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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,

The latest encyclical of Pope Benedict XVI has been issued, *Caritas in Veritate* (*Charity in Truth*). It is the latest in the great series of social encyclicals stretching back to Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum* of 1891.

We don't have the space here to summarise this encyclical. For now, I want to mention some important points and invite you to look at the ACSJC's discussion guide and the official summary, and if possible to read the document yourselves. (Links to the ACSJC discussion guide, the Vatican summary and the encyclical can be found at the end of this article).

The Holy Father addresses the challenges of an increasingly globalised world: the growing gap between the poorest and the richest; insatiable consumerism; a financial crisis born of a morality that is not centred on humanity; and the search for a way of using earth's resources wisely and economically.

He repeatedly refers to Pope Paul VI's great encyclical *Populorum Progressio*

(1967), and especially to one of Pope Paul's central concepts: the idea of *development*. Development, both Paul and Benedict say, is not just material enrichment of people and communities. It embraces every aspect of human growth, material, spiritual and cultural.

Development also raises the issue of respect for and acceptance of life. 'Openness to life is at the centre of true development', Benedict says. A society that denies or suppresses life cannot find the 'motivation and energy to strive for man's true good' (n 28).

Development is such an all-embracing concept because of the central importance of 'the human person in his or her integrity', who is 'the source, the focus and the aim of all economic and social life' (n 25). The market and the economy, for example, do not exist for themselves; they exist for human beings.

So it is vital that the market does not become 'the place where the strong subdue the weak' (n 36). The Pope also attacks the idea that the market economy has 'an inbuilt need for a quota of poverty and underdevelopment in order to function at its best'. That is contrary to the idea of an economy that exists for the good of humanity. The misuse of finance has wreaked havoc: now finance needs to go back to being 'an instrument directed towards improved wealth creation and development'. 'Financiers must rediscover the genuinely ethical foundation of their activity', the Pope says (n 65).

Pope Benedict also discusses the complex issue of international aid, which, he reminds us, is a way of creating wealth for all. There are two stumbling blocks here. First, such aid can sometimes 'lock people into a state of dependence' and even give rise to oppression and exploitation. Second, the aid must be for the good of the communities it is directed towards, and not have secondary objectives.

Remember also how vital international trade is to poorer nations. 'The possibility of marketing their products is very often what guarantees their survival in both the short and long term', says Pope Benedict. 'Just and equitable international trade in agricultural goods can be beneficial to everyone, both to suppliers and to customers.' (n 58)

So Pope Benedict takes a global, internationalist view of the issues we face, and calls for the reform of the United Nations and international economic and financial institutions to strengthen the concept of the family of nations. That is not to say that he ignores the rights of communities and nationalities - in fact he defends them. He speaks of 'the profound significance of the culture of different nations, of the traditions of the various peoples', by which the individual defines him or herself 'in relation to life's fundamental questions' (n 26).

Related to this is the scale of modern migration - a phenomenon 'of epoch-making proportions that requires bold, forward-looking policies of international cooperation if it is to be handled effectively'. We need to safeguard the interests both of migrants and their host countries - and to remember the benefits that these migrants bring to their hosts and to their countries of origin (n 62).

The Pope also speaks of our relationship with our natural environment, 'God's gift

to everyone', which 'expresses a design of love and truth'. 'In our use of it we have a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations and towards humanity as a whole' (n 48).

Pope Benedict begins his encyclical by reminding us that Charity is a virtue that sums up the whole of the Law and is at the heart of the Church's social doctrine: It is 'an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace. It is a force that has its origin in God, Eternal Love and Absolute Truth' (n 1). For all who are committed to justice, those are words that should be recalled every day.

The text of *Caritas in Veritate* can be found at: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/encyclicals/documents/hf_ben-xvi_enc_20090629_caritas-in-veritate_en.html

The ACSJC Discussion Guide can be found at: http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/CONTENT/publications/positionPapers/positionPapers_13_07_09.html.

The Vatican summary of the Encyclical can be found at: <http://www.zenit.org/article-26387?l=english>

John Ferguson
National Executive Officer



Current Issues / Resources

4 CORNERS: 'HOLY CASH COWS'

The Four Corners investigation, aired on 27 July, reveals the exploitation of overseas students by disreputable migration agents and unregulated sections of the education industry. It also highlights the apparent inaction of officials and departments of Commonwealth and State Governments who have long known of the injustices perpetrated against vulnerable individuals and their families back home. For the sake of Australia's international reputation, but - more importantly - out of a sense of dignity and a duty of care for the

people Australia has brought to this country as paying students or workers to meet skills shortages, the onus is on Government to take concerted action to protect and compensate those who have been exploited.

Reporter Wendy Carlisle says, 'India is one of the main buyers of Australian education - after coal and iron ore, it's our third biggest export earner. But Australia's education exports face much deeper problems than safety issues, there's now a rising clamour over dodgy courses, student rip-offs and an education

system that's turned into a visa factory'. The transcript of the program can be accessed at: <http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/content/2009/s2637800.htm>

REPORT: 'LOCKED OUT'

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre has released a position paper on homelessness among asylum seekers living in the community. The paper, to be formally launched this month, reveals how asylum seekers who have applied for protection can live for years in the community without stable accommodation and without access to any mainstream housing services. A recurring theme throughout this paper is their lack of access to housing services, and the inadequacy of current responses. The purpose of this paper is to advocate and work constructively towards better practices and processes to include asylum seekers in the national effort to address homelessness. Among the key issues are inadequacies in emergency and transitional accommodation and no current entry point to access mainstream support. The report can be accessed at: <http://www.asrc.org.au/>

GOOD SAMS - PACIFIC CALLING PARTNERS

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan and The Pacific Calling Partnership are conducting a Leadership Skills Training Program in Torres Strait in August and in Kiribati in October 2009. They will then take a delegation of eight reps to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, in Copenhagen, in December. Preparations will be made for a presentation to be made on behalf of the peoples of these regions regarding the dire effects of climate change now and in the future. Any contribution you can make, no matter how small, would be gratefully received by the organisers of this important work for justice. For details about how to make a donation, contact Sr Geraldine Kearney, Delegate for Social Responsibility for Sisters of the Good Samaritan and Pacific Calling Partnership, 9 Avenue Rd, Glebe Point, NSW, 2037 or call (02) 8752 5300.

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

BOOK: 'WHAT CAN THE CHURCH SAY?'

In his new book in politics and religion in contemporary Australia, Fr Andrew Murray SM discusses the conflict between politicians and church leaders over issues such as the treatment of asylum seekers, war in Iraq and the nature of terrorism. The issue of how political conservatism has impeded the rightful place of the Church speaking on social issues (when it suits particular politicians) is discussed from the time of the Alexander Downer's well-known Playford Lecture. The address of Sir William Deane's at the launch of the 2003 Social Justice Sunday Statement is recounted as a rebuff to Downer's views. The publication draws on the history of philosophy to justify the place of the Church in the public sphere. It also considers the place of political and social issues in the preaching. It has been produced by St Pauls Publications as part of its 'Windows Into...' series. Cost: \$12.95 Refer: <http://www.stpauls.com.au/product/2782>

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/>

NAIDOC AWARD TO ELSIE HEISS

The National NAIDOC Awards pay tribute to the outstanding contributions that Indigenous individuals make to their communities, chosen fields and the broader Australian society. Among this year's recipients, Elsie Heiss has been named joint winner of the Female Elder of the Year Award. A media statement issued by NAIDOC says, 'Aunty Elsie has worked as a coordinator of the Aboriginal Catholic Church Ministries for the past 20 years. She has built bridges between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities through hundreds of speeches on such topics as Aboriginal spirituality, the Stolen Generations, Reconciliation and justice... As Chair of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council, Aunty Elsie played a major role in representing the Aboriginal community during World Youth Day in 2008... Aunty Elsie's passion is educating the wider Australian community in understanding Aboriginal people, culture and history. Her knowledge and experience has seen her appointed to many boards and committees including the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Ecumenical council of NSW and Catholic Earth care Australia.' To access the media statement, visit: http://www.naidoc.org.au/NAIDOC-media-releases/11_july_2009.aspx

From all of us - Congratulations Elsie!

PETITION ON NT INTERVENTION

Following the recent Statement of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ecumenical Commission (calling for structural change in the Emergency Response and for the right of Aboriginal Peoples to all be involved at all levels and stages of developing just and right solutions for community issues) and as Prof. James Anaya, UN Rapporteur on Human Rights prepares to visit Australia in mid-August, groups of church leaders, religious and lay people are writing to him for support in

the call for the Racial Discrimination Act to be reinstated in the Northern Territory and for a new truly consultative approach to be adopted for the intervention which ensures sustainable community development. Further information and a copy of the petition is available on the Social Policy Connections website: <http://www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au/>

CHURCHES ENTER DEBATE ON MINING

The leadership of the Anglican, Catholic and Uniting Churches on the Darling Downs have raised community concerns about the likely impact of mining activity on prime agricultural land. They are calling for a regional plan identifying areas open to mining and areas protecting sustainable agriculture and food production. 'As communities of faith we stand in solidarity with those farmers who fear for their security and future way of life...When we consider future planning or development our primary question should be, "What is happening to the people?" rather than "What is happening to the economy?"... We have concerns that the proposed coal mines will have an irreversible damaging impact on the soil and the people of Haystack Plains and Felton. Bishops William Morris, Rob Nolan and Minister Sharon Kirk are urging the Queensland Government to find alternatives to coal mining in the region. For the media statement and coverage, visit: <http://www.tsjc.org/index.php?id=3400>; <http://www.cathnews.com/article.aspx?aeid=15203>; <http://qcl.farmonline.com.au/news/state/agribusiness-and-general/general/church-weighs-into-mining-vs-farming-debate/1569744.aspx?storypage=0>

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 or contact hrawards@humanrights.gov.au or 02 9284 9618.

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>

POSITION VACANT - COMMUNITY PROJECT OFFICER

Asian Women at Work Inc (AWatW), in partnership with the Network of Immigrant and Refugee Women of Australia Inc (NIRWA), is seeking a Community Projects Officer for 15 hours a week, to carry out the 'Raising the Voice of Migrant Women Workers in Precarious Employment' project. The project runs for one year and will involve: consultation with migrant women workers; convening a Migrant Women's Forum; the provision of training and convening meetings with key stakeholders. The job is based in Bankstown, Sydney. The Project is funded by the Office for Women, 2008-09 Leadership and Development Program Grants program of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs. Applications close Monday 3rd August. For further information contact Debbie Carstens - coordinator@awatw.org.au, or 0437 879 442.

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)

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>

COMPENDIUM OF SOCIAL INCLUSION INDICATORS

The Australian Social Inclusion Board has released a 'Compendium of Social Inclusion Indicators'. This represents an important first step towards a comprehensive performance measurement and evaluation of social inclusion in Australia. It has been developed by the Board to generate discussion and debate on the question of how to measure disadvantage and social exclusion. It includes indicators

developed in the EU and supplementary Australian measures, to draw a picture of how people are doing on issues such as income, access to the job market, social supports and networks, effects of the local neighbourhood, access to services and health. To access the Compendium, visit: <http://www.socialinclusion.gov.au/AusGov/Board/Pages/default.aspx>

ACSJC DISCUSSION GUIDE - CARITAS IN VERITATE

Pope Benedict XVI has issued the encyclical *Caritas in Veritate* (*Charity in Truth*). The encyclical addresses the challenges of an increasingly globalised world: the growing gap between the poorest and the richest, consumerism focused on 'having more' rather than 'being more', a financial crisis born of a morality that is not centred on humanity, and the search for a way of using earth's resources wisely and economically. The ACSJC Discussion Guide reviews key themes of the Encyclical, 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

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>

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)

(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

This Month's Notices

26 JUNE - 29 AUGUST. EXHIBITION: 'ECHOES OF BLACKTOWN, FIRST CONTACT, HISTORY OF BLACKTOWN'S FIRST PEOPLE - THE DARUG' (NSW). Blacktown City Council and Arts NSW present this exhibition which explores stories of the Darug people, the traditional owners of this land, who are intrinsically linked to this place by name, history and cultural significance. No cost. 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, Tuesday to Saturday, Blacktown Arts Centre, 78 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown. Contact: (02) 9839 6558 or visitor@blacktown.nsw.gov.au. Web: <http://www.artscentre.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/exhibition/blackstown.cfm>.

18 JULY - 19 AUGUST. 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.

28 JULY - 15 AUGUST. PUBLIC LECTURES AND RETREATS: 'THEOLOGY FOR PEACEMAKERS' (NATIONAL). Sponsored by Pace e Bene Australia. Angie O'Gorman teaches courses in the Spirituality of nonviolence. She is on the staff of the legal Service of Eastern Missouri, Immigration Law Project and has developed and coordinated programs for provision of legal services to low income immigrants and refugees. Web: <http://www.paceebene.org.au/>.

1 August (NSW). Public Lecture: 'Peacemaking/Living a Nonviolent Lifestyle'. Cost \$20. 7.30 to 9.30 pm, Upstairs, Southern Cross University studio, Byron Bay Community Centre, 69 Jonson Street, Byron Bay. Contact: (02) 6686 9430 or 0412 989 987.

10 August (SA). Public Lecture: 'The Seamlessness of Life: How We are Called to be People of Peace in the Ordinary Everyday Events of Life'. Cost: \$10. 12.00 to 2.00 pm, Bethlehem Lutheran Church Hall, 12 Sudholtz Place, Adelaide. Contact: sacc@picknowl.com.au or (08) 8215 0300.

12 August (VIC). Rev Up! Program on Peacemaking. Speakers: Angie O'Gorman and Alan Marr, Director of Ministries, Baptist Union of Victoria. Cost \$25. 9.30 am to 3.00 pm,

Whitley College, 271 Royal Parade, Parkville.
Contact: (03) 9592 5247 or d.hess@ozemail.com.au. Register: (03) 9880 6100 for catering.
15 August (VIC). Retreat - Theology of Peacemaking. Cost \$60, concession \$45. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Australian Volunteers International Building, 88 Kerr Street, Fitzroy. Contact: (03) 9592 5247 or d.hess@ozemail.com.au, register early because places are limited.

31 JULY. LECTURE: 'LABOUR AND HUMAN RIGHTS' (NSW). This address is a further contribution by the Evatt Foundation to the debate about the national consultation process on the protection and promotion of human rights. Speaker: Geoffrey Robertson QC. Cost: \$40, \$20 concession. 5.45 to 7.00 pm, Trades Hall Auditorium, 4 Goulburn Street, Sydney. Contact: admin@evatt.usyd.edu.au or (02) 8090 1170, RSVP essential. Web: http://evatt.org.au/site/join_online.html.

31 JULY. FORUM: 'THE PERFECT STORM: AUSTRALIA'S ROLE IN DEALING WITH THE TRIPLE CRUNCH OF THE GFT, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND RISING FOOD PRICES' (NSW). ALP Conference Forum by Oxfam Australia and the Centre for Policy Development. Speakers: Andrew Hewett, Executive Director of Oxfam; Ian Dunlop, CPD Fellow and previous head of the Australian Institute of Company Directors; Reverend Tatie Lusama, Chair of Tuvalu Climate Action Network and Ben McNeil, Senior Fellow UNSW Climate Change Research Centre. No cost. 5.45 to 7.30 pm, Sussex Room, Crowne Plaza, 150 Day Street, Darling Harbour. Contact: (02) 9514 2034 or admin@cpd.org.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://cpd.org.au/events/perfect-storm-australias-role-time-crisis/>

1 AUGUST. PUBLIC FORUM: 'BURMA'S FUTURE AND AUSTRALIA'S ROLE' (NSW). Dr Sean Turnell, Burma Economic Watch, and Alison Tate, ACTU, will discuss Australia's role in supporting peace, democracy and freedom in Burma and explore avenues the ALP can take to support urgently needed change in Burma. No cost. 12.30 to 2.00 pm, South Steyne Floating Restaurant and Function Centre, Cockle Bay, Darling Harbour. Contact: admin@aucampaignforburma.org or 0416 289 235. Web: <http://www.aucampaignforburma.org/>.

2 - 8 AUGUST. NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' WEEK: 'WHERE DO THEY GO?' (NATIONAL). This year Homelessness Australia unites with the Australian Federal Police and Missing Persons Week to highlight the homeless and missing. For events, see web: <http://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/site/National%20Homeless%20Persons%20Week.php>.

2 AUGUST. FORUM: 'FASTING AND FEASTING' (NSW). Organised by a very broad spectrum of different religious groups in Sydney, this event has been facilitated by the NSW Ecumenical Council to enable churches to engage with other religions and ideologies and to build better networks between different groups in NSW. A forum hosted by (FEN) Faith and Ecology Network, chaired by Stephen Crittenden, keynote speaker Russ Grayson (Sydney Food Fairness Alliance), and a panel of distinguished speakers from seven religious traditions. Cost: \$20. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, Lachlan's Garden Marquee, Old Government House, Parramatta Park, Macquarie and Pitt Streets, Parramatta. Contact: (02) 9299 2215 or kmoroney@ncca.org.au, RSVP essential. Web: http://www.arrcc.org.au/images/news/pre_pwr_brochure.pdf.

2 AUGUST. NATIONAL TREE DAY (NATIONAL). Planet Ark is holding National Tree Day to improve the environment for all Australians. You can organise and register your tree planting or bush regeneration event or join with others at events listed on the website: <http://treeday.planetark.org>. Contact: 1300 88 5000.

3 AUGUST. LAUNCH: 'HOMELESS PERSONS' WEEK (WA). The Minister for Child Protection, Hon Robyn McSweeney MLC, will open the event. Community housing providers will showcase their work. RecLink will stage recreational activities promoting their slogan 'Rebuilding lives through sports and arts'. Foodbank will have displays and demonstrations promoting healthy eating. Spirit of the Streets and St Pats Starlight Hotel Choir will bring music to the event. 12.00 to 3.00 pm, Forrest Place, Perth's Central Business District. Contact: (08) 9328 8996, (08) 9221 7933 or policy@communityhousing.co.au. Web: <http://www.communityhousing.com.au/training-and-events/hpw09/>.

3 AUGUST. CONFERENCE: 'CLIMATE CHANGE: POLICY CHOICES AND POLITICS' (ACT). This one-day conference, featuring key figures in the climate debate from both the political and the policy arena, will illuminate the current state of play and where Australia and the international community are headed. Cost: \$100 - \$400. 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Finkel Theatre, Australian National University, Garran Road, Acton. Contact: (02) 6125 0454 or (02) 6125 1096. Web: http://law.anu.edu.au/cclp/2009_Climate_Change_Conf.pdf

3 AUGUST. PRIOLETTI CONSULTANTS FORUM: 'CROSS CULTURAL AWARENESS AND COMMUNICATION TRAINING FOR THE COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTOR' (VIC). These short courses aim to provide participants with the awareness and communication skills to work effectively and sensitively with the CALD community. Cost: \$110. 1.00 to 4.00 pm, Wheelers Hill Meeting Room, 860 Ferntree Gully Road, Wheelers Hill. Contact: 0438 846 584 or josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au. Web: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au>.

3 AUGUST. BOOK LAUNCH: 'UNIMAGINED: A MUSLIM BOY MEETS THE WEST' (NSW). Richard Morris, British Consul-General to NSW, will be introducing Imran Ahmad, author of 'Unimagined - a Muslim boy meets the West'. His hilarious account of his journey to publication reveals how the motif of 'Islam vs. the West' is very hard to break - especially when it's profitable. No cost. 6.30 for 7.00 pm, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe. RSVP: (02) 9660 2333. Web: http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/events4_h.htm.

4 AUGUST. VERDUN SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'SPIRITUAL UNITY' (SA). Presenters: Marie Hogan, Australian Refugee Association and Neville Green, Spiritual Development Facilitator, Lutheran Schools Association. Hahndorf Old Mill, 98 Main Street, Hahndorf. Contact: (08) 8388 5957. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/spirituality%20in%20the%20pub.htm>.

4 AUGUST. NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHILDREN'S DAY: 'GOOD CHILD PROTECTION - WE DO IT BETTER TOGETHER' (NATIONAL). The theme acknowledges that families, communities, schools, children's

services, business organisations and governments must all work together to protect and support children. Resources and events are available on the web site: http://www.snaicc.asn.au/children/default_gallery_resources.cfm?loadref=86.

4 AUGUST. KINCUMBER SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'BECOMING A COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY...' (NSW). Presenters: John Dunford, retired judge of the Supreme Court, former President of St Thomas More Society of Catholic Lawyers and Governor of University of Notre Dame Australia; and Mary Rose Williams, involved in the fostering of children, mainly those with special needs. 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>.

4 AUGUST. SOCIAL JUSTICE SEMINAR: 'THE PSYCHOLOGY OF DEHUMANIZATION' (VIC). This seminar will lay out a program of research on the often unconscious ways in which humanness is denied to others and illustrate it with studies of social perception in the domains of 'race', indigeneity, social class and gender. Speaker: Professor Nick Haslam, Director, Researchers for Asylum Seekers, Melbourne University. 1.00 to 2.00 pm, Theatre 3, Ground Floor, Economics and Commerce Building, Melbourne University, 198 Berkeley Street, Parkville. Contact: (03) 8344 3203 or s.hughes@unimelb.edu. Web: <http://www.socialjustice.unimelb.edu.au>.

5 AUGUST. PADDINGTON SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'WHAT'S SPIRITUALITY GOT TO DO WITH LIFE IN PRISON?' (NSW). Speaker: Don Sweetman, convicted to two years in prison after robbing a supermarket, will share his moving story. Responder: Sandra Power, volunteer worker and former Education Officer at Long Bay Gaol. Bellevue Hotel, 159 Hargrave Street, Paddington. Contact: (02) 9387 3152. Web: <http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/spirituality%20in%20the%20pub.htm>.

5 AUGUST. BOOK LAUNCH: 'GENE CARTELS: BIOTECH PATENTS IN THE AGE OF FREE TRADE' (NSW). This book by patent law academic Luigi Palombi uses international

case studies to prove that enforcement of gene patents reduces access and drives up testing costs dramatically for patients, and also hinders scientific research and the sharing of important medical knowledge. Cost: \$10, \$7 concession. 6.30 for 7.00 pm, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe. Contact: (02) 9660 2333, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/events4.htm>.

5 - 7 AUGUST. HOUSING RESEARCHERS CONFERENCE (NSW). This conference is an opportunity to create dialogue on similarities and differences in our housing systems, how they are dealing with complex issues and grappling with the problems of meeting future housing needs of the region. It is the first forum in Australasia which brings housing researchers together from the Asia Pacific region to exchange ideas, explore challenges and develop projects. Cost: \$390 - \$800. Citigate Central, 169-179 Thomas Street, Haymarket. Contact: (02) 9385 7777 or m.schwensen@unsw.edu.au. Book: 1800 252 588. Web: <http://www.fbe.unsw.edu.au/cf/apnhr/>.

6 AUGUST. HIROSHIMA DAY VIGIL (VIC). Remember Hiroshima, bombed 6 August 1945. Organised by the Medical Association for Prevention of War supported by groups including Japanese for Peace and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. 7.00 to 9.00 am, outside St Paul's Cathedral, corner Swanston and Flinders Streets, Melbourne. Contact: (03) 8344 1737. Web: <http://www.mapw.org.au>.

6 - 7 AUGUST. VCOSS CONGRESS: 'PROTECTING SOCIAL EQUITY WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH' (VIC). This year's congress will explore the challenges and opportunities for promoting social equity during the economic downturn and will bring together government and not-for-profit policy-makers, community sector leaders, academics and philanthropists. Speakers: Clare Martin, ACOSS CEO; Mark Yettica-Paulson, former Northern Territory Chief Minister, CEO, Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre; and Julia Unwin, CEO, UK's Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Cost: \$190 - \$550. RACV Club, 501 Bourke Street, Melbourne. Contact: (03) 9654

5050 or vcoss@vcoss.org.au. Web: <http://www.vcoss.org.au/>.

6 AUGUST. DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS PROGRAM: 'GLOBAL HEALTH BEYOND THE MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS' (NSW). Speaker: Prof Lawrence Gostin, internationally acclaimed scholar, who has led major law reform initiatives in the US, including the drafting of the Model Emergency Health Powers Act (MEHPA) to combat bioterrorism and the "Turning Point" Model State Public Health Act; Professors Linda and Timothy O'Neill, Global Health Law, Georgetown University Law Centre; Professor Daniel Tarantola, Health and Human Rights, School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of New South Wales. No cost. 5.30 to 8.00 pm, Sydney Law School, Building F10, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney. Contact: (02) 9351 0248 or law.events@usyd.edu.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.usyd.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventid=3683>.

6 AUGUST. SEMINAR: 'TOWARDS NATIONAL CHILD EMPLOYMENT LAWS?' (NSW). Professor Andrew Stewart will review the work young Australians perform, outline the fragmented and sometimes conflicting systems of laws and processes that currently regulate such work, and explore the potential for a new, national approach to regulation. No cost. 12:30 to 1:00 pm light lunch, 1:00 to 2.00 pm seminar, Sydney Law School, Building F10, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney. Contact: (02) 9351 0429 or law.events@usyd.edu.au. Web: <http://www.usyd.edu.au/news/law/458.html?eventarchive=2009>.

6 AUGUST. CENTRE FOR LAW AND GENETICS LECTURE: 'RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN STEM CELL RESEARCH: SOCIAL, ETHICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES FOR THE FUTURE' (TAS). Speaker: Professor Loane Skene, Professor of Law in the Melbourne Law School, Deputy Director of the Centre for Law and Genetics, and Deputy Chair of the high-profile Lockhart Committee on Human Cloning and Embryo Research in 2005. No cost. 7:30 to 8:30 pm, Lecture Theatre 1, Law Building, University of Tasmania, off the end of Grosvenor Street, Sandy Bay. Contact: (03) 6226 2071, Rachel.Court@utas.edu.au, RSVP by August 3. Web: <http://www.utas.edu.au/events/whatson.html>.

6 AUGUST. BREAKFAST DISCUSSION: 'FATHERS AND FAMILIES: WHY THEY BOTH NEED EACH OTHER?' (NSW). Speaker, Dr Bruce Robinson, is the author of 'Fathering from the Fast Lane'. He has lectured on fathering for nearly 20 years. He is a medical doctor, teacher and scientist, with over 150 published papers and has featured on numerous television and radio programs. Cost: \$30, \$20 students with ID card. 7:15 for 7:30 am, Stranger's Dining Room, Level 7, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney. Contact: (02) 9230 2280 or Shanu.Fox@parliament.nsw.gov.au, RSVP by 31 July.

7 AUGUST. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'THE GREAT SUPERANNUATION / TAX CONCESSION RORT' (NSW). Speakers: Eva Cox, feminist, activist; and Julian Disney, Director, Social Justice Project, UNSW. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, Gaelic Club, Level 1, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: (02) 9692 0005, odl_bradley@pacific.net.au, (02) 9552 3599 or winchilds@bigpond.com. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au/>.

7 - 9 AUGUST. BE MORE WEEKEND (NATIONAL). The 'Be More' weekend is an opportunity for you, your family, school, parish and community to come together in solidarity: to be just - conscious that our actions impact on all members of the global community; to be green - knowing that we are all stewards of creation; to be more - by making simple changes to our everyday lives. Resources and register at the website: <http://www.bemore.org.au/weekend>.

7 - 13 AUGUST. MULTIMEDIA EXHIBITION: 'BLUEPRINT FOR A BETTER WORLD' (WA). Caritas Australia and 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 Catholic Centre, Maitland Street, Geraldton. Contact: (02) 8306 3457, evane@caritas.org.au, (02) 8306 3490 or alanas@caritas.org.au. Web: <http://www.caritas.org.au/blueprint/exhibition/index.html>.

7 AUGUST. HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM (VIC). Held by the Centre for Organisational and Social Informatics (COSI) in conjunction with

the Centre for Australian Indigenous Studies (CAIS) and CASTAN Centre for Human Rights Law Research Forum. Speakers: Prof Lynette Russell, Director CAIS; Professor Eric Ketelaar and Dr Livia Iacovino, COSI; and Dr Melissa Castan, Deputy Director CASTAN. 2.30 to 5.00 pm, Clayfield Room, Caulfield Campus, Monash University, 900 Dandenong Road, Caulfield East. Web: <http://www.law.monash.edu.au/castancentre/events/>.

7 AUGUST. SEMINAR: 'ETHICAL CONSUMERISM? THE SOCIOLOGY OF SECOND-HAND MARKETS AND CONSUMPTION' (TAS). Speaker: Prof. Adrian Franklin, School of Sociology and Social Work, University of Tasmania. No cost. 2.30 pm, Room 319, Arts Building, Hobart campus, University of Tasmania, Churchill Ave, Sandy Bay. Contact: (03) 6226 7241 or Adrian.Franklin@utas.edu.au. Web: <http://fcms.its.utas.edu.au/arts/sociology/newsdetail.asp?lNewsEventId=399>.

8 - 9 AUGUST. TRAINING FOR TRANSITION (NSW). This course is for those wishing to know how to set up, run, and maintain a successful Transition initiative in your locality. This two day journey holds for many key insights, understanding, and awareness to help them to contribute to the most important journey of our times: the journey to a peaceful and resilient world. Cost: \$120. 9.30 am to 5.30 pm, Henrietta Rose Room, Bendooley St, Bowral. Contact: menteith@bigpond.net.au or 0403 790 777. Web: http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/events/20090522_2969.html.

9 AUGUST. PRAYERS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST (ACT). The Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities of Canberra will pray together for peace in the Middle East. 2.30 pm, Jewish Community Centre, Forrest, corner National Circuit and Canberra Avenue. All welcome. Contact: (02) 6295 1052, (02) 6295 3680 or (02) 6284 8389.

9 AUGUST. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT POLICY ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND COMMUNITY RESPONSES (NSW). This workshop for people of faith will clarify Federal Government policy on climate change and community responses to this policy. Speakers include: Dr Steve Hatfield-Dodds, Department of Climate Change and

Wenny Theresia, Community Climate Network. This event is presented by Australian Religious Response to Climate Change and the Al-Ghazzali Centre. 1.00 to 4.00 pm, Al-Ghazzali Centre, 1021A Canterbury Road, Lakemba (entry via Willeroo Street). Contact: 0405 293 466 or chair@arrcc.org.au. Web: <http://www.arrcc.org.au/>.

10 AUGUST, 14 SEPTEMBER, 12 OCTOBER. TRAINING: 'KNOWING HER BETTER' (VIC).

This is a series of three training days about immigrant and refugee women's health, aimed at health and allied professionals interested in improving the health and wellbeing of immigrant and refugee women and their health experiences in Australia. Cost: \$154 per module (or 10% less if all 3 modules taken). 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, Multicultural Centre for Women's Health, Suite 207, Level 2, Carringbush Building, 134 Cambridge Street, Collingwood. Contact: (03) 9418 0999 or Salma@mcwh.com.au. Web: http://www.mcwh.com.au/downloads/MCWH_KHB_Brochure.pdf.

11 AUGUST. CONFERENCE: 'SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCES IN THE NOT FOR PROFIT SECTOR' (NSW). Associations Forum presents this seminar which brings together industry experts explaining how to plan and budget for conferences, maintain or increase registrations, source venues, produce a compelling program and boost sponsorship. Speakers: Richard Woodward, Richard Woodward and Associates; Francis Child, Conference Action; John Harmata, PD Partners Pty Ltd; and Alison Johnson, Meetings and Events Australia. Cost: \$495 (members). 9.00 am to 6.00 pm, L Aqua, The Terrace Level, Cockle Bay Wharf, Darling Park Sydney. Registration is restricted to NFPs. Contact: (02) 9904 8200 or support@associations.net.au. Web: <http://www.associations.net.au>.

11 AUGUST. PUBLIC FORUM: 'MINING AND HUMAN RIGHTS' (VIC).

Hear about Oxfam Australia's mining advocacy program and Mining Ombudsman, to protect and obtain justice on behalf of communities adversely affected when mining activities damage their environment and livelihoods. Also hear about developments at the international level on the issue of business

and human rights. Speakers: Christina Hill, Oxfam Australia; Vanessa Zimmerman, Legal advisor to the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and trans-national corporations and other business enterprises; and Greg Maher, Principal Advisor, Communities, Rio Tinto. 5.30 pm, Oxfam Australia, 132 Leicester Street, Carlton. Contact: (03) 9289 9445. Web: <http://www.oxfam.org.au/events/>.

12 AUGUST. PRIOLETTI CONSULTANTS FORUM: 'CROSS CULTURAL AWARENESS AND COMMUNICATION TRAINING FOR THE COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTOR' (VIC).

Cultural awareness training can provide an insight into service barriers as well as improve communication and service quality. These short courses aim to provide participants with the awareness and communication skills to work effectively and sensitively with the CALD community.

Cost: \$110. 1.00 to 4.00 pm, Northcote Library Meeting Room, 32 - 38 Separation Street, Northcote. Contact: 0438 846 584 or josie@prioletticonsultants.com.au. Web: <http://www.prioletticonsultants.com.au>.

12 AUGUST. LECTURE: 2009 SIMONE WEIL LECTURE ON HUMAN VALUE (VIC). Raimond Gaita and the School of Philosophy, Australian Catholic University presents Dr Miranda Fricker, speaking on "Knowledge and Prejudice". No cost. 6.30 pm, Christ Lecture Theatre, Australian Catholic University, St Patrick's Campus, 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy. Contact: leonie.martino@acu.edu.au or (03) 9953 3160. Web: <http://www.acu.edu.au/65303>.

12 AUGUST. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS: 'INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY' (ACT). Address by Hon Kate Ellis MP, Minister for Youth, on the Rudd Government's new agenda for youth affairs. Cost \$55 members, \$75 guests. 11.45 am to 1.30 pm, 16 National Circuit, Canberra. Contact: (02) 6121 2199 or npc@npc.org.au, RSVP essential. Web: www.npc.org.au/upcomingSpeakers.html.

12 - 14 AUGUST. INTERNATIONAL UNITY IN DIVERSITY CONFERENCE: 'PEOPLE, THE WORKFORCE AND THE FUTURE OF AUSTRALIA (QLD). As the new millennium unfolds it presents challenges for the global community

such as the economic crisis, climate change, energy and water shortages, human rights, mental health, international conflict, refugee crisis and skill shortages, which affect all of humanity regardless of who or where we are in the world. These issues require an urgent need for collaboration, communication and cooperation across cultural, religious and ideological barriers. Organisation: Townsville Cultural Fest. Cost: \$295 - \$695. Rydges Southbank Townsville Hotel and Convention Centre, 23 Palmer Street, Townsville. Contact: (07) 4772 4800 or Farvardin.Daliri@bigpond.com. Web: <http://www.culturalfest.org/universityindiriversityconference.htm>.

13 AUGUST. TELECONFERENCE: 'INTERFAITH CONVERSATIONS WITH WOMEN ON BEING BEARERS OF PEACE' (NATIONAL). Office for the Participation of Women presents this teleconference with Sr Marg Finlay as speaker. Cost: \$20. 4.00 to 5.00 pm. Contact: (02) 6201 9867 or director.opw@catholic.org.au. Web: <http://www.opw.catholic.org.au/index.php>.

13 - 15 AUGUST. CONFERENCE: 'CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM UNDER A BILL OF RIGHTS' (ACT). The University of Adelaide Research Unit for the Study of Society, Law and Religion, in conjunction with other local and international institutions, is holding this conference to examine the implications for cultural and religious freedom of the proposed bill from a number of community, cultural and religious perspectives. Participants include judges, leading academics, community leaders, theologians and other experts in law and religion from Australasia, America, Asia and Europe. Cost: \$450. Old Parliament House, King Georges Terrace, Parkes. Contact: stephen@nspaustralia.com.au, RSVP by 12 August. Web: <http://www.crfbillofrights.org/>.

14 AUGUST. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'HOLIDAY DESTINATIONS/POLITICAL NIGHTMARES - FIJI, THAILAND' (NSW). Speakers: Stuart Firth, Head Pacific Centre ANU, Editor 'Globalisation and Governance in the Pacific Islands'; and Hamish McDonald, Foreign Affairs Editor, SMH. 6.00 to 7.45 pm, Gaelic Club, Level 1, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. Contact: (02) 9692 0005, odl_bradley@pacific.net.au, (02) 9552 3599 or winchilids@bigpond.com. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au/>.

15 AUGUST. FUNDRAISER: 'RALLY FOR A CAUSE' (NSW). Virtual Display Group are staging a once in a lifetime private rally experience. For packages of \$1,000 or \$2,000 you have the opportunity to secure a very limited place riding alongside champion drivers Neal Bates, Alistair McRae, Chris Atkinson and Brendan Reeves. Please note that every cent from packages sold will be donated to Youth Off The Streets. 7.00 am to 5.00 pm, Oran Park, corner Cobbity and The Northern Roads, Oran Park. Contact: (02) 9330 3500. Web: http://www.youthoffthestreets.com.au/downloads/rally_flyer2009.pdf.

16 AUGUST. MULLUMBIMBY TO BRUNSWICK RUN AND WALK (NSW). The aim of Mullum to Bruns Incorporated is to establish an annual fundraising run and walk event for the local Brunswick Valley Rescue Squad and the Indigenous Australia programs of Oxfam Australia. The event gives people an opportunity to get active and raise money for charity in the process. Cost: \$15 - \$60, a portion of the entrance fee will be donated to Oxfam Australia. 8.30 am, Jubilee Avenue (run) and Morrison Avenue (walk), Mullumbimby. Finish: Banner Park, corner Park and Mullumbimby Streets, Brunswick Heads. Contact: info@mullumtobrunswick.org.au. Web: <http://www.mullumtobrunswick.org.au>.

17 - 19 AUGUST. CATHOLIC HEALTH AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE: 'HAND IN HAND' (TAS). Australian and international leaders in social justice will gather to examine why disadvantaged Australians get sicker more and die earlier. Professor Fran Baum, World Health Organisation's Commission on the Social Determinants of Health and Jack de Groot, Caritas Australia CEO are among the health, social justice and religious leaders attending. Cost: \$870. Hotel Grand Chancellor, 1 Davey Street, Hobart. Contact: (02) 6260 5980 or secretariat@cha.org.au. Web: <http://www.cha.org.au/>.

18 AUGUST. SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM: 'CARING OR CARKING IT: WHY WE CAN AND MUST BUILD A MORE CARING ECONOMY' (ACT). St Ninian's Uniting Church Social Action Group is holding this public forum. Speakers: Professor Richard Denniss, Executive Director, Australia

Institute, Associate Professor, Crawford School of Economics and Government, ANU; Professor Geoff Davies, Senior Fellow, Institute for Advanced Study, ANU. 7.30 pm, St Ninian's Uniting Church, corner Mouat and Brigalow Streets, Lyneham, entrance off Brigalow Street. Contact: (02) 6251 2272, jashaw@actewagl.net.au, (02) 6254 2961 or mconnell@ffdlr.org.au. Web: <http://www.stninians.org.au/>.

18 AUGUST. PRE-PARLIAMENT OF WORLD RELIGIONS EVENT: 'MANY FAITHS ONE HUMANITY: A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR ON INTERFAITH EDUCATION FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE' (NSW). It aims to assist networking of interfaith educators from various traditions. Leaders from the different traditions will speak and lead workshops. Cost: \$30. 9.00 am to 3.00 pm, Christian Brothers High School, 68 The Boulevard, Lewisham. Contact: (02) 9810 3922 or dmulhearn@edmundrice.org. Web: http://www.edmundrice.org.au/images/stories/jobs/documents/news_views_jun_09.pdf.

18 AUGUST. LECTURE: 2009 SIMONE WEIL LECTURE ON HUMAN VALUE (NSW). Raimond Gaita and the School of Philosophy, Australian Catholic University presents Dr Miranda Fricker, speaking on "Knowledge and Prejudice". Cost: \$22, \$15 concessions, \$20 seniors. 5.30 for 6.00 pm, State Library of NSW, Dixon Room, Mitchell wing, Macquarie Street, Sydney. Contact: (02) 9273 1770 or bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au. Web: <http://www.acu.edu.au/65303>.

18 AUGUST. BOOK LAUNCH: 'A CENTURY OF INFLUENCE: THE AUSTRALIAN STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT 1896-1996' (NSW). Renate Howe, Honorary Fellow in the School of Heritage and Society, Deakin University, tells an inspiring story of this progressive movement which has had a significant influence in Australian society and internationally. 5.30 pm, United Theological College Centre for Ministry, 16 Masons Drive, North Parramatta. Web: <http://www.nswec.org.au/events.php?id=83&c=-1&PHPSESSID=ff66ab46fec703aea70d374ad68f75>.

18 AUGUST. AUSTRALIAN HOUSING AND URBAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE SEMINAR

(AHURI) (SA). This seminar will explore the findings of three AHURI projects: Dr Vivienne Milligan - Innovations in the provision of affordable housing; Professor Bill Randolph - Planning, government charges, and the costs of land and housing; and Professor Fiona McKenzie - Housing markets in resource boom towns. No cost. 9:00 am to 12:45 pm, Art Gallery of South Australia, North Terrace, Adelaide. Contact: damien.coup@ahuri.edu.au or (03) 9660 2303. Web: http://www.ahuri.edu.au/downloads/2009_Events/AHURI_Research_Seminar_SA.pdf.

18 AUGUST. SEMINAR: 'IMPROVED PROTECTION FOR THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY' (NSW). This seminar will consider significant developments in the rights of people with disability following Australia's ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the commencement of the Disability Discrimination and Other Human Rights Legislation Amendment Act 2009. Chair, Hon Catherine Branson QC, President and Human Rights Commissioner, will also launch the Commission's publication 'Federal Discrimination Law' on AustLII. Speakers: Graeme Innes, Disability Discrimination Commissioner; Jonathon Hunyor, Director, Legal Section. 5:15 to 6:30 pm, Hearing Room, Australian Human Rights Commission, Level 8, 133 Castlereagh Street, Sydney. Contact: associate@humanrights.gov.au, RSVP by 12 August. Web: <http://www.cnet.ngo.net.au/content/view/43456/503/>.

19 AUGUST. FILM LAUNCH: 'AGE OF STUPID??' (NATIONAL). Oscar nominated Pete Postlethwaite stars as a man living alone in the devastated world of 2055, looking back at 'archive' footage from 2007 and asking: 'Why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?' The M rated film will premiere at Sydney Theatre and will be beamed via live satellite to all participating venues. Hoyt's Cinema chain will screen 'The Age of Stupid' for an exclusive week long season at selected cinemas around Australia. To receive a reminder of when tickets go on sale, send an email to addtolist@ageofstupid.net. Sydney Theatre. Web: http://www.ageofstupid.net/news/stupid_down_under.

20 AUGUST. GANGARI WORKSHOP: 'UNDERSTANDING RECONCILIATION' (NSW).

This workshop will provide an understanding of reconciliation; challenge stereotypes and practical resources to assist in respectfully acknowledging and celebrating Aboriginal Australia. Presented by Western Sydney Community Forum (WSCF) and Blacktown City Council. Cost: \$65. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, Double Function Room, Max Webber Library, corner Flushcombe Road and Alpha Street, Blacktown. Contact: (02) 9687 6974 or semrag@wscf.org.au, RSVP by 14 August. Web: <http://www.cnet.ngo.net.au/content/view/43310/503/>.

20 AUGUST. OFFICIAL LAUNCH: 'THE INDIGENOUS POLICY AND DIALOGUE RESEARCH UNIT' (NSW). The Unit will provide an institutional and research base for the Australian Dialogue initiative, established by Prof Dodson and his colleague Lieutenant General John Sanderson AC. Patrick, a Yawuru man from Broome will lecture on 'So, what now? Dialogue and nation building in contemporary Australia'. 6:00 pm, Leighton Hall, John Niland Scientia Building, UNSW, Library Road, Kensington. Contact: so.what@unsw.edu.au or (02) 9385 8512, RSVP by 13 August. Web: <http://apo.org.au/event/official-launch-indigenous-policy-and-dialogue-research-unit-and-so-what-lecture-professor-pat>.

21 AUGUST. CIPL SEMINAR SERIES: 'JUSTICE IN TIMOR - LESTE ON THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TIMOR INDEPENDENCE BALLOT' (ACT). Speakers: Dr Susan Harris-Rimmer and Janelle Saffin, ANU RegNet. No cost. 1.00 to 2.00 pm, Phillipa Weeks Staff Library, ANU College of Law, Australian National University, Fellows Road, Acton. Contact: rsvp@law.anu.edu.au or (02) 6125 0454. Web: <http://law.anu.edu.au/cipl/events.asp>.

21 AUGUST. LORETO BOOK LAUNCH AND COCKTAIL PARTY (QLD). The book 'Loreto in Australia' by Mary Ryllis Clark, UNSW, will be launched by the Hon Justice Ann Lyons. Cost: \$25. 6.00 to 8.00 pm, Mulwith, Loreto College, 415 Cavendish Road, Coorparoo. Contact: (07) 3394 9999 or email@loreto.qld.edu.au, RSVP by 7 August. Web: <http://www.loreto.qld.edu.au>.

21 - 23 AUGUST. COURSE: 'SPIRITUALITY OF THE HEART' (NSW). This course is conducted by the Chevalier Institute and The Broken Bay Institute. The course explores spirituality as practical, focusing on a way of Christian living. Spirituality is practical by insisting on 'groundedness', an engagement with suffering and resistance to the causes of injustice. Presenters / facilitators: Frank Andersen msc, Fr Brian Boyle, Michael Fallon msc, Sr Marie Farrell rsm, Frank Fletcher msc, James Maher msc, Claude Mostowik msc, John Rate msc and Julie Taylor. Cost: \$225 - \$1130. 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Chevalier Resource Centre, 1 Roma Avenue, Kensington. Contact: (02) 9847 0030 or registrations@bbi.catholic.edu.au. Web: <http://www.churchresources.info/missionspirit/0709/Spirituality%20of%20the%20Heart%20Flyer%20August%202009.pdf>.

22 AUGUST. EDMUND RICE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE (ERISJ) INTENSIVE: 'BETWEEN GOVERNANCE AND MISSION-CENTRICITY: CHALLENGES FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT MANAGERS AND BOARDS' (WA). Governance, financial and accountability requirements should support rather than overwhelm or kidnap core objectives, requiring a mission-centric view of strategic planning and management. Speaker: Professor David Gilchrist, University of Notre Dame Australia, Assistant Auditor General for Western Australia. 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/090822_intensive.

23 AUGUST. INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION. (NATIONAL). Slavery exists today. It's right here among us and happening under our noses. That's right - Australia is a destination for trafficked people who are used for a variety of purposes!

If you want to learn more or take action against trafficking, visit <http://www.acrath.org.au/>. The movie *Trade* will be released in cinemas nationally in August 2009. The film deals with the issue of human trafficking and is being supported by World Vision and the Don't Trade Lives campaign. This R rated film is confronting, and won't appeal to everyone.

Contact: info@tradethemovie.com.au or (07) 5438 8791. Web: <http://tradethemovie.com.au/>.

24 - 30 AUGUST. MIGRANT & REFUGEE WEEK (NATIONAL). The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office (ACMRO) is producing resources with the theme, 'St Paul, Migrant, Apostle of the Peoples' for Migrant and Refugee Week. This resource will soon be available from the websites of the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office or Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (refer: <http://www.acmro.catholic.org.au>, <http://www.acbc.catholic.org.au>)

25 AUGUST. LORETO BOOK LAUNCH AND MARY WARD LECTURE (NSW). The book 'Loreto in Australia' by Mary Ryllis Clark, UNSW, will be launched by the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir. 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. The event is hosted by Loreto Kirribilli and Normanhurst. 6.30 pm, Loreto College, 85 Carabella Street, Kirribilli. Contact: (02) 9957 4722 or loreto@loreto.nsw.edu.au. Web: http://www.loreto.org.au/about/documents/BookLaunchProgram_website09.pdf.

25 - 26 AUGUST. LINKING INDIGENOUS POLICY WITH SERVICE DELIVERY: 'CLOSING THE GAP IN INDIGENOUS DISADVANTAGE' (QLD). Linking Indigenous Policy with Service Delivery 2009 fleshes out the new whole-of-government approach to reduce the gap in indigenous disadvantage in partnership with NGOs and NFPs on both policy and service delivery levels. Cost: \$1648 - \$5498. Novotel Cairns Oasis Resort, 122 Lake Street, Cairns. Contact: 1300 316 882. Web: <http://www.indigenous-policy.com/>.

25 - 27 AUGUST. EQUITY AND DIVERSITY OFFICERS' CONFERENCE: 'BECOMING AN AGENT FOR CHANGE AND CREATING A MORE EQUITABLE AND DIVERSE WORKFORCE'. (ACT). This conference, organised by Liquid Learning, is relevant to managers and senior executives involved in the creation of an equitable workplace. It will discuss the many

planning and implementation challenges faced when embedding diversity within an organisation's culture. Speakers include: Graeme Innes, Australian Human Rights Commissioner and Disability Discrimination Commissioner; Nareen Young, CEO, Diversity Council Australia; Cheryl Thomas, National Indigenous Employment Manager, Australia Post; etc. Cost: \$495 - \$2495. 8.30 am to 5.00 pm Rydges Capital Hill, corner Canberra Avenue and National Circuit, Forrest. Contact: (02) 9437 1311 or registration@liquidlearning.com.au. Web: www.liquidlearning.com.au.

25 - 29 AUGUST. PRAYER EXPERIENCE: 'LECTIO DIVINA' (NSW). Fr Karl Schultz, an authority on the practice of *lectio divina* - praying with scripture, is coming to the Wagga Wagga diocese. *Lectio Divina* is a non-fundamentalist model for reflection, discernment, prayer and response on contemporary issues.

25 August. Twilight Prayer Experience - 4.00 to 7.00 pm, Albury.

26 August. Twilight Prayer Experience - 4.00 to 7.00 pm, Corowa.

27 August. Twilight Prayer Experience - 4.00 to 7.00 pm, Leeton

29 August. Experience of Prayer - 10.00 am to 12.00 pm or 2.00 to 4.00 pm, Wagga Wagga.

26 AUGUST. NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS: 'AUSTRALIAN AID IN THE ECONOMIC CRISIS - IS IT WORKING AND WHAT DO AUSTRALIANS THINK?' (ACT). Address by Tim Costello, CEO World Vision and launch of World Vision's flagship publication 'Island Nation or Global Citizen?' The report will review Australia's contribution to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and new approaches to development in the region since the election of the Rudd Government. Mr Costello will rate Australia's performance against international benchmarks and make recommendations for further action. Cost \$55 members, \$75 guests. 11.30 am to 1.30 pm, 16 National Circuit, Canberra. Contact: (02) 6121 2199 or npc@npc.org.au, RSVP essential. Web: <http://www.npc.org.au/upcomingSpeakers.html>.

26 AUGUST - 14 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 the Millennium Development Goals and the promise of world Governments to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. No cost. Cooina Hall, corner Commercial Road and Flinders Terrace, Port Augusta. Contact: (02) 8306 3457, evane@caritas.org.au, (02) 8306 3490 or alanas@caritas.org.au. Web: <http://www.caritas.org.au/blueprint/exhibition/index.html>.

26 AUGUST. FUNDRAISER: 'THE BENEDICT BARKAT FOUNDATION' (NSW). The Benedict Barkat Foundation assists students at St Mary's Catholic school in Hafizabad, Pakistan. The children come from different villages and remote areas. Some of them are orphans. The Foundation's sole purpose is to raise money to pay children's school fees. The Foundation is a project of St Joseph's Newtown Catholic Parish. The event includes a traditional five course Pakistani dinner. Cost: \$100. 6.30 pm, Tandoori Hut, Enmore Road, Newtown. Contact: maqsood.alshams@humanrights.net.au or 0422 085 222, RSVP by 20 August. Web: http://www.sydney.catholic.org.au/parishes/parish_mass_times_details.asp?ID=100.

27 AUGUST. LORETO BOOK LAUNCH AND MARY WARD LECTURE (SA). The book 'Loreto in Australia' by Mary Ryllis Clark, UNSW, will be launched by Meliesa Judge, Sculptor. 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. 7.00 pm, Loreto College Junior School Hall, 316 Portrush Road, Marryatville. Contact: (08) 8334 4200 or info@loreto.sa.edu.au. Web: http://www.loreto.org.au/about/documents/BookLaunchProgram_website09.pdf.

27 AUGUST. SEMINAR: 'HEALTHY LIVING FOR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE WOMEN' (VIC). This seminar focuses on healthy living and illness across a range of cultures. It includes raising health awareness among immigrant and refugee women in a culturally sensitive manner. Cost: \$65. 9.00 am to 2.00 pm, Multicultural Centre for Women's Health, Suite 207, Level 2, Carringbush Building, 134 Cambridge Street, Collingwood. Contact: (03) 9418 0999 or Salma@mcwh.com.au.

Web: <http://www.mcwh.com.au/training/seminarseries.php>.

28 AUGUST. CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES (CSS) VICTORIA ANNUAL DINNER: 'JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS' (VIC). This is an occasion for celebrating CSS's work and gathering with others who share their faith-inspired commitment to a just and compassionate society. Speaker: Julian McMahon, Barrister and human rights advocate. Cost \$65. 7:00 for 7:30 pm, San Remo Ballroom, 365 Nicholson Street, Carlton North. Contact: office@css.org.au, RSVP by 14 August. Web: <http://www.css.org.au/documents/Pdfflyer.pdf>.

28 AUGUST AND 23 OCTOBER. UN CONFERENCE: 'THE FUTURE IS IN OUR HANDS' (QLD). This conference will aim to provide an opportunity to address how the rights of Indigenous peoples, as contained in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, are respected or have been violated. Speakers: Tilman Ruff, Medical Association Prevention War; Professor Dr Charles Sampford, Institute for Ethics, Governance and Law; Mr Kelvin Thomson MP, Chairman Joint Standing Committee on Treaties; ATSI Social Justice Commissioner Tom Calma etc.

28 August. Theme: UN Declaration of the Rights for Indigenous Peoples.

23 October. Theme: Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Conference.

Cost per day: \$165, \$145 concession.

Parliament House, corner George and Alice Streets, Brisbane. Contact: (07) 3254 1096 or unaabalmain@optusnet.com.au. Web: <http://www.unaa.org.au/pdf/UNAANC%2009%20Conference.pdf>.

29 AUGUST. FUNDRAISER: 'CELEBRATION OF YOUTH' DINNER (NSW). The 6th Annual 'Celebration of Youth' Dinner will be held to raise money for Youth off the Streets. The night is hosted by David Koch and includes world class entertainment, a raffle and auctions. Cost: \$200. 6.30 pm, Hilton Hotel, 488 George Street, Sydney. Contact: (02) 9330 3531 or roshanas@youthoffthestreets.com.au, RSVP by 18 August. Web: <http://www.youthoffthestreets.com.au/events/index.html>.

30 AUGUST. PRESENTATION: 'CLIMATE JUSTICE - OUR ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY'

(VIC). Speakers: Professor David de Kretser, Governor of Victoria, AC, medical researcher, Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science and the Australian Academy of Technical Sciences and Engineering; Sr Anne Boyd, Brigidine Sister, Coordinator of EarthSong Project; and Tito Tapungao, born in Tuvalu and concerned about the effect of rising sea levels due to global warming. Organisation: Ivanhoe Uniting Church. Cost: gold coin donation. 2:00 to 4:30 pm, Ivanhoe Uniting Church, Seddon Street, Ivanhoe. Web: http://www.arrcc.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=256:30-aug-melbourne-climate-justice--our-ethical-responsibility&catid=45:victoria&Itemid=19.

30 AUGUST. REFUGEE AND MIGRANT SUNDAY (NATIONAL). This is a celebration of the dignity of people who are refugees and migrants and the contribution they have made to life in Australia. Resources have been gathered for use in churches, schools and the wider community by Working Parties of SA Council of Churches as part of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA). Web: http://www.sacc.asn.au/en/detail.php?nr=810&rubric=en_resources&.

31 AUGUST - 1 SEPTEMBER. CONFERENCE: 'INDIGENOUS YOUNG PEOPLE, CRIME AND JUSTICE' (NSW). The Australian Institute of Criminology in partnership with the NSW Commission for Children and Young People, the NSW Attorney-General's Department and the Australian Human Rights Commission will host a conference on Indigenous young people, crime and justice. Cost: \$600, conc. \$310. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 30 Phillip St, Parramatta. Contact: (02) 6260 9272. Web: <http://www.aic.gov.au/en/events/aic%20upcoming%20events/2009/indigenouslyouth.aspx>.

31 AUGUST - 1ST SEPTEMBER. QCOSS CONFERENCE: 'STRONGER TOGETHER' (QLD). Professor Richard Wilkinson, Emeritus Professor of Social Epidemiology at the University of Nottingham, will be one of the keynote speakers at the QCOSS conference - the topic: 'Because More Equal Societies Work Better for Everyone'. Richard is the co-author of an influential new book, 'The Spirit Level:

Why More Equal Societies Almost Always Do Better'. Cost: \$132 - \$610. Hilton Brisbane, 190 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane. Contact (07) 3004 6900, donettef@qcross.org.au or allysons@qcross.org.au. Web: <http://www.qcross.org.au/Article.aspx?type=event&id=5448>.

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. Web: 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 clinical care, public health and field research 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. Web: http://www.health.wa.gov.au/mentalhealth/events/refugee_health.cfm.

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. 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, author of 'Are Prisons Obsolete?'; 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. Web: <http://www.sistersinside.com.au>.

3 - 4 SEPTEMBER. CONFERENCE: NATIONAL HOMELESSNESS SUMMIT (NSW). Speakers: Hon. David Berger MP, NSW Minister for

Housing, Minister for Western Sydney; Monsignor David Cappo, 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. Web: <http://www.acoss.org.au/Events.aspx?displayID=99&articleID=6035>.

4 SEPTEMBER. LORETO BOOK LAUNCH AND MARY WARD LECTURE (VIC). The book titled 'Loreto in Australia' by Mary Ryllis Clark, UNSW, will be launched by The Hon Mary Delahunty. Mary Ward Lecture Presenters include: 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. It takes place from 6.30 pm at Loreto College, 1600 Sturt Street, Ballarat. Contact: (03) 5329 6100 or info@loreto.vic.edu.au. Web: http://www.loreto.org.au/about/documents/BookLaunchProgram_website09.pdf.

5 SEPTEMBER. ERISJ INTENSIVE: 'WHAT ARE GLOBAL MARKETS DOING TO US AS PERSONS, FAMILIES AND SOCIETY?' (WA). 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. Web: http://erisj.org.au/090905_intensive

News Monitor

Pacific climate refugees begin relocation

Islanders from the tiny coral atolls of the Carteret Islands in the Pacific began to evacuate to neighbouring Bougainville and are being described as among the world's first climate change refugees.

North Korean Christian executed

South Korean activists claimed that North Korea publicly executed a Christian woman last month for allegedly distributing the Bible.

Church audits emissions

According to initial estimates, the Catholic Church produces as much global warming trigger carbon emissions as the Australian Government, minus defence operations.

Call for aged care league tables

Catholic Health Australia CEO Martin Laverty said that all nursing homes should detail their performance across a range of indicators, from staff ratios and contact hours to the incidence

of bedsores, in order to form a league table of their own.

School suicides prompts call for funding for youth mental health

The Victorian Government sent extra counsellors to a school in the state's south, after four current or former students committed suicide in six months.

Victorian equality law review meeting religious resistance

Churches, religious leaders, parents and private schools said they will defend discrimination based on faith in the face of a review of Victoria's Equal Opportunity Act and its exemptions, a news report said.

Anti-gay letter raises ire toward Albury Catholic college

An anti-homosexual letter published in Albury's Xavier High School alumni publication breached NSW's anti-vilification laws, a gay activist said as he demanded an apology from the school.

Church weighs into mining and farming battle

Catholic, Anglican and Uniting Church leaders issued a joint statement underscoring their solidarity with farmers against mining in southern Queensland's Darling Downs.

Pope's encyclical urges ethical financial system

Pope Benedict urged a renewal of the global financial order based on "an ethics which is people centred" with the goal of common good, in his newly released encyclical.

Breaking the cycle of aged homelessness

Research by the Australian Catholic University and Catholic Community Services found that with sustained effort the cycle of homelessness

experienced by older Australians can be broken.

Catholic Workers charged over CQ war games protest

Catholic Worker Movement's veteran Australian members Jim Dowling and Ciaran O'Reilly were arrested for blockading a joint Australian-US military exercise in central Queensland.

Fair pay commission blasted for failing workers

A freeze on the minimum wage by the Australian Fair Pay Commission plunges more working families into poverty, forcing safety net dependent workers to carry the burden of macro economic reform, said Catholic Social Services Australia.

JSS program promotes African diversity in Moonee Valley

A Jesuit Social Services program allows Moonee Valley in Victoria to boast a strong mix of African migrants, most of them from Somalia, a community newspaper reported.

Poverty eradication teetering on brink of failure

All eight targets of the global Millennium Development Goals, including ending poverty, gender inequality, poor education, are "teetering on the brink of failure", Caritas Australia said.

Squalor on our doorstep sees impetus for national conference

Catholic Community Services is planning to hold a National Squalor Conference to create awareness that living in squalor it is not just happening near "rubbish heaps in the third world."

- Courtesy Church Resources, details at cathnews.com or click on headlines



Social Justice Calendar

2 SUN

First Indo-Chinese refugees allowed to settle in Australia, 1965
National Missing Persons Week commences

4 TUE

National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day

6 THU

The Transfiguration (Feast)
Hiroshima Day, 1945

8 SAT

Mary MacKillop (Feast)
Atom Bomb dropped on Nagasaki, 1945

9 SUN

International Day of the World's Indigenous
People

12 WED

International Youth Day

15 SAT

Assumption of Mary (Solemnity)
End of World War II in the Pacific, 1945

16 SUN

Wave Hill Station, NT, returned to the Gurindji
People, 1975

18 TUE

Vietnam Veterans Day

21 FRI

First day of Ramadan

23 SUN

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
International Day for the Remembrance of the
Slave Trade and its Abolition

26 WED

MV Tampa rescues 433 asylum seekers from a
sinking vessel. Australian Government refuses
entry to its shores and sends troops to prevent
disembarkation, 2001

27 THU

Death of Dom Helder Camara, 1999

30 SUN

Refugee and Migrant Sunday
East Timor's Independence Ballot, 1999 -
78.5% of East Timorese vote for independence

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.

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front page of the website Comments and contributions are also welcome.