



## No. 105 – September 2009

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

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

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### FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Dear Friends,

#### Social Justice Sunday - 27 September

As Social Justice Sunday approaches, now is the time to place your orders for the Australian Catholic Bishops' Statement. Parishes, schools and groups can order printed copies (minimum of 10) from the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council. The order form can be found on the ACSJC website: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

Social Justice Sunday is celebrated on 27 September. The title of this year's Social Justice Sunday Statement is 'And You Will Be My Witnesses: Young people and justice'.

Bishop Christopher Saunders, Chairman of the ACSJC, reflecting on the experience of World Youth Day in Sydney during 2008 says, 'There is a challenge for youth and for all of us wrapped up in this wonderful joy and enthusiasm for the Spirit. It is the challenge to persevere in our calling, to remember that as Christians we are a new creation, part of a holy world in which God is not eclipsed or deemed irrelevant

by a secularist ideology, as the Holy Father reminded us. We are called to persevere in witnessing to the magnificence of God's love for us, to act justly in his name and to be agents of hope and peace.'

He emphasises two threads running through this year's Social Justice Sunday Statement. 'The first is the legacy of World Youth Day 2008 and its theme, which tells of the power that the Holy Spirit confers on us and its continuing inspiration. The second thread is the consciousness of how many young people experience deprivation and prejudice in Australia and overseas. As the Statement points out, young people are among the strongest fighters in the cause of justice, but at the same time, they can be among the most vulnerable to injustice.

'This Statement is about youth, but it is for all of us. As the Bishops say, the power the Spirit gives us is the power to change - to change ourselves and in so doing to change the world. As Catholics, we know that that power to change also gives us the responsibility to work for justice and to live and embody the message of the Gospel in everything we do in our lives', Bishops Saunders says.

In this year's Social Justice Sunday Statement, the Catholic Bishops of Australia support young people's commitment to social justice and reassert the central theme of World Youth Day:

*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses. (Acts 1:8)*

The Bishops remind all Catholics of Pope Benedict's challenge during that week:

*What will you leave to the next generation? Are you building your lives on firm foundations, building something that will endure? Are you living your lives in a way that opens up space for the Spirit in the midst of*

*a world that wants to forget God, or even rejects him in the name of a falsely-conceived freedom? How are you using the gifts you have been given, the 'power' which the Holy Spirit is even now prepared to release within you? What legacy will you leave to young people yet to come? What difference will you make?*

The earliest Christians were young women and men who received the Holy Spirit, then went forth to spread the Good News and to care for the most vulnerable. Many young Australians, too, witness to the Gospel as 'ambassadors of hope', as the Pope called them, using their gifts in the service of justice.

Some young people, however, face injustices that prevent them taking up the challenge, leaving them disempowered, excluded and deprived of basic dignity. Of many such issues, the Bishops discuss four: the plight of Indigenous youth, those excluded from employment, the issue of mental health and the prevention of abuse. They also discuss two international concerns: the environment and global justice and development.

At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus tells us that he is sent 'to bring the good news to the poor' and 'to set the downtrodden free' (Luke 4:18-21). After his Resurrection, he offers his disciples peace and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit - the spirit of justice, a core tenet of Christian life and faith.

We seek to enhance the reign of God in our land through forging reconciliation, acting for justice and making peace. We are all bound into the struggle for justice - to see, to judge and to act - and challenged to go forth in the peace of the Holy Spirit, to love and serve the Lord.

Order forms, associated resources and information about the Social Justice Sunday Statement can be found on the ACSJC website: [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

I am grateful for any of efforts of your part to promote this Statement and the celebration of Social Justice Sunday on 27 September.

John Ferguson  
National Executive Officer



## Current Issues / Resources

**STATEMENT: 'ANOINTED AND SENT: AN AUSTRALIAN VISION FOR CATHOLIC YOUTH'**  
Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Youth Ministry has launched a major vision statement for young Catholics. Initiated by the Australian Network of Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinators, the consultation process and subsequent writing of the document was the work of a team of people under the guidance of the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life. Bishop Joseph Grech, the Bishops Delegate for Youth on the Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life describes the importance of youth ministry. 'Young people are a part of our community and we all need to be active in ministry with them to reflect this. There

are many strategies for youth ministry that link to this framework, from the national and diocesan level to youth ministry in parishes and schools. I encourage everyone to use *Anointed and Sent* as a resource for reflection and action, and find ways to meet the goals and the focus areas that fit your community.' The Statement can be accessed at: [www.youthministry.catholic.org.au](http://www.youthministry.catholic.org.au)

**NATSICC 7th NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
'The Holy Spirit in this land', the theme for the 2009 Assembly, on the traditional land of the Turrbal people. The Bardon Conference Centre Brisbane is the venue on the 20th to 25th September. NATSICC

Chairperson, Elsie Heiss says, 'We welcome all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministries, clergy, religious, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Councils, community groups, Catholic Education, Aboriginal youth groups and everyone who has an interest in Aboriginal ministries. We will be celebrating the achievements of our Elders past and present... This will also be a great time for our Aboriginal youth, as there will be special events and programs set in place... Pat Dodson will provide our keynote address...' To download a Registration Booklet and a Sponsorship Prospectus, visit: <http://www.natsicc.org.au/>

### **CREATING A SUSTAINABLE NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE BODY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Tom Calma has released the long awaited Report - Our future in our hands - Creating a sustainable National Representative Body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, which outlines the model designed and developed from 12 months of intensive consultations with Indigenous peoples. In December 2008, Mr Calma was asked by Minister Macklin to convene an independent Indigenous Steering Committee to undertake consultations and develop a model. The establishment of such a body is the most significant step in reconciliation and resetting the relationship between government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples since the National Apology. To access the report, visit: <http://www.hreoc.gov.au/>

### **JUSTICE AND PEACE PETITION FOR DISPLACED SRI LANKANS**

Brisbane's Catholic Justice and Peace Commission has launched a petition campaign to call on the Federal Government to pressure Sri Lanka over its treatment of almost 300,000 Tamil civilians in internment camps. The petition calls for Australia to urge the Sri Lankan Government to allow aid agencies, journalists, diplomats and human rights organisations better access to the camps. Background information and the petition can be downloaded at: <http://cjpcbrisbane.wordpress.com/> (see also: <http://www.cathnews.com/article.aspx?aeid=16018>)

### **PARLIAMENT OF THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS**

The Parliament of the World's Religions is the

world's largest global interreligious event, held once every five years in a different city. The next Parliament will be held in Melbourne from 3 - 9 December 2009. The Melbourne Parliament will bring together more than 8,000 people from around Australia and across the world, including renowned spiritual, religious and political leaders. The theme of the 2009 Parliament, 'Make a World of Difference; Hearing each other, Healing the earth', reflects the urgent need for religious and spiritual communities and all people of goodwill to act on their concerns. For further information, visit: <http://www.parliamentofreligions.org>

### **AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS MEDAL AND AWARD NOMINATIONS**

The AHRC is calling for nominations for 2009 Human Rights Medals and Awards. Nominations are being called for the Human Rights Medal and Young People's Human Rights Medal and seven award categories: Law, Community (Organisation), Community (Individual), Literature (non-fiction), Print Media, Television and Radio. The AHRC website contains all the information, including Award categories, how to enter, judging criteria, previous winners and how to buy a ticket to the awards ceremony. Nominations close on Friday, 2 October, 2009. Winners will be presented with their Medals and Awards at a gala luncheon ceremony to be held on Human Rights Day, Thursday 10 December 2009 at the Sheraton on the Park in Sydney. For further information visit [http://www.humanrights.gov.au/hr\\_awards](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/hr_awards) or contact [hrawards@humanrights.gov.au](mailto:hrawards@humanrights.gov.au) or 02 9284 9618.

### **UN INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR PEACE - 21 SEPTEMBER**

The International Day of Peace, observed each year on 21 September, is a global call for ceasefire and non-violence. It is a time to reflect on the horror and cost of war and the benefits of peacefully resolving our disputes. This year, UN Secretary-General is using the day to ask governments and citizens of the world to focus on the important issues of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. Ban Ki-moon says, 'we must build on this momentum. ... I am launching the WMD-WeMustDisarm! Campaign. ... Between now and 21 September, we will issue 100 reasons to disarm, via Twitter, MySpace, Facebook, email, text message, radio and from friend-to-friend.

As we observe the International Day of Peace with world leaders gathered in New York for the 64th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, I will proclaim one strong, simple message: 'We Must Disarm!' Refer: <http://unama.unmissions.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2109&ctl=Details&mid=2469&ItemID=4368>

#### **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>

#### **MERCY JUSTICE CONFERENCE 6 - 8 NOVEMBER**

The Mercy Justice Conference, 'Embrace the Other and Welcome Difference' will address environmental concerns, the needs of Indigenous communities, refugees and asylum seekers, and the impact of poverty on women.

Conference speakers will include: Mick Dodson, 2009 Australian of the Year; Tim Flannery, Scientist, environmentalist, and writer; Margot O'Neill, Walkley-award winning ABC journalist; Jan Gray RSM, theologian; Maryanne Loughry RSM, Psychologist and refugee worker; Madge McGuire, Director Catherine House Inc.; Denise Coghlan RSM, Social justice and refugee advocate. The conference will be held at Queanbeyan Conference Centre (15 minutes from Parliament House, Canberra). Cost: \$300 (includes lunch, morning & afternoon teas on both days, dinner on Saturday evening). For further info contact: 0408 426 876; [Institute.Justice@mercy.org.au](mailto:Institute.Justice@mercy.org.au). Visit: <http://www.mercy.org.au>

#### **NEW WEBSITE: TASMANIAN CATHOLIC JUSTICE AND PEACE**

The Tasmanian Catholic Justice and Peace Commission recently launched its new website. The Commission promotes awareness and understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and bringing the principles to the lives of the state's parishioners. The website highlights the key principles of human dignity, subsidiarity, solidarity and the common good. Visit: <http://www.hobart.catholic.org.au/TCJPC.html>

## **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](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/PDF/ORDER_FORM.pdf))

#### **2009 SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY STATEMENT - ORDER NOW!**

This year's Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Sunday Statement is entitled 'And You Will Be My Witnesses: Young people and justice'. The ACSJC is now taking orders for the Statement. An order form, summary and other resources are available on the ACSJC website: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

**Prayer Card & Leaflet: Ten steps towards being witnesses to the Gospel.**  
Now available. Call (02) 8306 3499

**Social Justice Sunday Statement Summary, Liturgy Notes, Teachers' Notes**  
- now available or soon available at: [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

#### **ACSJC DISCUSSION GUIDE - CARITAS IN VERITATE**

The ACSJC Discussion Guide reviews key themes of Pope Benedict's new Encyclical *Caritas in Veritate* (Charity in Truth), as well as offering questions for reflection, excerpts for discussion, and prayer. Available in html

and pdf formats on the ACSJC website: [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

### **SERIES PAPER - 'WORK AND DIGNITY'**

The latest paper in the Catholic Social Justice Series (No. 66) is a collection of the Pastoral Letters for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker that have been issued by the Chairman of the ACSJC each year since 1998. Themes in these letters include the nature of a just wage and the vital link between fair pay and family life; the importance of trade unions in the working life of a society; and the wider significance of work in the community. (\$6.60 a copy, plus postage - postage rates listed below)

### **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>

(Catholic Social Justice Series papers: \$6.60 a copy, plus postage. Postage rates for Catholic Social Justice Series Papers: 1 copy \$1; 2 copies \$1.45; 3-5 copies \$2.45)

Orders: phone (02) 8306 3499, fax (02) 8306 3489 or download an order form from the ACSJC website: [http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/PDF/ORDER\\_FORM.pdf](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/PDF/ORDER_FORM.pdf)



## **This Month's Notices**

### **18 JULY - 12 SEPTEMBER. THE GLOBAL POVERTY PROJECT PRESENTATION: '1.4 BILLION REASONS' (INTERNATIONAL).**

Based on leading research, this 90 minute presentation clearly articulates the facts of extreme poverty and demonstrates that by making simple changes everyone can be a part of the solution. The Global Poverty Project is not after money. The presentation explains how everyday actions - in what you learn, say, buy, give and do - can be connected to the ending of extreme poverty. For events, see web: [http://www.globalpovertyproject.com/about\\_us.php](http://www.globalpovertyproject.com/about_us.php).

**20 AUGUST - 18 SEPTEMBER. RAFT ART EXHIBITION (NSW).** Sydney artist Stephen Copland explores the political and social changes that have arisen due to the Tampa crisis as Australia seeks to define its borders and respond to refugees and asylum seekers. Macquarie University Art Gallery, Building E11A, Macquarie University. Contact: [rdavis@vc.mq.edu.au](mailto:rdavis@vc.mq.edu.au). Web: <http://www.artgallery.mq.edu.au/about/events/>.

**26 AUGUST - 11 SEPTEMBER. MULTIMEDIA EXHIBITION: 'BLUEPRINT FOR A BETTER WORLD' (SA).** Caritas Australia and the Australian Government's aid agency, AusAID, are exhibiting this display around Australia. It highlights development goals and the promise of world Governments to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. No cost. Coinda Hall, corner Commercial Road and Flinders Terrace, Port Augusta. Contact: (02) 8306 3457, [evane@caritas.org.au](mailto:evane@caritas.org.au), (02) 8306 3490 or [alanas@caritas.org.au](mailto:alanas@caritas.org.au). Web: <http://www.caritas.org.au/blueprint/exhibition/index.html>.

**1 SEPTEMBER. LORETO BOOK LAUNCH AND MARY WARD LECTURE (WA).** The book 'Loreto in Australia' by Mary Ryllis Clark, UNSW, will be launched by Dr Carolyn Polizzotto. Mary Ward Lecture Presenters: Pat Murray ibvm (Ireland), General Council of the Loreto Sisters, Executive Director of Solidarity with Southern Sudan; and Josephine O'Reilly, writer and actor. 6.30 pm, Loreto Nedlands, 69 Webster Street, Nedlands. Contact: (08) 9386 7009

or [admin@loretonedlands.wa.edu.au](mailto:admin@loretonedlands.wa.edu.au). Web: [http://www.loreto.org.au/about/documents/BookLaunchProgram\\_website09.pdf](http://www.loreto.org.au/about/documents/BookLaunchProgram_website09.pdf).

**1 SEPTEMBER. KINCUMBER SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'BECOMING A COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY...' (NSW).** Presenters: Jenny Macklin, ARAFMI (Association of Relatives and Friends of The Mentally Ill), is passionate about her work with families and aims to reduce the stigma of mental illness, raise awareness within the community, and see greater access to services for consumers and carers. Margaret Wright, Masters Degree in special education, Sunday School teacher and Healing Rooms Minister. 7.30 to 9.00 pm, Kincumber Hotel Function Room, 50 Avoca Drive, Kincumber. Contact: (02) 4367 2743 or (02) 4334 3174. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/spirituality%20in%20the%20pub.htm>.

**1 - 2 SEPTEMBER. AUSTRALASIAN REFUGEE HEALTH CONFERENCE (WA).** This conference will improve understanding of complex refugee health needs. Speakers: Prof Kim Mulholland, Australian paediatrician with extensive experience in developing countries; Dr Jill Benson, Director, Health in Human Diversity Unit, University of Adelaide; and Prof Carmen Lawrence, Professorial Fellow, University of Western Australia and former politician. Cost: \$550. Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre, 21 Mounts Bay Road, Perth. Contact: (02) 9810 8700 or [info@themhs.org](mailto:info@themhs.org). Web: [http://www.health.wa.gov.au/mentalhealth/events/refugee\\_health.cfm](http://www.health.wa.gov.au/mentalhealth/events/refugee_health.cfm).

**1 - 24 SEPTEMBER. EXHIBITION: 'REMEMBERING PINE GAP' (NSW).** An exhibition of banners, posters, photographs and archival material from the Women's Peace Camp at Pine Gap in 1983 will be on display. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney. Contact: [info@nationalwomenslibrary.org.au](mailto:info@nationalwomenslibrary.org.au) or 02 9571 5359. Web: <http://www.nationalwomenslibrary.org.au/>.

**1 SEPTEMBER. DISCUSSION: 'CLOSING THE GAPS: HEALTH, PRISONS AND EDUCATION' (QLD).** This is a series of fortnightly discussions to explore changes with experienced facilitator, Kitty Carra, and invited guests from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

community. People involved in delivering programs in the various sectors will be part of the discussion. Cost: donation. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre, Stanley Place, South Bank. Contact: [office@antarqld.com.au](mailto:office@antarqld.com.au) or 07 3844 9800. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/home/event/21450/>.

**2 SEPTEMBER. CENTRE FOR ABORIGINAL ECONOMIC POLICY RESEARCH (CAEPR) SEMINAR: 'AN ANALYSIS OF INDIGENOUS LABOUR MARKET OUTCOMES' (ACT).** The evidence indicates that education is an important influence on labour market outcomes. Completion of secondary and any level of tertiary education improve labour market outcomes significantly. Speakers: John Salerian, Maurice Glover. 12.30 to 2.00 pm, CAEPR Seminar Room, First Floor, Hanna Neumann Bldg #21, The Australian National University, Canberra. Contact: 02 6125 0587 or [admin.caepr@anu.edu.au](mailto:admin.caepr@anu.edu.au). Web: [http://www.anu.edu.au/caepr/Seminars/09/2009/02\\_9\\_Seminar.php](http://www.anu.edu.au/caepr/Seminars/09/2009/02_9_Seminar.php).

**2 - 4 SEPTEMBER. NATIONAL CONFERENCE: ARACY (AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH) (VIC).** The Conference aims to build links between international and national experts, researchers, policy makers, practitioners, social entrepreneurs, marketers, business and financiers. It will show pathways to success, and showcase preventive innovations that are improving the lives of children and young people. Cost: \$900, concession \$475. Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Normanby Road, Melbourne. Contact: [aracy2009@arinex.com.au](mailto:aracy2009@arinex.com.au). Web: <http://www.aracyconference.org.au/index.php>.

**2 - 4 SEPTEMBER. NATIONAL CONFERENCE: 'IS PRISON OBSOLETE?' (QLD).** The Sisters Inside Conference, on the criminalisation of women and imprisonment, will focus on Service Provision, Advocacy and Alternatives to Prisons. The conference will initiate and support the development of innovative and creative responses to issues affecting women in prison throughout the world. Speakers include: Angela Davis, University of California; Assistant Prof, Gina Dent, University of

California; and Debbie Kilroy, Director, Sisters Inside Inc, former prisoner, Psychotherapist, OAM. Cost: \$200 - \$350. 8.30 am to 4.00 pm, Mercure Hotel, 85 - 87 North Quay, Brisbane. Contact: (07) 3844 5066 or [admin@sistersinside.com.au](mailto:admin@sistersinside.com.au). Web: <http://www.sistersinside.com.au>.

**2 SEPTEMBER. FUNDRAISER: INDIGENOUS LITERACY DAY 'A TRIBUTE TO OODGEROO NOONUCCAL' (NSW).** This fundraiser for the Indigenous Literacy Project will feature readings, music and dance, in celebration of the life of Indigenous writer and activist, Oodgeroo Noonuccal (formerly Kath Walker). All proceeds to the Indigenous Literacy Project. Cost: \$10, concession \$7. 6.00 for 6.30 pm, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe. Contact: 02 9660 2333, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/events4.htm>.

**2 SEPTEMBER. PUBLIC FORUM: 'ASYLUM SEEKERS UNDER THE RUDD GOVERNMENT: WHO IS PUTTING THEIR LIVES AT RISK?' (QLD).** This forum is presented by the Refugee Action Collective. The Rudd government has made some positive reforms to refugee policy, but do these reforms mean that things have changed fundamentally since the Tampa event? Speakers: Ian Rintoul, refugee advocate; Chaman Shah Nasiri, Afghan Hazara refugee, former Nauru detainee; Andrew Bartlett, former senator; and Vijayaraja Alageson, Sri Lankan Tamil refugee. 6.30 pm, 2nd floor, TLC Building, 16 Peel Street, South Brisbane. Contact: 0417 275 713 or 07 3392 3843. Web: <http://www.barc.org.au/cms/index.php>.

**3 - 4 SEPTEMBER. CONFERENCE: NATIONAL HOMELESSNESS SUMMIT (NSW).** Speakers: Hon. David Borger MP, NSW Minister for Housing, Minister for Western Sydney; Mons. David Cappelletti, Commissioner for Social Inclusion in South Australia; Maura Boland, Housing NSW; Penny Gillespie, Housing and Homelessness Services, Queensland Department of Communities and many more. Cost: \$990. 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Citigate Central Hotel, 169 - 179 Thomas Street, Sydney. Contact: (02) 9080 4364 or [alex.hodgson@informa.com.au](mailto:alex.hodgson@informa.com.au). Web: <http://www.acoss.org.au/Events.aspx?displayID=99&articleID=6035>.

**4 SEPTEMBER. LORETO BOOK LAUNCH AND MARY WARD LECTURE (VIC).** The book 'Loreto in Australia' by Mary Ryllis Clark, UNSW, will be launched by The Hon Mary Delahunty. Mary Ward Lecture Presenters: Pat Murray ibvm (Ireland), General Council of the Loreto Sisters, Executive Director of Solidarity with Southern Sudan; and Josephine O'Reilly, writer and actor. This event is hosted by Loreto Mary's Mount and Bayview College, Portland. 6.30 pm, Loreto College, 1600 Sturt Street, Ballarat. Contact: (03) 5329 6100 or [info@loreto.vic.edu.au](mailto:info@loreto.vic.edu.au). Web: [http://www.loreto.org.au/about/documents/BookLaunchProgram\\_website09.pdf](http://www.loreto.org.au/about/documents/BookLaunchProgram_website09.pdf).

**5 SEPTEMBER. EDMUND RICE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE (ERISJ) INTENSIVE: 'WHAT ARE GLOBAL MARKETS DOING TO US AS PERSONS, FAMILIES AND SOCIETY?' (WA).** This Intensive will give you an understanding of - what global free markets are doing to persons, families and societies; the nature of corporate restructuring of work, and its social and psychological impacts for families and communities. Presenter: Associate Professor Rob Lambert 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](mailto:admin@erisj.org.au). Web: [http://erisj.org.au/090905\\_intensive](http://erisj.org.au/090905_intensive).

**7 SEPTEMBER. CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC LAW (CIPL) PUBLIC LECTURE: 'CAMBODIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS: MEMORIES OF A FORMER SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE' (ACT).** Speakers: The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG, Former Justice of the High Court of Australia, Distinguished Visiting Fellow ANU College of Law. 1.00 to 2.00 pm, APCD Theatre, Hedley Bull Centre (bldg 130), corner Balmain Crescent and Liversidge Street, The Australian National University. Contact: 02 6125 0454 or [cipl@law.anu.edu.au](mailto:cipl@law.anu.edu.au). Web: <http://law.anu.edu.au/cipl/events.asp>.

**7, 14, 21 SEPTEMBER. PRESENTATIONS: 'RELATIONSHIPS - A RESTORATIVE JUSTICE MODEL' (TAS).** These three presentations will offer a theoretical background, some practical strategies and a spirituality for a way of achieving right relationships, acting justly, and reconciling differences. Presenter: Sue McGuinness ssj. Cost: \$30. 7.30 to 9.00

pm. Emmanuel Spirituality Centre Moonah.  
Contact: 03 6278 1460, RSVP by 1 September.  
Web: <http://www.hobart.catholic.org.au/whatson.html>.

**9 SEPTEMBER. LECTURE: 'THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS: OPPORTUNITY FOR TRANSFORMATION?' (VIC).** Social Policy Connections presents Dr John Langmore, Professorial Fellow, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Melbourne speaking on the financial crisis. 7.30 pm, New Study Centre, Yarra Theological Union, 98 Albion Rd., Box Hill. Contact: 03 9890 1077. Web: <http://www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au/Events/CurrentSPCEvents/tabid/325/Default.aspx>.

**10 SEPTEMBER. EVENING DISCUSSION: 'CORPORATE CRIME, HUMAN RIGHTS AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS: PREVENTING A REPETITION OF THE JAMES HARDIE SCANDAL' (NSW).** The Evatt Foundation, SAVE Inc and Professor Ron McCallum AO are holding this evening. This seminar, featuring the book, "Killer Company: James Hardie Exposed", will be timely after sentencing of the James Hardie company's former executives and its relocation to Ireland. Speakers: Karen Banton, Widow of asbestos campaigner Bernie Banton; Bob Debus MP, Former NSW Attorney General; Matt Peacock, ABC journalist and author; Ron McCallum AO, Professor of Labour Law, University of Sydney. No cost: 6.30 to 8.30 pm, The Theatre, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney. Contact: [admin@evatt.usyd.edu.au](mailto:admin@evatt.usyd.edu.au) or 02 8090 1170, RSVP by 8 September.

**10 SEPTEMBER. LUNCHEON: 'FUTURING NOW - TODAY'S CHALLENGE' (NSW).** Bishop Patrick Power will address those in attendance at the 2009 WATAC Luncheon. Cost: \$68.12.00 to 2.45 pm, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney. Contact: 02 9520 9409, RSVP by 1 September. Web: <http://www.watac.net/upcomingevents.php>.

**12 SEPTEMBER. CONFERENCE: 'CATHOLICS IN AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC LIFE SINCE 1788' (NSW).** The Australian Catholic Historical Society is organizing this conference covering issues including: church-state relations; the place of the churches, individuals and their faith in

public life; advocacy for religious and social justice objectives; church involvement in politics, education, healthcare, social welfare, the mass media. Speaker: Fr Edmund Campion. Cost: \$80, students \$50. 9.30 am to 5.00 pm, Catholic Institute of Sydney, 99 Albert Road, Strathfield. Contact: [jluttrell@cis.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jluttrell@cis.catholic.edu.au) or 02 9752 9513. Web: <http://www.australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au/events/2009conference.html>.

**12 - 15 SEPTEMBER. TRAINING: 'VOICES FOR JUSTICE' (ACT).** Micah Challenge is offering advocacy training, biblical teaching, workshops, worship and prayer - and a chance to put all these things into practice by creatively engaging with our nation's leaders together in events, workshops, forums and meetings at Parliament House. Young or old, beginner or experienced, all are welcome to speak up for justice for the world's poor. Cost: \$195 or \$150 unwaged. Canberra. Contact: [info@micahchallenge.org.au](mailto:info@micahchallenge.org.au) by 17 August. Web: <http://www.micahchallenge.org.au/voices-justice>.

**14 SEPTEMBER. LAUNCH: 'POVERTY AND JUSTICE BIBLE' (ACT).** Micah Challenge Australia warmly invites you to this Voices for Justice 09 event at Parliament House. Rev Tim Costello, CEO of World Vision Australia, will launch of a special edition of the Bible highlighting key passages about our responsibility to work for justice. 7.30 to 9.00 am, The Great Hall, Parliament House Canberra. Cost: \$35 including breakfast. RSVP essential by 4 September to [peter.keegan@micahchallenge.org.au](mailto:peter.keegan@micahchallenge.org.au) or 02 9212 4499

**15 SEPTEMBER. DEBATE: 'OUR IMMIGRATION RATE IS TOO HIGH' (NSW).** For the motion: Hon Bob Carr, former Premier NSW; Professor Tim Flannery, world-renowned scientist, author, explorer, Australian of the Year in 2007; and Professor Bob Birrell, Director, Centre for Population and Urban Research, Arts, Monash University. Against the motion: Professor Helen Hughes, Centre for Independent Studies; Tom Keneally, author 'Schindler's Ark'; and Tanveer Ahmed, psychiatry registrar and opinion columnist, The Sydney Morning Herald. Cost: \$30, concession \$20. 6.30 pm, City Recital Hall Angel Place, 2-12 Angel Place, Sydney. Contact: 02 8256 2222. Web: <http://www>.



[cityrecitalhall.com/events/id/404/Our-current-immigration-rate-is-too-high/](http://cityrecitalhall.com/events/id/404/Our-current-immigration-rate-is-too-high/).

**15 SEPTEMBER. DISCUSSION: ‘SAMSON AND DELILAH: ARE WE LISTENING?’ (QLD).** This is a series of fortnightly discussions to explore changes with experienced facilitator, Kitty Carra, and invited guests from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. People involved in delivering programs in the various sectors will be part of the discussion. Cost: donation. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre, Stanley Place, South Bank. Contact: [office@antarqld.com.au](mailto:office@antarqld.com.au) or 07 3844 9800. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/home/event/21450/>.

**15 SEPTEMBER. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB: ‘FIGHTING POVERTY: THE POWER OF THE GRASSROOTS’ (ACT).** Caritas Australia invites you hear one of today’s most politically, economically and socially influential people and a champion of international aid and development, Ms. Lesley-Anne Knight, Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis. Caritas Internationalis is one of the world’s largest networks of organisations providing direct assistance to the poor, and providing a voice on behalf of the poor to the world’s decision makers. Lesley-Anne is a member of the United Nations’ Steering Committee for Humanitarian Relief and is a speaker at World Economic Forums and at G8 government ‘think tanks’. Cost: \$75. Lunch from 11.45 am, National Press Club, Canberra. Contact: 02 8306 3428. Web: [http://www.caritas.org.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=What\\_s\\_on](http://www.caritas.org.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=What_s_on).

**15 SEPTEMBER. PRIOLETTI CONSULTANTS FORUM: ‘BEYOND THE VEIL. A CROSS CULTURAL FORUM - UNDERSTANDING ISLAM, THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY AND IMPACT ON SERVICES’ (VIC).** This short forum will provide participants with an understanding of the Muslim community and barriers which prevent service access. Speakers: Mrs Manar Chelebi, Executive Officer, Australian Council for Islamic Education in Schools and Diversity Consultant; and Mr. Yasser Soliman, President of Islamic Family and Child Care Agency. Cost: \$55.00. 9.30 am to 12.00 pm, Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre, corner Bell Street and St Georges Road, Preston. Contact: [josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au](mailto:josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au), 03 9038 9292 or

0438 846 584. Web: [http://www.field.org.au/infocast09/prioletti/Beyond\\_the\\_veil\\_sept.pdf](http://www.field.org.au/infocast09/prioletti/Beyond_the_veil_sept.pdf).

**16 SEPTEMBER. DINNER SPEAKER: ‘FIGHTING POVERTY: THE POWER OF THE GRASSROOTS’ (NSW).** Caritas Australia invites you hear one of today’s most politically, economically and socially influential people and a champion of international aid and development, Ms. Lesley-Anne Knight, Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis. Caritas Internationalis is one of the world’s largest networks of organisations providing direct assistance to the poor, and providing a voice on behalf of the poor to the world’s decision makers. Lesley-Anne is a member of the United Nations’ Steering Committee for Humanitarian Relief and is a speaker at World Economic Forums and at G8 government ‘think tanks’. Cost: \$100. Dinner from 6.30 pm, Sydney. Contact: 02 8306 3428. Web: [http://www.caritas.org.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=What\\_s\\_on](http://www.caritas.org.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=What_s_on).

**16 SEPTEMBER. FORUM: ‘WHAT TO DO ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE: THROUGH THE ETHICAL LOOKING GLASS’ (ACT).** Christians for an Ethical Society (CES) are holding this forum that addresses the ethical issues around climate change. The speakers will be Dr Paul Collins and Vanessa Morris. Speakers: Paul Collins, Australian National Committee for the Earth Charter and Vanessa Morris, Executive Officer, SEE-Change. Cost: \$5 donation. 7.30 pm, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, corner Kings Avenue and Blackall Street, Barton. Contact: 02 6291 4537 or [chair@ces.org.au](mailto:chair@ces.org.au). Web: <http://www.nswec.org.au/events.php?id=86&c=-1&PHPSESSID=6d02d715177e3f3a154446977ae9adda>.

**17 SEPTEMBER. 2009 HAL WOOTTEN LECTURE: ‘HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY’ (NSW).** Hina Jilani is a remarkable lawyer and a remarkable woman who has fought courageously, inspirationally and imaginatively for human rights for over 30 years. She is an Advocate of the High Court and of the Supreme Court of Pakistan. 6.00 pm, Lecture Theatre G04, Law Building, University of New South Wales Kensington Campus. Registrations at [http://www.law.unsw.edu.au/others/reg/hal\\_wootten\\_2009.asp](http://www.law.unsw.edu.au/others/reg/hal_wootten_2009.asp).

**17 SEPTEMBER. BOOK LAUNCH: MY ISRAEL QUESTION: 3RD EDITION (NSW).** At this event, Antony Loewenstein, author, will have just returned from the Middle East and will chat with Paul McGeough, just back from Afghanistan. Loewenstein and McGeough are the foremost Australian journalists and writers covering these war-torn, troubled countries. Their conversation will be about the Israel question, and what's happening on the ground in Palestine and Afghanistan. Cost: \$10, concession \$7. 6.30 for 7.00 pm, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe. Contact: 02 9660 2333. Web: <http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/events4.htm>.

**19 SEPTEMBER. 2009 MIGRATION COMMUNITY FORUM (SA).** This forum for community supporters of migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and bridging visa holders provides up to date knowledge of information and services available across South Australia. The workshops and lectures from experienced practitioners bring cultural issues and practice into focus, offering ways to improve your work while caring for yourself and others. Cost: \$15. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Hawke Building, Level 5, UniSA City West Campus, 50 North Terrace, Adelaide. Contact: 08 8100 4608 or [saitrs@redcross.org.au](mailto:saitrs@redcross.org.au), RSVP essential. Web: [http://www.redcross.org.au/sa/media/Forum\\_information\\_pack.pdf](http://www.redcross.org.au/sa/media/Forum_information_pack.pdf).

**20 - 25 SEPTEMBER. NATSICC ASSEMBLY: 'THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THIS LAND' (QLD).** The NATSICC Assembly aims to help Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders move forward in their Catholic faith, supporting youth on their journey, strengthening our relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit. It is a time to celebrate the achievements of Elders past and present, with the honour roll, 'Celebrating the Spirit'. There are special programs set in place for Aboriginal youth. There will be a presentation on the pioneering people of the Aboriginal Islander Catholic Council. Speaker: Pat Dodson. Cost: \$550. Bardon Conference Centre, 390 Simpsons Road, Bardon. Contact: 07 5528 2501 or [register@astmanagement.com.au](mailto:register@astmanagement.com.au). Web: <http://www.astmanagement.com.au/natsicc9/Default.ASP>.

**20 - 27 SEPTEMBER. EXPERIENCE: 'REFUGEE CAMP IN YOUR CITY' (SA).** Médecins Sans Frontières' (MSF) 1000m<sup>2</sup> replica camp, will give people the chance to walk into a camp site modeled on refugee camps in countries such as Chad and Sudan. Experienced field staff will lead tours and tell their stories about camp life and the vulnerability of life for people who have fled their homes. An information night for people interested in working for MSF is on 23 September. No cost. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Victoria Square, Adelaide. Contact: 03 9670 8350, [jackie.cooper@redagency.com](mailto:jackie.cooper@redagency.com), 03 9670 8350 or [genevieve.wallis@redagency.com.au](mailto:genevieve.wallis@redagency.com.au). Web: <http://refugeecamp.msf.org.au/>.

**21 SEPTEMBER. PEACE VIGIL: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE.**

Coordinated by the Ministry for Peace, the vigil marks the United Nations' global call for ceasefire and non-violence. It will be spectacular with 194 flags of every country in the world, presentations by leaders from all religions and consul generals on what peace is to their country, and performances by students from over 40 schools. There will be singing, dancing, story-telling, reading from sacred texts, yoga demonstrations etc. 6.00 am to 8.00 pm, Martin Place, Sydney CBD. Contact: 0437 528 142 or 0401 753 790. Web: <http://www.ministryforpeace.org.au>.

**21 - 24 SEPTEMBER. ROCKHAMPTON DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY: 'FANNING THE FLAME' (QLD).** This Assembly reminds us of God's call, not merely to receive the gift of faith but to nurture it and hand it on to others. Speakers: Fr John Chalmers, Mrs Mary Lock, and Fr Kevin Hennessy CP. Cost: \$265. St Brendan's College, Yeppoon. Contact: 07 4931 3656 or [k.page@rok.catholic.edu.au](mailto:k.page@rok.catholic.edu.au). Web: <http://www.rok.catholic.net.au/2009Assembly/default.html>.

**22 SEPTEMBER. ERISJ: FREE INFORMATION NIGHT (WA).** You will discover ERISJ's vision and direction; volunteering opportunities with ERISJ; and Social Justice education and training courses. Bring a friend! No cost. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, 24 High Street, Fremantle. Contact: 08 9432 2400 or [admin@erisj.org.au](mailto:admin@erisj.org.au), RSVP essential for catering. Web: <http://erisj.org.au/freeinfonight>

**23 SEPTEMBER. CAEPR SEMINAR: THE SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHY OF THE FITZROY VALLEY ABORIGINAL POPULATION (ACT).** This seminar will present some preliminary findings from the Fitzroy Valley Population Project, undertaken for the Fitzroy Futures Forum under the auspices of Marninwarntikura Women's Resource Centre based in Fitzroy Crossing. Speaker: Frances Morphy. 12.30 to 2.00 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](mailto:admin.caepr@anu.edu.au). Web: [http://www.anu.edu.au/caepr/Seminars/09/2009/23\\_9\\_Seminar.php](http://www.anu.edu.au/caepr/Seminars/09/2009/23_9_Seminar.php).

**23 - 24 SEPTEMBER. CONFERENCE: 'GOOD > BETTER > BEST - CHANGES IN PUBLIC INTEGRITY' (ACT).** The Commonwealth Ombudsman's highly anticipated 2009 conference brings together policy makers, legal practitioners, community representatives and other expert guest speakers representing public integrity and human rights agencies, and state and industry ombudsman schemes. Cost: \$385. Hotel Realm, 18 National Circuit, Barton. Contact: 02 6276 0111 or [conference2009@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto:conference2009@ombudsman.gov.au). Web: [http://www.ombudsman.gov.au/good\\_better\\_best/](http://www.ombudsman.gov.au/good_better_best/).

**26 SEPTEMBER. FAIR TRADE FAIR (NSW).** Markets including a range of stallholders selling FAIRTRADE certified products as well as fairly traded products, good food, music, entertainment and kids activities. 10.00 am, Baulkham Hills Baptist Church, 39 Sarah Crescent, Baulkham Hills. Contact: [baukobaps\\_fairtrade@hotmail.com](mailto:baukobaps_fairtrade@hotmail.com).

**29 SEPTEMBER. DINNER SPEAKER: 'FIGHTING POVERTY: THE POWER OF THE GRASSROOTS' (VIC).** Caritas Australia invites you hear one of today's most politically, economically and socially influential people and a champion of international aid and development, Ms. Lesley-Anne Knight, Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis. Caritas Internationalis is one of the world's largest networks of organisations providing direct assistance to the poor, and providing a voice on behalf of the poor to the world's decision makers. Lesley-Anne is a member of the United Nations' Steering

Committee for Humanitarian Relief and is a speaker at World Economic Forums and at G8 government 'think tanks'. Cost: \$150. Dinner from 6.30 pm, Melbourne. Contact: 02 8306 3428. Web: [http://www.caritas.org.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=What\\_s\\_on](http://www.caritas.org.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=What_s_on).

**1 OCTOBER. TALK: FR SACHA BERMUDEZ-GOLDMAN, DIRECTOR, JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE (NSW).** The Inner Sydney Catholic Social Justice Group presents Fr Sacha Bermudez-Goldman SJ, Director of Jesuit Refugee Service Australia, speaking about the work of JRS and the Church's response to the refugee crisis worldwide. Meals and refreshment are available at the Café. Cost: gold coin donation (or more if you can!). 7.00 pm, Fair Trade Café, 33 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe 2037. Contact: 0408 251 849. Web: <http://sites.google.com/site/sydneysocialjustice>.

**2 - 4 OCTOBER. PARISHES ON FIRE CONFERENCE (VIC).** The aim of the Conference is to assist parishioners to share their faith with one another, and to learn how to bring others to faith in Jesus Christ. Bishop Tim Costelloe will open the conference. Speakers: Fr Gerard Kelly and Monica McArdle, members of the Sion Community UK which specialises in evangelising activities in parishes and schools. Parish Hall, St Scholastica's Parish, 348 Burwood Highway, Bennettswood. Contact: [acommade@bigpond.net.au](mailto:acommade@bigpond.net.au), [mfpax7@hotmail.com](mailto:mfpax7@hotmail.com), 03 9808 8483 or 03 93372051. Web: <http://www.cam.org.au/whats-on/parishes-on-fire-conference.html>.

**3 - 11 OCTOBER. EXPERIENCE: 'REFUGEE CAMP IN YOUR CITY' (VIC).** Médecins Sans Frontières' (MSF) 1000m2 replica camp, will give people the chance to walk into a camp site modeled on refugee camps in countries such as Chad and Sudan. Experienced field staff will lead tours and tell their stories about camp life and the vulnerability of life for people who have fled their homes. An information night for people interested in working for MSF is on 15 October. No cost. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Treasury Gardens, Wellington Parade, East Melbourne. Contact: 03 9670 8350, [jackie.cooper@redagency.com](mailto:jackie.cooper@redagency.com), 03 9670 8350 or [genevieve.wallis@redagency.com.au](mailto:genevieve.wallis@redagency.com.au). Web: <http://refugeecamp.msf.org.au/>.

**5 - 23 OCTOBER. MULTIMEDIA EXHIBITION: 'BLUEPRINT FOR A BETTER WORLD' (SA).** Caritas Australia and the Australian Government's aid agency, AusAID, are exhibiting this display around Australia. It highlights the Millennium Development Goals and the promise of world Governments to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by

2015. No cost. The Migrant Resource Centre of SA, Edmund Wright Building, 59 King William Street, Adelaide. Contact: (02) 8306 3457, [evane@caritas.org.au](mailto:evane@caritas.org.au), (02) 8306 3490 or [alanas@caritas.org.au](mailto:alanas@caritas.org.au). Web: <http://www.caritas.org.au/blueprint/exhibition/index.html>.

## News Monitor

### Mary Aikenhead Ministries launches

The Sisters of Charity established a new lay arm, Mary Aikenhead Ministries, to succeed the religious order's work in various health and aged care, education and some welfare ministries into the future.

### Mercy conference spotlights social justice issues

The Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia are planning a "Mercy and Justice Conference" that will look at urgent social justice issues, featuring an array of speakers including 2009 Australian of the Year Mick Dodson.

### Church would defy loss of exemptions

Church agencies need to take account of religion in staffing decisions and must deliver services true to Catholic teaching, Catholic Social Services told a Victorian equal opportunity review. The Presbyterian Church warned that exemption removal could lead to a church-state conflict.

### "Yes" to smacking being a criminal offence in NZ: Caritas

Caritas Aotearoa NZ, the Catholic social justice agency, is voting "yes" to a citizen initiated referendum that asks: "Should a smack as part of good parental correction be a criminal offence in New Zealand?"

### Church takes lead in PNG's AIDS fight

The Catholic Church in Papua New Guinea wants to take the lead in the fight against the HIV virus by preventing the spread in the country's rural areas.

### Exemptions protect our freedoms: religious schools

Catholic, Jewish, Muslim and Christian schools said losing their right to refuse to hire staff of a different faith would represent an erosion of religious freedoms.

### Health plan to help the disadvantaged

Catholic Health Australia is developing a plan to combine its hospitals, medical clinics and social services into a network offering free support programs for the community's most disadvantaged, under a new "Medicare Select" proposal.

### Put ethics back into business: Vatican economist

A "moral deficit" is at the root of the current state of the global economic affairs, said Vatican economist Thomas Han Hong-soon. Christians, he said, must bear in mind that capitalism without ethical grounding will collapse.

### Be responsible creation stewards: Pope

Pope Benedict said world leaders should address global environmental issues "with generous courage", that humankind is called to responsible governance of creation and the current model of global development needs transformation.

### Smart meters set to increase power bills

The St Vincent de Paul Society said that household power bills could spike by some 35 to 42 percent with the introduction of time

based smart metering, to begin in 10 days' time in Victoria.

#### Vatican urges help and respect for migrants

The Vatican and Italian bishops are urging authorities to guarantee rescue, medical help and respect to migrants, following a recent case of more than 70 deaths, from hunger and thirst, of Eritrean migrants trying to reach Europe from North Africa.

#### Petition for displaced Sri Lankan Tamils

Brisbane's Catholic Justice and Peace Commission launched a petition campaign to call on the Federal Government to pressure Sri Lanka over its treatment of almost 300,000 Tamil civilians in internment camps.

#### Just recompense to Aboriginal people necessary: Anglican theologian

Principal of the Anglican theological Ridley College, Dr Peter Adam, said Christians must consider appropriate recompense to Australia's Aboriginal peoples, who suffered European colonisation, church planting and nation-building.

#### Order of Australia petition for East Timor

Some 14,500 people signed a petition organised by the Mary MacKillop East Timor Mission supporting the nomination of Timor-Leste for the award of Companion of the Order of Australia (Honorary). It will be presented to parliament next month.

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



## Social Justice Calendar

### 1 TUE

National Wattle Day  
Biodiversity Month  
National Landcare Week commences

### 2 WED

Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation Act, 1991

### 5 SAT

Death of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, 1997

### 6 SUN

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Fathers Day

### 7 MON

National Threatened Species Day (last Tasmanian tiger in captivity died in Hobart Zoo, 1936)

### 8 TUE

Birth of Mary, Mother of Jesus (Feast)  
International Literacy Day

### 11 FRI

Terrorist attack on New York and Washington DC, 2001

### 12 SAT

Death of Steve Biko, 1977

### 13 SUN

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### 14 MON

Triumph of the Cross (Feast)

### 15 TUE

Racial Hatred Act, Australia, 1995

### 16 WED

Int Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

### 18 FRI

Death of Dag Hammarskjold, 1961

### 20 SUN

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### 21 MON

UN International Day of Peace

### 23 WED

Australian Consumers Association launched, 1959

**27 SUN**

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Social Justice Sunday  
Feast of Saint Vincent de Paul (may be transferred)  
Aung San Suu Kyi (Burma) forms National League for Democracy, 1988

**28 MON**

Green Consumer Day

Death of John Pat in Roeburne Prison WA, 1983, initiated the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody

**30 WED**

World Maritime Day  
Racial Discrimination Act proclaimed, Australia, 1975

*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](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/content/publications/social_justice_calendar.html), or call 02 8306 3499.*

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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.