Seymour Centre, corner of City Road and Cleveland Street, Chippendale. Contact: (02) 9351 7940. Web: <http://www.seymourcentre.com.au>.

1 - 30 JUNE. EXHIBITION: 'DOC[U]MENTARIES' (SA). A series of 24 photo essays completed during Wend Lear's placement as a photographer and photography teacher in Palestine during 2007, showing the reality of the situation through the 'ordinary' rather than sensational highlights. No cost. 9am to 5pm, Kerry Packer Civic Gallery, UniSA City West campus, Hawke Building, Level 3, 50 North Terrace, Adelaide. Contact: (08) 8302 0371 or louise.carnell@unisa.edu.au. Web: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/hawkecentre/KerryPackerCivicGallery/exhibitions.asp#Doc>.

1 JUNE. PUBLIC FORUM: 'HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE CROSSROADS' (QLD). Most of us are unaware there are very few legal protections of our human rights in this country. Australia is the only western democracy without a national human rights act or Bill of Rights. Speakers

include Prof. Spencer Zifcak, Australian Human Rights Group and other distinguished people. No cost. 6.30 pm, Brisbane City Hall, King George Square, Brisbane. Contact: (07) 3324 8459 or fairgo@justrightsqld.org. Web: www.justrightsqld.org/Fairgo/.

1 JUNE. FORUM: 'DOES AUSTRALIA NEED A HUMAN RIGHTS ACT?' (NSW). Amnesty International Australia and UNSW Law Society Speakers' Forum present this forum featuring a panel of highly distinguished speakers, discussing human rights in Australia - from the experience of refugees and asylum seekers, to the effects of the anti-terrorism laws. Speakers: Malcolm Fraser, Former PM of Australia; Keith Mason QC, Former President of the NSW Court of Appeal; Stephen Keim SC, Barrister for Dr Mohamed Haneef and Edward Santow, Director, Charter of Human Rights Project, Centre of Public Law, UNSW. No cost. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Law Theatre G04, Law Building, University of NSW, Kensington. Contact: nswaia@amnesty.org.au (RSVP essential). Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/home/event/20821/>.

1 JUNE. FORUM: 'WHAT MATTERS IN AUSTRALIA TODAY: FOUR PERSPECTIVES' (SA). Experience four contemporary perspectives from four notable Australians, representing the rich diversity of our unique continent and its people. Speakers include Hieu Van Le, Lieutenant Governor of SA and Chairman of SA Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission; Lillian Holt, Aboriginal educator and public speaker on Reconciliation; Katrina Sedgwick, Festival Director, 2009 Adelaide Film Festival and Matthew Cowdrey OAM, SA Young Australian of the Year 2009 and distinguished Paralympian. No cost. 5.45pm for 6pm start, Adelaide Town Hall, 128 King William St, Adelaide. Contact: (08) 8302 0215 or register online at: www.hawkecentre.unisa.edu.au.

1 JUNE. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, PUBLIC MEETING: 'AUSTRALIA'S ROLE - ON THE SIDE OF ANGELS OR DRAGGING THE CHAIN?' (TAS). Hear Tilman Ruff, Medical Association for the Prevention of War (MAPW) who has just arrived back from the Nuclear non-Proliferation Treaty PrepCom in New York and ICAN's Jessica Morrison at a public meeting. No cost. 7:30 to 9:30 pm, Hobart Town Hall, 50 Macquarie

Street, Hobart. Contact: tas@mapw.org.au. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/creating-world-free-nuclear-weapons-public-meeting>.

1 JUNE. JUANITA NIELSEN 2009 MEMORIAL LECTURE: 'INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND HUMAN RIGHTS: A LITMUS TEST FOR SOCIAL POLICY' (NSW). Professor Larissa Behrendt will explore the false dichotomy being presented by proponents of Indigenous policy who suspend basic human rights in order to achieve policy aims. Speakers: Professor Larissa Behrendt, Eualeyai/Kamillaroi woman, Professor of Law, Director of Research, Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning at the University of Technology; and Eleanor Gibbs, Greens Councillor. Also, there will be an exhibition at the Mori Gallery of urban indigenous artist, Willurei Kirkbright-Burney, titled 'Damaged Goods'. No cost. 6:15pm for 6:30pm, Mori Gallery, 168 Day Street, Sydney. Contact: (02) 9230 3551 or linda.wilhelm@parliament.nsw.gov.au, RSVP essential.

1 - 10 JUNE. NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CONSULTATION COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLES (NT). Everyone interested in attending a Community Roundtable is encouraged to register at the website.

1 June: Darwin 12.00 to 2.00 pm OR 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Skycity Darwin, Gilruth Avenue, The Gardens, Darwin

3 June: Katherine 12.00 to 2.00 pm, Katherine Motel, RJ's Conference Room, 3 Giles Street, Katherine

4 June: Nhulunbuy (Gove) 5.00 to 7.00 pm, The Arnhem Club, Franklyn St, Nhulunbuy

5 June: Maningrida 1.00 to 3.00 pm, Maningrida Child Education Centre Assembly Area (undercover Basketball Court)

9 June: Alice Springs 6pm to 8pm, Alice Springs Convention Centre, MacDonnell Room A, 93 Barrett Drive, Alice Springs

10 June: Tennant Creek 12pm to 2pm, Tennant Creek Memorial Club, Memorial Drive, Tennant Creek

Wadeye and Yirrkala TBA. Contact: 1800 086 134. Web: <http://humanrightsconsultation.gov.au/www/nhrcc/community.nsf/calendar>.

2 JUNE. LECTURE: 'TORTURE AND DEMOCRACY: WHAT NOW?' (NSW). A lecture by Professor Darius Rejali, Chair of Political

Science at Reed College, USA. Darius is an internationally recognised expert on government torture and interrogation and a leading leading writer on torture and the consequences of its use. Cost: free for University of Sydney staff and students (id required), other \$20, concession \$15. 6.30 pm, Seymour Theatre Centre, University of Sydney, corner of City Rd and Cleveland St, Chippendale. Contact: (02) 9351 7940. Book online: http://www.usyd.edu.au/sydney_ideas/lectures/2009/torture_democracy.shtml.

2 JUNE. LECTURE AND DINNER: 'WOMEN IN AFGHANISTAN TODAY' (VIC). Shazia Shakib from the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA) will be sharing her insight into the current situation in Afghanistan and the challenging work of RAWA. Cost \$45 (includes meal). Downunder Curry, 417-419 High Street, Northcote. Contact: (03) 9822 8858 or mok@connexus.net.au. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/women-afghanistan-today>.

2 JUNE. NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CONSULTATION COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLES (WA). Everyone interested in attending a Community Roundtable is encouraged to register at the website. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Cable Beach Club Resort, Cable Beach Rd, Broome. Contact: 1800 086 134. Web: <http://humanrightsconsultation.gov.au/www/nhrcc/community.nsf/calendar>.

3 JUNE. FORUM: 'AFGHANISTAN 2009 - ESCALATING VIOLENCE, UNDERDEVELOPMENT AND WOMEN STRIVING FOR CHANGE' (VIC). Seven years after the invasion of Afghanistan, life for women has continued to be intolerable. This forum is organised by The Centre for Citizenship, Development and Human Rights, Deakin University, The City of Port Phillip and RAWA. Speaker: Shazia (RAWA). Cost: donation. 7.00 to 9.00 pm, The Auditorium, St Kilda Town Hall, 99A Carlisle Street, St Kilda. Contact: (03) 5227 2113 or anne.okeefe@deakin.edu.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/afghanistan-2009-forum>.

3 JUNE. PUBLIC FORUM: 'MENTAL DISORDER AND ADDICTION: I CAN'T FIT IN ANYWHERE' (ACT). Christians for an Ethical Society present this Social Inclusion Forum. Speakers: Ian

Webster AO, Emeritus Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine UNSW; and Deb Wybron, Convenor ACT Women and Prison Group. Cost: \$5 donation. 7.30 pm, Chapel of the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, corner of Kings Avenue and Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: (02) 6291 4537 or chair@ces.org.au. Web: <http://www.ces.org.au/#Calendar%20of%20Events>.

3 - 5 JUNE. NATIVE TITLE CONFERENCE: 'SPIRIT OF COUNTRY: LAND, WATER & LIFE' (VIC). This conference will provide the opportunity for diverse peoples to come together and engage in debate. The conference sub themes include: Strengthening communities; Rivers, Lakes and Sea country; Respectful engagement; Economies, ecologies and ideologies; Connecting throughout diversity; and Stories to learn from. Cost: \$720. Melbourne Cricket Ground, Brunton Avenue, Richmond, East Melbourne. Contact: (02) 6246 1161 or ntru@aiatsis.gov.au, RSVP by 22 May. Web: <http://ntru.aiatsis.gov.au/>.

3 JUNE. CELEBRATING MABO DAY (NT). Charles Darwin University celebrates the 17th anniversary of High Court Australia's decision to recognise native title in Australia. Includes seminar by Associate Professor Matthew Storey, Head of Law at Charles Darwin University; cultural performance by the Murray Island Mer Peibre Dance Troupe and light lunch. No cost. 11.30 am to 1.00 pm, Lecture Theatre PA, 2.43 (upstairs), Charles Darwin University, Palmerston Campus, University Avenue Palmerston, RSVP by 27 May. Contact: (08) 8946 7860 or veronica.mcclintic@cdu.edu.au. Web: <http://www.cdu.edu.au/whatson/>.

3 JUNE. SACOSS TRAINING COURSE: 'ACTIVISM' (SA). In today's pressured environment, it's easy for community sector organisations to become overwhelmed with day-to-day demands and lose track of their original purpose. This course will show you how to gain traction on an issue of importance and help you develop a strategy to influence change or raise awareness in the community. Cost: \$132. 9.30 am to 4.00 pm, Marjorie Black House, 47 King William Road, Unley. Contact: (08) 8305 4224, 0437 805 400 or mavis@sacoss.org.au. Web: <http://www.sacoss.org.au/training/index.html#top>.

3 JUNE. ICAN CAMPAIGN DEVELOPMENTS

(VIC). In just two years, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons (ICAN) has successfully helped mobilise a groundswell of global opposition to nuclear weapons. Come to hear about the latest campaign developments. Speakers: ICAN Chair Associate Professor Tilman Ruff; ICAN Board Members Dimity Hawkins and Dr Ruth Mitchell; entertainment by singer/songwriter and ICAN supporter Abby Dobson. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, 60L Green Building, 60 Leicester Street, Carlton. Contact: teri@icanw.org or (03) 9347 4795, RSVP essential by 5pm, 1 June. Web: <http://vthc.org.au/whats-on/ican-invitation/index.cfm/>

3 JUNE. FILM AND FORUM: 'SACRED

GROUND' (SA). Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation present this screening on Mabo Day and will discuss the Review of the Aboriginal Heritage Act. Speakers include: Quentin Agius, Tom Trevorrow, Lynette Crocker and Syd Sparrow. Cost: \$7 (free for Aboriginal people). 6.30 to 9.00 pm, Tandanya, Grenfell St, Adelaide. Contact: (08) 8224 3222. Web: http://antarsa.auspics.org.au/docs/SacredGroundAdelaide_MaboDay2009.jpg3.

4 JUNE. DOCUMENTARY: 'CONTACT' (NSW).

As part of Sydney Film Festival, this documents how in 1964 the traditional ways of a group of 20 Martu people came to an abrupt end, when patrol officers from the Weapons Research Establishment entered their country to clear the area for a major series of rocket tests launched from Woomera. Cost: \$17, concession \$14.50. 8.00 pm, Cinema 8, Greater Union, George Street, Sydney. Book online: <http://www.sydneyfilmfestival.org/Festival/Films/FilmDetails.aspx?id=122>.

4 JUNE. JUST LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST SERIES FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS (VIC).

Guest speakers Peter Elyard and Rita Sully will discuss the theme 'as "ordinary people" do we have the power to reimagine and reinvent the world and if so, where do we begin?'. Cost: \$15. 7.15 to 8.55 am, Mallesons Stephen Jaques, 600 Bourke Street, Melbourne. Contact: justleadership@jss.org.au or (03) 9427 7388, RSVP by 21 May. Web: <http://www.faithdoingjustice.com.au/docs/JustLeadership020609.pdf>.

4 JUNE. WEST PAPUAN NIGHT (VIC).

Includes music, documentaries and speakers. Investigative documentaries 'Raising West Papua' and 'Rainforest Warriors' and new films documenting parliamentarians in support of West Papua. Traditional music from West Papua's freedom fighters 'Tabura', and urban hip-hop guerrillas 'Pataphysics'. West Papuan Refugees tell their stories and speak out about the current situation in West Papua. Cost: \$12, concession \$8. 7.00 pm, Northcote Uniting Church, 251 High Street, Northcote. Contact: (03) 8344 1637 or nancy.atkin@mapw.org.au. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/west-papua-music-films-speakers>.

5 JUNE. 100th JUSTICE & PEACE CANDLE LIGHT WALK AROUND GOVERNMENT HOUSE

(SA). Show your support for a treaty with Australia's Indigenous peoples. Candles are lit to promote justice and peace, advocating an Indigenous treaty. Walkers gather with candles at the front of Government House on North Terrace to listen to Aboriginal people and to share views. Just bring your candle. Gather at dusk. Contact: (08) 8227 0170. Web: http://antarsa.auspics.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=18&Itemid=1.

5 - 8 JUNE. AUSTRALIA'S INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: 'THE DREAMING' (QLD).

The Dreaming is a vibrant, exciting and a valuable destination where local, national and international audiences look forward to their annual ceremony time along with the most comprehensive showcase of Indigenous arts from across the country and around the world. This festival will have performing arts venues, Ceremony grounds, traditional healing, galleries, rituals, campfire story circles and a mass of stalls and food outlets. Cost: various (see website). Woodford Folk Festival Site, Woodrow Road, Woodford. Contact: (07) 5496 1066 or ticketing@thedreamingfestival.com. Web: <http://www.thedreamingfestival.com/>.

6 JUNE. JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE (JRS) BALL

(QLD). The inaugural JRS Ball in Brisbane will seek both to raise funds and awareness to support the work of JRS in Australia and internationally. Cost: \$120. 7.00 pm to 12.00 am, Stuartholme College, Birdwood Terrace, Toowong. Contact: JRSBallBrisbane@gmail.com or 0415 358 679. Web: <http://www.jrs.org.au>.

6 JUNE. PUBLIC MEETING: 'HUMAN RIGHTS AND MEDIA FREEDOM IN SRI LANKA' (VIC).

This event will focus on Sri Lanka and remembering Lasantha Wickrematunge, Editor, Sunday Leader, UNESCO World Press Freedom Prize winner, who was assassinated this year. Speakers: Dr Paikiasothy Saravanamuttu, Co-convenor Platform for Freedom, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Alternatives; and J Weliamuna, Co-convenor Platform for Freedom, Executive Director, Transparency International Sri Lanka, Attorney-at-Law. This event is organised by People for Human Rights & Equality (PHRE) and the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council (DECC). 3.30 to 7.00 pm, Bldg K, Theatre K3.09, Monash University, Caulfield Campus. Contact: 0427 610 823 or contact@phre.org.au. Web: http://crisishub.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/flyer_inv.pdf.

7 JUNE. PRAYER SERVICE: 'IT'S TIME FOR PEACE' (ACT). The Ecumenical Working Group on Palestine- Israel is holding a service of stories and photos featuring the voices of young Palestinians and Israelis. The ecumenical service for peace in Palestine Israel to coincide with the World Week for Peace in Palestine Israel 4th-10th June. The World Week for Peace in Palestine Israel is a global initiative of the World Council of Churches. 2.00 pm, at the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall St, Barton, ACT. For more information contact 0404 384 181 or 0407 546 225

8 JUNE. DINNER AND SPEAKER: 'BETHLEHEM UNIVERSITY - CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES' (NSW).

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem invites you to hear Br Peter Bray, Vice-Chancellor of Bethlehem University, speak about his work as Vice Chancellor of Bethlehem University in the Holy Land. He has found challenges there working with people who are committed to provide a quality higher education to the young Palestinian people. Cost: \$60. 7.00 for 7.30 pm, Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Corner Military Road and Cardinal Street, Mosman. Contact: (02) 9221 7675 or fkunc@selbornechambers.com.au, RSVP by 3 June.

8 JUNE. MULTIFAITH FORUM: 'HEALING THE EARTH WITH CARE AND CONCERN' (TAS).

The Parliament of the World's Religions is the world's largest global interfaith event and will be held in Melbourne in December. A "Pre-Parliamentary" event will be held in Hobart, in conjunction with UTAS School of Philosophy, keynote speaker Br Trevor Parton. Many faiths will be represented on the panel. To be followed by a light meal and at 7.00 pm a celebration of Creation through sacred music and dance. Cost: donation. 4.00 to 6.15 pm, Stanley Burbury Theatre, Churchill Ave, Sandy Bay. Contact: (03) 6272 6521 or sussfam@bigpond.com, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.hobart.catholic.org.au/whatson.html>.

9 - 11 JUNE. AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR PROFESSIONAL AND APPLIED ETHICS SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE: 'PROFESSIONS IN THE COMMUNITY' (NSW).

The AAPAE Conference welcomes practitioners and academics from various disciplines and professions for discussion of interests and issues in applied and professional ethics. Speakers will include Commissioner John Pritchard, Police Integrity Commission; Associate Professor Gillian Cowlshaw, University of Technology, Sydney; Dr Brian Steels, Murdoch University; and Mr Stephen Keim SC. Cost \$400 (members \$290). Best Western CentreTown, Lagoon Street, Goulburn. Contact: (02) 4824 2523 or acorbocrehan@csu.edu.au. Web: <http://www.csu.edu.au/faculty/arts/policing/aapae/index.htm>.

9 JUNE. QCOSS SOCIAL POLICY & ADVOCACY FORUM (QLD). Community service providers, management committees, local government agencies and interested members of the community will have an opportunity to comment on social issues, workshop recommendations and discuss QCOSS's advocacy work. No cost. Brisbane (Youth focus) 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, QCOSS Office, 20 Pidgeon Close, West End. Contact: allysons@qcross.org.au or (07) 3004 6900. Web: <http://www.qcross.org.au/Article.aspx?type=event&id=5636>.

10 JUNE. SEMINAR: 'WELLBEING, CAPABILITIES AND INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS: CAN INDIGENOUS WELLBEING BE MEASURED AND, IF SO, HOW?' (ACT). The Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, CAEPR, at Australian National University presents speakers including Kirrily Jordan, Post-Doctoral Fellow CAEPR, and Geoff Buchanan, Research Officer, CAEPR, speaking on the notions of wellbeing on Indigenous policy in Australia and the implications for policy development. 12.30 to 1.30 pm, Humanities Conference Room, First Floor, A.D. Hope Bldg #14 (opposite Chifley Library), The Australian National University, Canberra. Contact: (02) 6125 0587 or admin.caepr@anu.edu.au. Web: <http://www.anu.edu.au/caepr/events09.php>.

10 JUNE. BOOK AND FILM LAUNCH: 'SHOOTING BALIBO' (NSW). Gleebooks presents author and journalist Tony Maniaty joined by John Maynard, producer of the forthcoming film Balibo. In 1975, Tony in East Timor, was shelled and five other television newsmen who followed were murdered by Indonesian troops. In 'Shooting Balibo' he teams up with the cast and crew of the feature film Balibo, retraces his days of danger, and dines with Jose Ramos-Horta, the independence fighter-turned-President. Cost \$10, \$7 concession. 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm, Upstairs @ 49, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe. Contact: (02) 9660 2333 or morgan@gleebooks.com.au. Web: <http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/events4.htm>.

10 JUNE. THE ANNUAL ANU RECONCILIATION LECTURE 2009: 'HOW WELL DO WE KNOW EACH OTHER?' (ACT). Archie Roach & Ruby Hunter, two of Australia's leading singer songwriters, will give a special performance at the lecture. Speaker/Host: Professor Mick Dodson AM, 2009 Australian of the Year. 5:30 to 8:00 pm, Arc Cinema, National Film & Sound Archive, McCoy Circuit, Acton. Contact: (02) 6125 6708 or rsvp.reconciliation@anu.edu.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://law.anu.edu.au/coast/events/reconciliation09.pdf>.

10 JUNE - 22 JULY. LECTURE SERIES: 'GAZA: LAW, MORALITY AND POLITICS' (VIC). The ACU National School of Philosophy is running lectures over seven weeks every Wednesday.

Speakers: June 10 'Death in Gaza' - Gerry Simpson; June 17 'The Jewish State on Trial' - Mark Baker; June 24 'Women and War' - Hilary Charlesworth; July 1 'Morality, Law & Politics' - Raimond Gaita; July 8 'On Narcissistic Victimhood' - Ghassan Hage; July 15 'Gaza & Catastrophe Theory' - Geoffrey Brahm Levey; July 22 - Final Panel Discussion. No cost. 6.30 pm, Christ Lecture Theatre, Melbourne Campus, Australian Catholic University, 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy. Contact: (03) 9953 3160 or wednesdaylectures@acu.edu.au. Web: http://www.acu.edu.au/about_acu/news_events/events-at-ACU-National/events/lecture_series_gaza_law_morality_and_politics/.

10 JUNE. BOOK LAUNCH: 'ABIDING FAITH: CHRISTIANITY BEYOND CERTAINTY, ANXIETY AND VIOLENCE' (ACT). The author, Revd Dr Scott Cowdell - is a Theology and Research Fellow of Public and Contextual Theology Strategic Research Centre (PACT). In the book he explores faith against the backdrop of secularization, the collapse of community, and the encroachment of an intentionally destabilizing consumer culture. It will be launched by Professor Tony Kelly CSSR, a Research Professor of Theology at the Australian Catholic University (ACU). 5.30 to 7.00pm, Chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: jnelson@csu.edu.au or (02) 6272 6201, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.acc-c.org.au/>.

10 - 11 JUNE. THE NATIONAL COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION CONFERENCE: 'NATION-WIDE AND LOCAL-LEVEL STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT AND DELIVER KEY PROGRAM AND POLICY MESSAGES' (ACT). This informative conference will provide practical advice on how to develop, deliver and improve community education programs. Director of the Race Discrimination Unit at the Australian Human Rights Commission will speak about how the Face the Facts resource is used to increase understanding and break down barriers. Cost: \$1695. The Marque Hotel, 102 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra. Contact: (02) 6249 1411 or registration@liquidlearning.com.au. Web: http://liquidlearning.com.au/documents/CEP0609/CEP0609_I.pdf.

12 - 13 JUNE. CONFERENCE: 'INDONESIAN SECURITY SECTOR REFORM - POST SUHARTO'S REGIME - ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROSPECTS' (NSW). Indonesian Solidarity presents this conference with speakers: Dr Ikrar Nusa Bhakti, The Indonesian Institute of Sciences, Jakarta; Dr Eden Cole, The Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces; and a member of House Representative of Republic of Indonesia. 9.30 am to 3.00 pm, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney. Contact: 0416 809 107, (02) 9217 3874 or indonesian_solidarity@yahoo.com.au, RSVP by 22 May. Web: <http://www.indonesian-solidarity.org/gpage1.html>.

13 JUNE. RACE DAY: MATTHEW TALBOT HOMELESS SERVICES (NSW). A fun and value for money day out, this exciting day will raise important funds to support the opening of St Vincent de Paul Society's newest Special Work, Vincentian House. Cost \$130. 11.30 am, Grand Pavilion, Rosehill Gardens Racecourse, James Ruse Drive, Rosehill. Contact: events@vinnies.org.au or (02) 9568 0220. Web: <http://www.vinnies.org.au/mths-june-2009-race-day-nsw>.

13 JUNE. NATIONAL CLIMATE EMERGENCY RALLY (NATIONAL). We are facing a climate emergency - climate change is already affecting people in Australia and across the world. Join the rally and be a part of the climate solution. Organised by the Community Climate Network and supported by a broad alliance of organisations and networks. Web: <http://www.climateally.org/>.

Adelaide: 11.00 am, Tarndanyangga (Victoria Square), march through CBD.

Brisbane: 1.00 pm, Queens Park, Elizabeth and George Street, Brisbane. Contact: 0403 871 082, 0401 234 610 or ewanbris@gmail.com.

Canberra: 1.00 pm, Garema Place, Civic, ACT.

Hobart: 12.00 noon, Parliament House lawns, Hobart. Contact: 0428 274 280.

Melbourne: 1.00 pm, State Library, corner La Trobe and Swanston Street, march to Treasury Gardens. Contact: 03 9639 3660 or info@climateactioncentre.org.

Perth: 12.30 pm, Forrest Place, Perth. Contact: 0417 319 662, 0438 940 386 or 0412 132 044

Sydney: 10.00 am, Barangaroo, Hickson Road, Millers Point, march through The Rocks and

Circular Quay. Contact: moira.williams@gmail.com.

Wollongong: 12.00 noon, Wollongong Mall amphitheatre, corner Crown and Church Streets, Wollongong. Contact: 0425 329 963.

13 JUNE. FUNDRAISER 5 OR 10 KM RUN: 'RUN FOR DARFUR' (NSW). This event will raise much needed funds for the ongoing projects and advocacy work of the Sydney Darfur Australia Network (DAN). Darfuri former competitive runner Mohammed Ali will be running 10km alongside friend of DAN, Neil Gunning, who came up with the idea for the run. 10.00 am to 1.00 pm, Sydney International Regatta Centre, Old Castlereagh Road, Penrith. Contact: 0416 085 260 or gem_seymour@yahoo.com.au, RSVP by 1 June. Web: [http://www.darfuraustralia.org/files/Flyer_Race\[1\].pdf](http://www.darfuraustralia.org/files/Flyer_Race[1].pdf).

14 - 20 JUNE. REFUGEE WEEK: 'FREEDOM FROM FEAR' (NATIONAL).

The Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) works with agencies around Australia to coordinate Refugee Week, a national celebration held each year since 1986. Each year, Refugee Week coincides with World Refugee Day June 20. Contact:

National and NSW: info@refugeecouncil.org.au or (02) 9211-9333

VIC: melbourne@refugeecouncil.org.au or (03) 9348-2245

SA: keith@mrcsa.com.au or (08) 8217-9522 or (08) 8217-9510

ACT: rebecca.glasgow@act.gov.au or (02) 6205 5302

TAS: Karin.le@mrcltn.org.au or (03) 6332 2215; ahamilton@mrchobart.org.au or (03) 6221 0912

NT: kylie.smith@melaleuca.org.au or (08) 8985 3311

WA: issihaka.toure@asetts.org.au or (08) 9227 2739.

Web: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/newsevents/refugeeweek.html>.

15 JUNE. COURSE: PASTORAL CARE TRAINING (ACT). The Canberra and Region Centre for Spiritual Care and Clinical Pastoral Education Inc, with assistance from the ACT Government, is offering this course for people interested in becoming a Community Pastoral Carer and 'affirming the power of Love and Care through

the Spirit of God in the Community'. It is being offered at The Canberra Hospital on Mondays from 15th June until 16th November. Supervisor: Mary Waterford. Cost: \$1000. Contact: (02) 6244 2261 or lyn.kelly@act.gov.au, by 3rd June. Web: www.pastoralcareact.org/cpe.

16 JUNE. ART AUCTION: 'ACTIVATE YOUR ART' (VIC). Friends of the Earth, the Australian Nuclear Free Alliance and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) are holding their annual art auction fundraiser. Proceeds support anti-nuclear campaigning in local and Aboriginal communities. Viewing 5.00 pm, auction 8.00 pm, Hogan's Gallery, 310 Smith St, Collingwood. Contact: 0403 965 977 or ashchilde@hotmail.com. Web: <http://www.foe.org.au/anti-nuclear/issues/aa>.

16 JUNE. WORKSHOP: 'POVERTY AND SUSTAINABILITY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES - THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN CARBON' (ACT). Hear from three leading commentators about the ethical, economic and environmental consequences for developing countries under the Government's proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme. Speakers: Dr Richard Denniss, The Australia Institute; Professor Raghbendra Jha, Australia South Asia Research Centre, Australian National University, and Andrew Macintosh, Centre for Climate Law and Policy, Australian National University. 10.30 am to 12.30 pm, APCD Theatre 1, Hedley Bull Building, Australian National University, Canberra. Contact: (02) 6162 4144 or mail@tai.org.au.

16 JUNE. SEMINAR: 'LIVING UNDER SIEGE: THE PLIGHT OF AFGHAN WOMEN' (QLD). Since the invasion by NATO and American troops, life in Afghanistan has become intolerable, particularly for women. RAWA, the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan, has been actively supporting the most needy women and girls, for over 30 years and continues its extraordinary work in these difficult times. No cost. 10:00 to 11:30am, Don Carruthers Room, Level 5, Dorothy Hill PSE Library, Hawken Bldg (50), (Enter library and take lift to Level 5), Queensland University, St Lucia, Brisbane. Contact: (07) 3346 8742 or acpacs@uq.edu.au. Web: <http://www>.

uq.edu.au/acpacs/seminars/Plight_Afghan_Women_2009.pdf.

16 JUNE. PRIOLETTI FORUM: SUDANESE REFUGEES (VIC). The Sudanese community is currently one of the fastest growing groups in Australia, increasing by an average of 34% each year. This short forum will provide participants with an understanding of the Southern Sudanese cultural settlement and barriers to service access. Speakers: Saturnino Onyala, Settlement worker, Migrant information centre; Multicultural language aid, Mullauna College and Nyadang Dei Wal, Settlement worker, Migrant information centre. Cost: \$55. 9.30 am to 12.00 pm, Acacia Room, Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre, Corner of Bell Street and St Georges Road, Preston. Contact: josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au or 0438 846 584. Book online: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au>.

16 JUNE. QCOSS SOCIAL POLICY & ADVOCACY FORUM (QLD). Community service providers, management committees, local government agencies and interested members of the community will have an opportunity to comment on social issues, workshop recommendations and discuss QCOSS's advocacy work. No cost. 10:00 am to 3:30 pm, St Marys Hall, 15 Albert St, Kingaroy. Contact: allysons@qcross.org.au or (07) 3004 6900. Web: <http://www.qcross.org.au/Article.aspx?type=event&id=5636>.

17 JUNE. DOCUMENTARY: 'A WELL-FOUNDED FEAR' (VIC). A small group of committed Australians have made it their mission to find the asylum seekers Australia rejected. For five years Phil Glendenning has been travelling the globe in search of rejected asylum seekers. Organised by the Researchers for Asylum Seekers (RAS). Cost: gold coin entry. 6.30 pm, Gryphon Gallery, Graduate Centre (1888 building), Grattan Street, University of Melbourne, Carlton. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/well-founded-fear-documentary>.

17 JUNE. PRIOLETTI FORUM: REFUGEES FROM BURMA (VIC). Refugees from Burma are one of the newest communities in Victoria. This short forum will provide you with an understanding of the Chin and Karen

communities and their settlements in Victoria. Speakers: Chan Thang, Settlement worker, Migrant information centre; Community Guide, AMES humanitarian program and Representative, Eastern Karen community Association of Victoria. Cost: \$55. 9.30 am to 12.00 pm, Studio Room, Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre, Corner of Bell Street and St Georges Road, Preston. Contact: josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au or 0438 846 584. Book online: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au/>.

17 JUNE. QCOSS SOCIAL POLICY & ADVOCACY FORUM (QLD). Community service providers, management committees, local government agencies and interested members of the community will have an opportunity to comment on social issues, workshop recommendations and discuss QCOSS's advocacy work. No cost. 10:00 am to 3:30 pm, Maryborough Neighbourhood Centre, 25 Ellena St, Townsville. Contact: allysons@qcross.org.au or (07) 3004 6900. Web: <http://www.qcross.org.au/Article.aspx?type=event&id=5636>.

17 - 19 JUNE. SHORT COURSE: 'RACE, CULTURE, INDIGENEITY AND THE POLITICS OF PUBLIC HEALTH' (VIC). The course is designed for professionals, policy makers and researchers who work in Indigenous health, social work, education and related areas. It provides conceptual tools that can help tackle the complex political and moral issues faced by those working in Indigenous affairs. Speakers: Dr Yin Paradies, NHMRC Postdoctoral Fellow, Menzies School of Health Research and University of Melbourne and Dr Emma Kowal, NHMRC Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Melbourne. Cost: \$825. 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, School of Graduate Research, Graduate Centre, 1888 Building (bldg 198), Parkville. Contact: (03) 8344 0926 or npriest@unimelb.edu.au. Web: <http://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/sph-shortcourses/files/2009/02/course-flyernp.pdf>.

18 JUNE. ST VINCENT DE PAUL CEO'S SLEEPOUT (NSW). The fourth annual sleepout seeks to generate further funds and awareness to tackle the serious issue of homelessness. Through this experience the Society hopes to recruit champions of social justice to lead the way in building awareness of homelessness

within the wider NSW community. 7.00 pm to 7.00 am, Luna Park Sydney, 1 Olympic Drive, Milsons Point. Contact: (02) 9560 8666 or jessica.moss.wellington@vinnies.org.au. Web: <http://www.ceosleepout.org.au/>.

18 JUNE. FUNDRAISING DINNER FOR REFUGEES (VIC). An enlightening and entertaining evening at the Kingston Hotel in Richmond, Melbourne, aimed at highlighting the plight of refugees, and raising funds for their cause. The evening is organised by the Xavier Social Justice Network and Jesuit Refugee Service Australia. It includes a two-course dinner followed by tea and coffee, as well as guest speakers and other entertainment. Cost: \$50. Kingston Hotel, 55 Highett Street, Richmond, Melbourne. Contact: (02) 9356 3888 or marystorey@xavier.vic.edu.au. Web: <http://www.jrs.org.au/>.

18 JUNE. PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: 'OUR FUTURES, OUR LAND' (NSW). The event will feature a photographic auction in support of AID/WATCH's collaborations with groups in Melanesia fighting for control over the future of their lands. Includes short talk by award winning video journalist, Mark Davis. Cost: donation. 6.30 to 9.00 pm, Chrissie Cotter Gallery, Pidcock Street, Camperdown. Contact: (02) 9557 8944 or lara@aidwatch.org.au. Web: <http://www.aidwatch.org.au/events/our-futures-our-land-melanesian-land-photographic-exhibition>.

18 JUNE. FORUM: 'LABOUR TRAFFICKING: A FORUM TO DISCUSS TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN CONTEXTS OTHER THAN THE COMMERCIAL SEX INDUSTRY' (ACT). The Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) will hold a one day forum on this issue. The forum aims to bring together many agencies and representatives to discuss the nature of the problem as it affects Australia and possible responses. Speakers include: Commissioner Barbara Deegan, Australian Industrial Relations Commission; Fiona David, Research Expert, Trafficking in Persons, Australian Institute of Criminology; Jennifer Burn, Director, Anti-Slavery Project, University of Technology, Sydney etc. No cost. 8.30 am to 5.30 pm, Australian Institute of Criminology Conference Room, 74 Leichhardt St, Griffith. Contact: aic.events@aic.gov.au or (02) 6260 9272 by 22 May. Web:

<http://www.aic.gov.au/conferences/2009-labourtrafficking/>.

18 JUNE. PRIOLETTI FORUM: 'CHANGING FACE OF VICTORIA' (VIC). Join us and a panel of recent arrivals from various African communities who have recently settled in Victoria. Travel through their past experiences in Africa, the challenges of leaving their country, their journey to Australia and establishing a new life in a different culture. Speakers from Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan. Cost: \$55. 9.30 am to 12.00 pm, Studio Room, Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre, Corner of Bell Street and St Georges Road, Preston. Contact: josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au or 0438 846 584. Book online: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au>.

19 JUNE. PRIOLETTI FORUM: 'FROM REFUGEE TO RESIDENT' (VIC). Early experiences of refugees first arriving in Australia can provide an insight into service barriers and cultural needs. Speakers: Helen Schloetzer, Polish Displaced Person; Eugenie Demidenko, Russian Displaced Person and Tibet Curciali, from the Albanian community. Cost: \$55. 9.30 am to 12.00 pm, Reception Room, Level 1, Footscray Town Hall, corner Hyde and Napier Sts, Footscray. Contact: josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au or 0438 846 584. Book online: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au>.

19 JUNE. WORKSHOP: 'CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING' (VIC). This workshop will examine what Catholic Social Teaching is, its sources, major principles, and how it can help us to live a faith that does justice. Presenter: Sandie Cornish. Cost: free for anyone involved in the work of the Australian Jesuits, others welcome (suggested contribution \$50). Campion Ignatian Spirituality Centre, 99 Studley Park Rd, Kew. Contact: loyola@loyola.org.au or (02) 8920 0202. Web: <http://www.loyola.org.au/programs/faith-doing-justice>.

19 - 20 JUNE. STEWARDSHIP INSTITUTE (QLD). Stewardship Institute offers a comprehensive introduction to the basic principles and practices of stewardship, as well as the biblical basis and theological understanding of stewardship. Institute attendees are normally people new to the experience of stewardship as a way

of life. Guest presenter: Leisa Anslinger. Cost: \$250. Leisure Inn, Plaza Hotel, corner Flinders Mall and Stanley Street, Townsville. Contact: rryan@tsv.catholic.org.au or (07) 4726 3201, RSVP by 18 May. Web: www.australianstewardship.catholic.net.au.

20 JUNE. WORKSHOP: 'USING THE PASTORAL SPIRAL' (VIC). This workshop introduces the Pastoral Spiral methodology as an Ignatian way of engaging in pastoral planning and social justice action. Presenter: Sandie Cornish. Cost: free for anyone involved in the work of the Australian Jesuits, others welcome (suggested contribution \$50). Campion Ignatian Spirituality Centre, 99 Studley Park Rd, Kew. Contact: loyola@loyola.org.au or (02) 8920 0202. Web: <http://www.loyola.org.au/programs/faith-doing-justice>.

21 JUNE. MULTICULTURAL ARTS VICTORIA'S EMERGE FESTIVAL (VIC). An afternoon of music, dance, drumming, art and craft from Victoria's most recently arrived communities alongside some of our finest local Indigenous and Pacific artists. Concerts and workshops free. Food and drink from around the world on sale. 12.00 to 5.00 pm, Fitzroy Town Hall, Napier Street, Fitzroy. Contact: (03) 9417 6777. Web: www.multiculturalarts.com.au/events2009/emerge.shtml.

21 - 27 JUNE. ECUMENICAL ACTIVITY: 'SIMPLY SHARING WEEK' (NATIONAL). Simply Sharing Week is an ecumenical activity coordinated by Caritas Australia in collaboration with the Christian Churches of Australia which encourages Australians to learn about and become involved in issues of social justice. The 2009 program focuses on the food crisis. Resources are available to help students, parish and community groups to understand the situation and demonstrate their concern to Australian MPs and Senators, thereby giving a voice to the millions who are denied one of the fundamental rights - the right to food. Contact: 1800 024 413 or ssw@caritas.org.au. Web: <http://www.simplysharingweek.org.au>.

22 JUNE. FIFTH ANNUAL ST THOMAS MORE FORUM LECTURE: 'NO IMPUNITY FOR SOVEREIGNS, THOMAS MORE AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW' (ACT). St Thomas More's Feast Day Dinner

is presented by St Thomas More's Forum in association with the St. Thomas More Society (ACT) and the St Thomas More's Parish, Campbell. The speaker is Rev Prof Michael Tate AO, Parish Priest of Holy Spirit Parish in Sandy Bay, Hobart and Catholic Chaplain to the University of Tasmania and former Australian Ambassador to the Netherlands and the Holy See, former Federal Justice Minister and Senator for Tasmania. Cost: \$40. 6.30 for 7.00 pm, Canberra Southern Cross Club, 92-96 Corinna Street, Phillip. Contact: (02) 6201 9814, (02) 6201 9820 or sttmforum@homemail.com.au. Web: <http://www.stthomasmores.cg.catholic.edu.au/parish/parishmain/parishforummain.htm>.

23 JUNE. INAUGURAL MATT LAFFAN MEMORIAL ADDRESS IN SOCIAL JUSTICE

(NSW). In memoriam of the significant impact Matt Laffan had in his short life, Sydney Law School has established an annual social justice address in his honour. It will commence with a recollection of Matt by former Wallabies captain and Sydney Law School alumnus Nick Farr-Jones AM, followed by an address by Graeme Innes AM, Human Rights Commissioner and Disability Discrimination Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission. 5.30 to 7.30 pm, Sydney Law School, Building F10, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney. Contact: (02) 9351 0248 or law.events@usyd.edu.au. Web: <http://www.usyd.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventcategoryid=34&eventid=4149>.

24 JUNE. BOOK LAUNCH: 'BACK ON THE BLOCK: BILL SIMON'S STORY' (NSW). Bill Simon, after leaving Kinchela Boys Home, entered a life of anger, abuse and crime that saw him imprisoned for 5 years. He managed to turn his life around, and brings this story of hope to outreach work with the Aboriginal community in Redfern. A panel discussion celebrates the book including Bill Simon, Redfern pastor; author Mick Mundine, Chair, Redfern Aboriginal Housing Company and Elizabeth Farrelly, writer and architect. Cost \$10, \$7 concession. 6.30 for 7.00 pm, Upstairs @ 49, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe. Contact: (02) 9660 2333 or morgan@gleebooks.com.au. Web: <http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/events4.htm>.

25 JUNE. ONE JUST WORLD FORUM: 'CARBON TRADING EXPOSED: THE IMPACT ON THE WORLD'S POOR' (SA). Climate change has been called the greatest long-term threat that humanity faces. Left unabated, it will impact on everyone, and most significantly on the world's poor. Speakers: Bob McMullan, Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance; April Allderdice, CEO MicroEnergy Credits, USA; Professor Stephen Howes, Crawford School of Economics and Government, Australian National University; and Martijn Wilder, Partner and Head Global Climate Change Team, Baker & McKenzie. No cost. 5.15 for 5.30 pm, Adelaide Town Hall, Auditorium, 128 King William Street, Adelaide. Contact: (08) 8302 0420 or hawkecentre@unisa.edu.au. Web: http://www.unisa.edu.au/hawkecentre/events/2009events/OneJustWorld_June09.asp.

25 - 26 JUNE. CONFERENCE: 'ALTERING STATES - REFORMING THE SYSTEM' (QLD).

The inaugural 'Altering States, Creating Futures' Conference enabled the mental health community sector to create a vision of the mental health system in 2020. This second conference will discuss how to achieve this. Speakers: Martin Knapp, London School of Economics, world leading mental health economist; Deanne Hellsten, Aboriginal mental health nurse; Neasa Martin, International anti-stigma researcher; and Leonie Young, beyondblue. Cost: \$650, concession \$440. The Sofitel, 249 Turbot Street, Brisbane. Contact: (03) 9349 2220 or info@conorg.com.au. Web: <http://www.conorg.com.au/conferences2009/index.html>.

25 - 26 JUNE. CONFERENCE: 'DEALING WITH THE DIASPORA: POLICY FRAMEWORK AND OPTIONS' (NT).

Cultures of communities living outside of their 'home lands' are on the rise and are creating diversity of human settlements of an unprecedented nature. Selected scholars from India and Australia will discuss topics relating to migration, population challenges, family relationships, psychology and many more. The aim of the conference is to examine the policy attempts put forward in the Australian context. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Building Red 6, Room 9 and 10, Charles Darwin University, Casuarina campus, Ellengowan Drive, Casuarina. Contact: (08) 8946 6087 or

ram.vemuri@cdu.edu.au. Web: <http://www.cdu.edu.au/whatson/conferences/eiid/index.html>.

27 JUNE. JRS WINTER SOLSTICE BALL (NSW).

Proceeds from the ball continue to fund the asylum seekers homeless shelter in Kings Cross and the international project this year is providing training for refugee teachers in southern Sudan. There will be live music, prizes and an after party. Cost: \$150. 6:30 pm for 7 pm, Hilton Hotel, 488 George St, Sydney. Contact: 0422 261 114, (02) 9356 3888 or jrsball2009@gmail.com, RSVP essential. Book online: <http://gofundraise.com.au/jrs2009>.

27 JUNE. COURSE: 'BE MORE' (WA). Inspired by the words of Archbishop Oscar Romero 'Aspire not to have more, but to be more', you will be encouraged to 'be more' by making lifestyle changes and taking action for environmental and social justice. Presenter: Janeen Murphy, the Global Education Advisor for Caritas Australia. She has worked in this position for 8 years, including working with Caritas partners 'on the ground' in Uganda, Timor-Leste (East Timor), Cambodia and India. Cost: \$25-\$150. 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, Edmund Rice Institute for Social Justice, 24 High Street, Fremantle. Contact: (08) 9432 2400 or admin@erisj.org.au. Web: http://erisj.org.au/090627_intensive.

28 JUNE. FUNDRAISER UP TO 10 KM RUN: 'RUN MELBOURNE - TEAM DARFUR' (VIC).

You can support TEAM DARFUR and the Darfur Australia Network by sponsoring a friend or family member you know is running for Team Darfur or by making a donation to the DAN Melbourne Appeal. 8.00 am to 1.00 pm, Federation Square, Melbourne. Contact: (03)

8060 5659 or tess@darfuraustralia.org. Donate at: <http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/dan>.

30 JUNE. LECTURE: 'A CHALLENGE TO THE HIP POCKET: EVOKING COMMITMENTS TO SOCIAL JUSTICE' (NSW).

In this Sydney Ideas lecture, Margaret Levi, Professor of Political Science and Bacharach Professor of International Studies, University of Washington will trace the development of the labour movements' participation in social justice campaigns (global and domestic), comparing the US experience to the activities of Australian unions; and reveal how organisations can provoke members' willingness to act beyond material interest. Cost: \$20, \$15 concession. 6.30 pm, Seymour Theatre Centre, University of Sydney, Corner of City Rd and Cleveland St, Chippendale. Contact: (02) 9351 7940. Book online: http://www.usyd.edu.au/sydney_ideas/lectures/2009/challenge_hip_pocket.shtml.

2 - 3 JULY. STEWARDSHIP INSTITUTE OR NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STEWARDSHIP (NSW).

The National Conference on Stewardship will offer advanced workshop sessions on key aspects of stewardship for those already on the stewardship journey. Australian presenters, clergy and laity, with experience in stewardship practices will conduct these conference workshops. There will be two combined sessions when Leisa Anslinger, the guest presenter will address attendees of both the Institute and Conference. Cost: \$250. Campbelltown Catholic Club Convention Centre, 22 Camden Road, Campbelltown. Contact: helen.bennett@woll.catholic.org.au or (02) 4253 0934, RSVP by 18 May. Web: www.australianstewardship.catholic.net.au.

FBT crackdown an attack on charity workers: Quinlan

Catholic Social Services chief Frank Quinlan described a mooted crackdown on fringe benefits for the not-for-profit sector as “a fundamental attack on wages and conditions of employees who are already often being paid below market rates.”

CHA seeks to save health insurance rebate

Catholic Health Australia and health fund HBF launched campaigns against feared budget cuts to the private health insurance rebate, warning cuts will drive out fund members and overload public hospitals.

No vilification laws: Brennan

National human rights charter consultancy head, Jesuit Fr Frank Brennan, moved to dispel concerns by some church leaders that the charter could entail the introduction of federal religious vilification laws.

CSS Victoria urges government to focus on those at risk

Catholic Social Services Victoria welcomed the Victorian Government’s budget focus on vulnerable sections of the community and on investments that are linked to increased employment demand.

Power appeals to Rudd over Tamils

Canberra-Goulburn Auxiliary Bishop Pat Power appealed to Prime Minister Kevin Rudd to intervene on behalf of the civilian Tamil population in Sri Lanka.

Catholics organisations respond to Budget

Catholic Health Australia and Catholic Social Services both gave mixed reactions to the Federal Budget but Vinnies’ President, Syd Tutton, expressed grave concern over those left out in the cold.

One in four students cyberbullied: ACU study

One in four school children experienced cyberbullying, according to research carried out at Australian Catholic University’s Canberra campus.

Quinlan warns on “untargetted” home grant

CSSA executive director, Frank Quinlan, warned that an “untargetted” boost to the First Home Buyers Grant may unleash market forces that make home ownership more difficult for working Australians.

Homeless camp outside Fraser Coast churches

Homeless men are turning Fraser Coast church courtyards into “gypsy camps” overnight as more and more of them hit the streets looking for somewhere suitable to sleep.

Catholic schools reject homophobic bullying

Catholic schools in NSW are combating homophobic bullying with a “hate the sin, love the sinner” approach, Catholic Education Commission policy director Ian Baker told the NSW bullying inquiry last week.

Minimum wage miscalculated: ACCER

The Australian Catholic Council for Employment Relations criticised the Fair Pay Commission for using inaccurate estimates of housing costs for low-income workers in setting the minimum wage.

Congo church commits \$185 million to AIDS fight

The Catholic Church in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is pledging \$A185 million for a three-year program to fight HIV/AIDS, in a nation where some 70,000 children are orphans because of the virus.

Courtesy Church Resources’ CathNews - click on headlines for more detail, or go to <http://cathnews.com>



Social Justice Calendar

3 WED Mabo Day - High Court Decision in Mabo Case, 1992 Catholic and Anglican Martyrs of Uganda, 1886 Day of Prayer for Catholic and Anglican Reconciliation

4 THU International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression Tiananmen Square Massacre, 1989 Day of Social Communications

7 SUN Trinity Sunday

10 WED Myall Creek Massacre, 1838 Alcoholics Anonymous established in New York, 1935

11 THU Assent for Racial Discrimination Act, 1975: the Australian Government ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in 1975 and on this day made it part of Australian Law Neville Bonner becomes the first Aboriginal Australian to hold a seat in Federal Parliament, 1971

12 FRI World Day Against Child Labour Aboriginal Flag first flown in Adelaide, 1971 Barunga Statement presented to Prime Minister Bob Hawke by Aboriginal leaders, 1988

14 SUN Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ) National Refugee Week commences

16 TUE International Day of the African Child

17 WED World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought

19 FRI Equal pay for women in Australia, 1969

20 SAT UN World Refugee Day

21 SUN 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Federal Government announces NT Intervention, 2007

22 MON Destruction of the Berlin Wall, 1989

23 TUE UN Public Service Day

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

28 SUN 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Jubilee Sunday

29 MON Feast of Peter and Paul, Apostles - Close of the Pauline Year

30 TUE Introduction of unemployment benefits in Australia, 1945

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

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.