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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,

On Friday 21 September, the Australian Catholic Bishops' 2012-2013 Social Justice Statement, *The Gift of Family in difficult times*, was launched by Dr John Falzon, Chief Executive Officer of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia. The response was given by Dr Lisa Bridle, Senior Consultant of the Community Resource Unit in Brisbane and disability advocate.

Aunty Elsie Heiss, Executive Officer of Aboriginal Catholic Church/Ministry in the Archdiocese of Sydney, acknowledged the Traditional Owners, the Cammeraygal people.

Professor Marea Nicholson, Associate Vice-Chancellor (Sydney) of the Australian Catholic University, welcomed us to the Mary MacKillop campus of the ACU.

Looking to the margins to find the heart of our society

In launching the Statement, John Falzon dedicated his words to the Elders and

custodians of the land we call Australia. 'Let us cherish, and learn from, the strong meaning of family among the diverse traditions of the First Peoples,' he said. 'When we reflect on the sacredness of the family we are sadly reminded of the Stolen Generations, the Aboriginal children who were forcibly removed from their parents.'

Drawing on the struggles and challenges faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, John also mentioned the struggles and challenges faced by other families who are pushed to the margins of society.

'The Majority World, the poor of the earth, the struggling families of the earth who are least likely to come to mind when the concept of the family is invoked by the comfortable; these families, crushed by the weight of oppressive structures and stinging histories; these are the families who, above all others, have the capacity to speak prophetically to our time. These are the families who incarnate the humanity of God. They most closely mirror the lived experience of Jesus of Nazareth, the Worker, the Teacher, the Brother of the Poor, God with us.'

'We need to look to the margins, which are really the heart of our society. We need to listen to the whispers from the edge that another kind of world is possible.'

Commenting on the marketisation of Australian society and the consumerism of modern culture, John identified a kind of myopia that fails to recognise the real problems but instead takes the comfortable option of blaming the victim.

'Our problem in Australia is not the "idleness of the poor", as proposed by these apologists for low social expenditure. Putting the boot into disadvantaged Australians does not help even one person into employment. Our problem is inequality. This is a social question,

not a question of behaviour. We do irreparable harm when we turn it into a question of individual behaviour, blaming people for their own poverty.

‘We build massive walls around people on the basis of their race, class, gender or disability. The same people are then condemned for lacking the “aspiration” to scale these walls.

‘Our task is to have the humility to listen to the people who can teach us how society needs to change.

‘It is about committing ourselves to join in the long-haul project of tearing down the walls that we have built around people, locking them out, or locking them up,’ he said.

Recognising and receiving the gift of each other

In her response, Dr Lisa Bridle paid tribute to the Bishops’ Statement for naming the social and economic strains on modern Australian families and for identifying the circumstances of the most vulnerable: many Indigenous families, refugee families, the poor, the homeless and those families who care for a member with disability.

Speaking from personal experience, Lisa spoke of the exclusion of modern culture.

‘Our modern culture makes it hard for many families and certainly harder for families to welcome a child with disability into their families. Our culture still schools us in many prejudices about disability, despite lip service to values of diversity and the odd feel-good moment exemplified by the recent Paralympics. But more than this, our competitive social context makes us anxious for any child’s prospects, let alone for those who start out with any form of disadvantage.’

Speaking on the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Lisa said that it is critical that Australian families can trust that support will be made available.

‘The NDIS is critical because families with a member with disability are sick of begging or what my friend Trish Mowbray calls

“competing at the misery Olympics”, tired of the uncertainty, exhausted by the fights to get even the most minimal resources to enable them to live in ways that other Australians take for granted.’ She cautioned, however, ‘The NDIS will fail us if we think it will automatically meet our responsibilities towards people with disability and their families. The real barriers for people with disability are not about resources, but about exclusion from the social fabric of our community - what the late Christopher Newell and Gerard Goggin called the “social apartheid” of disability. This apartheid is marked not just by separateness but by invisibility, devaluation and neglect of basic human rights.’

Lisa summed up the challenge - ‘It makes all the Difference how you see us.

‘We are not other; we are not the poor unfortunate. We are not here to be receptacles of charity. People with disability and their families are instead able to show us a model for how our communities can be better. These families, despite their challenges, helpfully show us that we are all vulnerable, that we ALL need each other, and that we CAN make space for those who are unexpected, who challenge us, and who need MORE from us. They show us that even the most difficult of lives brings unexpected gifts and contributions, and that every person counts. They show us that when we join together - as a family or as a community - and support each other in faith, in solidarity, and in hope - that love has no limits.’

The family - ‘a society with a human face’

In thanking and both speakers, Bishop Christopher Saunders drew on the words of Pope Benedict at the 7th World meeting of Families in Milan in May this year.

‘Pope Benedict spoke about “the one-sided logic of sheer utility and maximum profit”, and said that this logic is “not conducive to harmonious development, to the good of the family or to building a just society”. It “brings in its wake ferocious competition, strong inequalities, degradation of the environment, the race for consumer goods, family tensions.”

‘The Social Justice Statement highlights how work and other influences are eating into the time that is available for families to spend in love, support, and prayer. In particular, the casualisation of work and erosion of work conditions are forcing parents to spend more time at work and less time with their family.’

Bishop Christopher emphasised how the Church’s commitment to distributive justice challenges what the Holy Father calls ‘the one-sided logic of sheer utility and maximum profit’.

‘Our Church teaches that a commitment to the common good is necessary for a healthy society. We also know that any striving for the common good will be incomplete and ineffective without a *preferential option for the poor* - the imperative that says that we work first to help those who need it most, that those with the greatest need have the greatest call on our generosity.

‘In a practical sense, this means building equity into the very operation of the market and ensuring the demands of justice are met as the economic process takes place, not just afterwards or when damage has already been done.

‘The families we mention [in the Statement] continue to endure the “one-sided logic”. And yet, prophetically, these families also point to a more balanced logic that would ensure equity, justice and inclusion.’

He said, ‘The logic of inclusion does not allow a mindset that some individuals and families are a burden, intruders, indolent or even a mistake. It says that we are all in this together. It acknowledges the God-given dignity of each person and the vital role of the family. This is what the Holy Father describes as “a society with a human face”.’

Catholic Bishops’ Statement and associated resources

There are many ways the message of the Bishops’ 2012-2013 Statement can be promoted throughout the year ahead.

The Secretariat still has copies of the Statement for those who would like to place an order. The Statement can also be downloaded from the ACSJC website: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

There are other resources that are ideal for prayer, worship, and personal reflection, and for discussion in classrooms and among groups. Prayers, community and student resources, liturgy notes, the Ten-Steps leaflet and prayer card, and a PowerPoint presentation can be accessed via the ACSJC website.

The Catholic Social Justice Council of the Archdiocese of Perth has also produced an excellent audio version of the Social Justice Statement that can be accessed via a link on the ACSJC website.

John Ferguson (National Executive Officer)



Current Issues / Resources

EUREKA STREET ON THE SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

In ‘Eureka Street’ on Wednesday 26 September, Fr Andrew Hamilton reviewed the Bishops’ Social Justice Statement in his article ‘Social justice and the 21st century family’. He says: ‘The tone of the document is encouraging and practical. It invites Catholics to reflect on how to enrich their family lives in the face of aspects of society hostile to them. It is not a jeremiad against the ills of the modern age and the philosophical theories seen to

underlie them. But this pastoral focus invites further reflection on the centrality within our economic order given to the individual’s choice to consume.

Prosperity depends on multiplying economic transactions, both those concerned with making money from money and those involved in the buying and replacement of discretionary goods. To repair the damage caused to family life would require building a better economic order.’ Refer: <http://eurekastreet.com.au/article.aspx?aeid=33309>

ANTI-POVERTY WEEK 2012

Anti-Poverty Week 2012 begins on Sunday 14 October. The United Nations has designated Wednesday 17 October as International Anti-Poverty Day. This year, Anti-Poverty Week is 10 years old. The Week is concerned with poverty around the world, especially in the poorest countries, but also in wealthier countries such as Australia. The main aims of the Week are to strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty, and to encourage research, discussion and action to address the issues. For further information and ideas on how you can participate, visit: <http://www.antipovertyweek.org.au>

REPORT: 'GOING WITHOUT'

A report by the major Church Providers of social services in Australia shows people living on the dole are living in such poverty that their chances of getting a job are seriously limited. The NATSEM report, 'Going Without: Financial Hardship in Australia', was commissioned by Catholic Social Services Australia, Anglicare Australia, The Salvation Army and UnitingCare Australia. It shows single people living alone and single parents on Newstart or Youth Allowance face much greater financial hardship than other government benefit households and the general population. CSSA Executive Director, Paul O'Callaghan, says there is an urgent need for an increase in the basic allowance and for realistic indexation. 'Far from providing an incentive to find work, the current inadequate level of the payment prevents many people from seeking work and is adding to long-term and intergenerational disadvantage,' he says. To access the report, visit: http://www.anglicare.asn.au/userfiles/file/Going%20Without%20MCP%20Report_Aug%202012.pdf; <http://www.catholicsocialservices.org.au/node/44789>

ABC FOUR CORNERS PROGRAM ON EAST TIMOR

The Four Corners program on Monday 1 October will feature the topic 'East Timor - a tiny island fights for its oil'. The program airs at 8.30 pm on ABC 1 and is repeated at 11.30 pm on Tuesday evening. The Four Corners web page is at <http://www.abc.net.au/4corners>.

DECLARATION ON RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES: FIVE YEARS OLD

On the fifth anniversary of the UN adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Australian Human Rights Commission's Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda said the Government has taken some significant steps towards implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples but much more remained to be done. He said the National Apology to the Stolen Generations, establishing the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples and the National Healing Foundation all go some way to redressing the impacts of colonisation on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples but the government still had to give full effect to the Declaration. The Commission's media release is at http://www.hreoc.gov.au/about/media/news/2012/94_12.html.

CARITAS 'WALK AS ONE CAMPAIGN'

There are more than 370 million Indigenous peoples living in some 90 countries around the world today. They are custodians of some of the world's most biologically diverse territories; are responsible for a great deal of the world's cultural and linguistic diversity; and their traditional knowledge is an invaluable resource in many sectors, such as medicine and agriculture. Although Indigenous Peoples make up roughly 5 percent of the global population, they constitute up to 15 percent of the world's poor, and over a third of the world's extremely poor rural population. The majority are living within Australia's own region, Asia. Join the Walk As One campaign to seek solutions to these challenges, calling on our government to improve Australia's foreign aid programme and policies as they relate to Indigenous Peoples, and seeking change in communities and businesses, promoting positive engagement with Indigenous led initiatives and organisations. To find out more about this campaign, visit: <http://www.caritas.org.au/act/walk-as-one-indigenous-peoples-campaign>

YOUNG PEOPLE: GET YOUR CAMERAS OUT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The Australian Human Rights Commission is calling on young people around Australia to

channel their passion for human rights through the camera lens. The Commission has been running a photo competition since March this year with monthly winners already announced. Commission President Professor Gillian Triggs said the competition's theme is human rights. 'Human rights are contained in legislation, international covenants and treaties but they affect each and every one of us on a daily basis,' Professor Triggs said. Photos can be submitted in either the under 18 or 18 years and over category. Monthly winners will go into the pool for selection as the overall winner in each category where they will win Canon EOS-1100D Digital SLR Camera Single Kits. Winners will be announced at the Commission's Human Rights Awards Ceremony on Monday, 10 December 2012 at the Hilton Sydney. A selection of the best images and online entry are at <http://www.humanrights.gov.au/PhotoCompetition2012>.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION'S CONCERNS ON OFFSHORE PROCESSING

The Australian Human Rights Commission has serious concerns that the human rights of asylum seekers sent to Nauru will not be adequately protected. Commission President Professor Gillian Triggs said it was still unclear how the new arrangements would work in practice. 'It is not yet clear how the processing arrangements will operate in Nauru so it is not possible to assess how consistent these arrangements will be with Australia's human rights obligations,' Professor Triggs said. 'There is no information as to how prepared Nauru is to process the claims and it is unclear whether those transferred to Nauru will have access to legal advice.' The Commission's media release is at http://humanrights.gov.au/about/media/media_releases/2012/78_12.html.

MISSIONARIES OF THE SACRED HEART CENTRE FOR REFUGEES, NAURU.

The Australian Government has reopened the refugee processing centres on Nauru and Manus Island. These refugees will need welcoming, care and assistance beyond that provided by 'the system'. The Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC) Mission Office has established with the local community a centre supported by Fr Tatieru Ewenteang MSC, the present Parish Priest of

Nauru, to assist wherever possible the welfare of refugees sent to the Island. Its aim is to assist with acts of kindness such as supplying clothing, toys for children, food, medicine, use of phones and if possible to assist with our school and social facilities. For more information and to donate to this project, go to <http://australia.mscmission.org/relief-work/naurumakeadifference>.

CATHOLIC MISSION LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO END DETENTION OF CHILDREN

Young people throughout Australia will be hitting their social media networks to spread the word to end the immigration detention of children in a campaign launched on 28 September at the offices of Catholic Mission. They include Australian Young Christian Students Movement (AYCS) networking to thousands of students; ChilOut and their Youth Ambassadors; plus Catholic School students who will join with the International Detention Coalition (IDC), and church and community organisations in a campaign to 'End Child Detention' in Australia. 'Detention is a problem not a solution,' said Tessa Ganley, Chair of AYCS. 'The youth of Australia can easily identify with what it would be like to be locked up, and they know that a country like Australia should not allow this to happen.' Information and video clips can be seen at <http://cm.org.au/wmm/advocate.html>.

REPORT ON ACRATH'S 2012 VISIT TO CANBERRA

Following on from their very successful visit to Federal Parliament, Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) have released a Newsletter giving details of their visit. The Newsletter includes references to ACRATH being acknowledged in Hansard during the lead up to the Crimes Legislation Amendment (Slavery, Slavery-like Conditions and People Trafficking) Bill 2012 passing through the House of Representatives. The Newsletter is available at <http://acrath.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/ACRATH-Canberra-Newsletter-Sept-2012.pdf>.

ROOTS OF PEACE CAMPAIGN AGAINST LANDMINES

Roots of Peace is a humanitarian organisation dedicated to eradicating landmines worldwide

and rehabilitating the land to make it productive once more. The roots of the organisation are in the heart of California's agricultural grape growing region. With the generous support of the entire California wine industry, Roots of Peace aims to turn 'Mines into Vines', which helps innocent farmers and families avoid a lethal harvest of bloodshed for future generations. For a report on the organisation's visit to the Vatican, see <http://www.rootsofpeace.org/events/2011/05/mines-to-vines-on-sacred-sites.html#more>.

Their website is at: <http://www.rootsofpeace.org>.

MICAH CHALLENGE'S 'VOICES FOR JUSTICE'

Micah Challenges annual gathering took place in Canberra on 15-18 September, with the support of many of Australia's most powerful

politicians including Former PM Kevin Rudd , Labor MP Peter Garrett, Greens' Senator Lee Rhiannon, independent MP Rob Oakeshott and other federal MPs and Senators. According to Micah Challenge's National Coordinator John Beckett, significant progress is being made towards the Millennium Development Goals in every country that receives Australian aid, which is why it is crucial to keep global poverty on the political agenda. 'Worldwide, five million more children are living to celebrate their fifth birthday than in 1990 and aid has played a significant part in that progress. We know that aid works. But we are still off track when it comes to the Millennium Development Goals that target hunger, education and health' For more information on Micah Challenge and Voices for Justice, go to <http://www.micahchallenge.org.au>.

Latest Publications

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

LAUNCH OF THE 2012-2013 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

Addresses delivered at the launch of the 2012-2013 Social Justice Statement by the Dr John Falzon, Executive Officer of the Society of St Vincent de Paul in Australia, Dr Lisa Bridle, Senior Consultant at the Community Resource Unit in Brisbane, and

Bishop Christopher Saunders are available for download on the ACSJC homepage: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/>

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2012-2013 - ORDER NOW!

This year's Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement is entitled 'The Gift of Family in Difficult Times: The social and economic challenges facing families today'. The ACSJC is now taking orders for

the Statement. An order form and other information/resources are available on the ACSJC website: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

Prayer Card & Leaflet: Ten steps to strengthen and support families.

Now available. Call (02) 8306 3499

Social Justice Statement Summary, Liturgy Notes, Community and Student Resources, PowerPoint Presentation - now available or soon available at: www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

Ecumenical resource: 'Peace in the Marketplace - So all may live in dignity'.

Download from the National Council of Churches website: <http://www.ncca.org.au/component/content/article/41-sjn-resources/686-social-justice-sunday-2012>

SERIES PAPER - 'CHARITY AND JUSTICE'

The ACSJC has published Catholic Social Justice Series paper No.72, entitled 'Charity and Justice: St Mary MacKillop and Australian

Society'. Author Professor John Warhurst draws on presentations at a conference on the life, work and legacy of Mary MacKillop organised last year by Catholic Social Services Victoria, MacKillop Family Services, the Sisters of St Joseph, the Australian Catholic University and the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, and also on the 2011 CSSA McCosker oration by Sr Anne Derwin RSJ. The paper's principal theme is St Mary's unswerving vision: that a commitment to justice must go hand in hand with a commitment to hard practical work on behalf of people on the margins of society.

PASTORAL LETTER - FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 2012

The Pastoral Letter for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker for 2012 is entitled 'The Dignity of Work - More than a casual concern'. It is available for download in regular and 'three-column' versions at: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>

SERIES PAPER - 'TAKE OFF YOUR SHOES, WALK ON THE GROUND'

The ACSJC has published a collection of three essays under the title *Take Off Your Shoes, Walk on the Ground: The journey towards reconciliation in Australia* (Catholic Social Justice series paper No. 71). The authors

are: Professor Lyn Henderson-Yates of the University of Notre Dame Australia; Fr Brian McCoy SJ, Senior Research Fellow in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health at La Trobe University; and Melissa Brickell, member of several Catholic and ecumenical commissions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, Director of Reconciliation Victoria and Chair of the Stolen Generations Victoria Alliance. (\$6.60 a copy plus postage - postage rates listed below)

SERIES PAPER - 'READING THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES'

The ACSJC Secretariat has released Catholic Social Justice Series paper No.70, 'Reading the Signs of the Times: A basic introduction to Catholic social teaching'. This paper provides a brief analysis of a number of papal encyclicals on social justice, the context in which they were promulgated, some of the key themes of each, and a method for applying the permanent principles of social doctrine to the challenges of today. (\$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 \$1.20; 2 copies \$1.80; 3-5 copies \$3.00)

This Month's Notices

NATIONAL

5-11 OCTOBER. RIDE TO WORSHIP WEEK. This is a chance to join with people of all faiths from around Australia by leaving your car at home and cycling, walking, or using another form of environmentally friendly transport to get to and from your religious activities. We encourage you to join in as an individual, family, or whole religious community. For information, registration, etc: <http://www.arrcc.org.au/ride-to-worship-week-2012>.

10 OCTOBER. NATIONAL ECONFERENCE: 'VATICAN II, AN EVENT OF GRACE'. You can participate in this conference, in the convenience of your own city or town across the country or across the world. Watch

the conference at home or gather friends or staff in your parish or community hall. Keynote Educators: Bishop Michael Putney and Sr Maryanne Confoy RSC. The Year of Grace e-Conference is brought to you by The Broken Bay Institute in partnership with the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference as a gift, so there is no charge to participate. Registration: Rhonda Andersen (02) 9847 0726 or econferences@bbi.catholic.edu.au. Web: <http://www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/news-and-events/fx-view-event.cfm?loadref=132&id=12>

12 OCTOBER. CHARITY MOVIE SCREENING: 'THE INTOUCHABLES'. To raise money for Youth Off the Streets. An irreverent, uplifting comedy about friendship, trust and human possibility. 6.30 pm, the Randwick Ritz, 45 St

Paul St, Randwick. Information and bookings:
<http://www.youthoffthestreets.com.au/support-an-event/w1/i1001897>.

14-20 OCTOBER. ANTI-POVERTY WEEK 2012. Anti-Poverty Week 2012 begins on Sunday 14 October. The United Nations has designated Wednesday 17 October as International Anti-Poverty Day. This year, Anti-Poverty Week is 10 years old. The Week is concerned with poverty around the world, especially in the poorest countries, but also in wealthier countries such as Australia. The main aims of the Week are to strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty, and to encourage research, discussion and action to address the issues. For further information and ideas on how you can participate, visit: <http://www.antipovertyweek.org.au>

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

3 OCTOBER. SEMINAR: 'SUPPORTING THE ASPIRATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS OF YOUNG ABORIGINAL STUDENTS - AN ALTERNATIVE MODEL?' Presented by Helen Alexiou. It is often claimed that there is a need to engage young Aboriginal people, promote the importance of completing education and expand their horizons and knowledge about employment opportunities and pathways. However is the current policy and program approach used to address differences in education and employment indicators between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians one that moves towards equality? Helen Alexiou is a doctoral research scholar at the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research. 12.30 pm to 2.00 pm, Haydon Allen G052 (Quadrangle, near ANU Union), Australian National University. Web: http://caep.r.anu.edu.au/Seminars/12/Seminar-Topics%E2%80%942/03_10_Seminar.php.

10 OCTOBER. LECTURE: 'PROSPECTS OF A CONSTITUTIONAL SETTLEMENT OF ETHNIC CONFLICT IN POST-WAR SRI LANKA'. Presented by Dr Jayampathy Wickramaratne, Director of Programs, Institute of Constitutional Studies, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Presented by Law Reform + Social Justice, Law, Governance & Development Initiative, ANU

College of Law. This event is free and open to the public. 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm, Sparke Helmore Theatre, ANU College of Law, Building 5, Fellows Road, Australian National University. Web: http://law.anu.edu.au/sites/all/files/events/wickaramaratne_oct12.pdf

10 OCTOBER. BOOK LAUNCH: 'PEOPLE ON COUNTRY'. The Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, The Federation Press and the Sidney Myer Fund warmly invite you to the launch of 'People on Country: Vital Landscapes, Indigenous Futures', edited by Jon Altman and Seán Kerins. Launch by Dr Tom Calma AO, Co-Chair, Reconciliation Australia, followed by contributions from Indigenous ranger partners and authors. Hosted by Dan Gillespie, People on Country Advisory Committee. 5.30 for 6-7.30 pm, Finkel Lecture Theatre, John Curtin School of Medical Research, Australian National University, Building 131, Garran Road, Acton, ACT. Numbers are limited: RSVP: elisabeth.yarbakhsh@anu.edu.au or phone (02) 6125 0648 by 2 October. Refreshments will be provided.

11 OCTOBER. SEMINAR: 'RE-ESTABLISHING THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE'. Presented by Christians for an Ethical Society. Speakers: Emeritus Professor Bob Douglas, Karolina Szukalska and Rev. Steve Clarke. There is widespread frustration in Australia at the impoverishment of our political processes at a time when global change means that visionary leadership is desperately needed. The forum will seek to encourage discussion from the floor. \$5 Donation requested to cover hall costs. 7:30 pm, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Corner Blackall St and Kings Av, Barton. Contact information: Heather McLaren (02) 6291 4537 or web: <http://www.ces.org.au/index.htm>.

16 OCTOBER. SEMINAR: 'INTRODUCTION TO RESTORATIVE PRACTICE'. Facilitator: Matt Casey. Matt Casey is the Canberra and Goulburn Archdiocesan Professional Standards Officer. Matt has worked extensively in Restorative Practice since 1997 including three years working with Real Justice, the Australian affiliate of the International Institute of Restorative Practices. Cost: \$99.00 (incl

GST). A reduced rate can be negotiated for volunteers (supportive evidence required). 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm, Rheinberger Function Centre, Cnr Weston and Loch Sts Yarralumla ACT. Further information: email training@catholiclife.org.au or phone (02) 6163 4300. Web: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e6amfaj56d965a52>

17 OCTOBER. SEMINAR: 'DOES IT PAY FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH TO GO TO SCHOOL? ETHNIC INEQUALITIES IN SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT IN NEW CALEDONIA, A 20-YEAR PERSPECTIVE'. Presented by Samuel Gorohouna and Catherine Ris. This study attempts to look deeper into ethnic inequalities with respect to school achievement and transition from education to the labour market, with reference to research in New Caledonia and neighbouring countries. 12.30 pm to 2.00 pm, Haydon Allen G052 (Quadrangle, near ANU Union), Australian National University. Web: http://caep.r.anu.edu.au/Seminars/12/Seminar-Topics%E2%80%942/17_10_Seminar.php

24 OCTOBER. PHILLIPA WEEKS LECTURE IN LABOUR LAW - 'THE INTERNATIONAL REGULATION OF DOMESTIC WORK: LESSONS FOR AUSTRALIA?' Presented by Dr Jill Murray, La Trobe University. In 2011, the International Labour Organisation created a Convention on Domestic Work, which aims to shape legal protections for the many millions of maids, carers, nannies, cooks and others around the world who perform paid work in the home. The Convention provides us with the opportunity to assess where international labour law is at in its treatment of 'non-standard work', the integration of a human rights focus in labour law, the evolution of working time norms and the design of legal techniques for implementation and enforcement. This lecture is free and open to the public. RSVP by Monday 22 October: rsvp@law.anu.edu.au or phone (02) 6125 1096. 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm, Sparke Helmore Theatre 1, ANU College of Law (bldg 5), Fellows Road, The Australian National University.

25 OCTOBER. INTERNATIONAL PASTORAL CARE DAY. Three sessions of interactive learning. Theme: 'Care of the Soul: Of Myself

-- Of Those Approaching Death' Resource person: Dr. Douglas Bridge (BMeSc Hons, MBBS, FRACP, FRCP, FACHPM, DTM&H). In the Chapel of the ACCC (Barton). Contact: Clair Hochstetler, (Chr. of Education Committee of the ACT Branch of Spiritual Care Australia). Mob: 0466 623 261.

NEW SOUTH WALES

UNTIL 2 OCTOBER. ECO RETREAT - 'LISTENING TO THE UNIVERSE: LIVING RESPONSIVELY'. Presented by Colleen O'Sullivan rsj and Kateri Duke rsj. 'Each individual person has the power of participating in the transformation of the whole earth ... the magnitude of the Earth's adventure staggers the human imagination' (Brian Swimme). You are invited to be part of this journey. Sept 25-Oct 2, St Joseph's Kincumber, 8 Humpherys Road, Kincumber South NSW 2251. Enquiries and bookings: bookings@stjosephsretreat.org.au.

UNTIL 14 OCTOBER. PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: 'ESCAPE FROM VIETNAM'. A collaboration between the Australian National Maritime Museum and Archive of Vietnamese Boat People to mark Refugee Week. After the Vietnam War ended in 1975 more than one million refugees fled the new Communist regime by one of the only routes available - across open sea. The AVBP photograph collection preserves the history of these perilous voyages and temporary island camps. It also honours the memory of the estimated half a million refugees who perished in the pursuit of freedom. Australian National Maritime Museum, 2 Murray Street, Sydney. Web: www.anmm.gov.au.

2 OCTOBER. LECTURE: 'DEFINING OUR NATIONAL CHARACTER - OUR TREATMENT OF ASYLUM SEEKERS'. Macquarie University's Centre for Legal Governance and Centre for Agency, Values and Ethics present Julian Burnside QC. Julian Burnside is a former President of Liberty Victoria, and has acted pro bono in many human rights cases, in particular concerning the treatment of refugees. Bookings are essential: RSVP to shideh.modabber@mq.edu.au. Phone: (02) 9850 7098. 5.45 pm (for 6.00 pm start), Macquarie University W5A T1.

3 OCTOBER. LECTURE: 'GLOBAL HEALTH ETHICS'. Presented by Professor Ross Upshur MD, MSC, Canada Research Chair in Primary Care Research. Discussion and questions: Professor Merrilyn Walton, Associate Dean (International), Director Office for Global Health. 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm, Woolley Lecture Theatre N395, University of Sydney. More information and RSVP contact louise.freckelton@sydney.edu.au. Web: <http://sydney.edu.au/global-health/news-events/2012/flyer-global-health-ethics.pdf>.

3 OCTOBER. SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB (PADDINGTON): 'SHARING THE JOURNEY WITH OUR PLANET'. Speakers: Lis Bastian, a writer and Sustainability Officer, Blue Mountains Conservation Society and Rabbi Jeffrey Kamins, Senior Rabbi at Emanuel Synagogue in Woollahra. This evening will be moderated by Geraldine Doogue. 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm, The Paddington Arms Hotel, 384 Oxford Street, Paddington (opp Uniting Church). Information: (02) 9387 3152 or 0414 873 910. Email dfdlaw@infolearn.com.au. Web: http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=127:paddington&catid=8:nsw-sip-venues&Itemid=94.

4, 6 OCTOBER. ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY REFUGEE CHILDREN HOMEWORK TUTORS TRAINING DAY. Interested in volunteering with refugee children? The SPARK program is offering volunteer training in Parramatta on Thursday 4 October and Saturday 6 October for people to work with children of refugee background through an after-school homework support program for primary school children in Auburn, Regents Park, Pendle Hill, Parramatta, Granville, Guildford, Old Guildford, Girraween and Liverpool. If you are interested in volunteering please contact SPARK! Contact: (02) 9568 0280 or spark@vinnies.org.au. Web: <http://www.vinnies.org.au/spark>.

5-7 OCTOBER. CONFERENCE IN PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION AND CULTURE. The Catholic Institute of Sydney's Biennial Conference in Philosophy, Religion and Culture, 'The Expressible and the Inexpressible'. The Conference specifically aims to foster interaction between scholars in the universities

and scholars in theological colleges. It also encourages young scholars. The Conference begins with a Public Lecture at 7.30 pm Friday 5 October. Keynote Speaker: Timothy Chappell, The Open University UK: 'Whereof We Cannot Speak' Convenors: Stephen Buckle (ACU), William Emilsen (UTC/CSU), Peter Forrest (UNE), John McDowell (Newcastle), Shane Mackinlay (CTC/MCD), Andrew Murray (CIS/SCD). 7.00 pm Friday 5 October to 5.00 pm Sunday 7 October. Catholic Institute of Sydney, 99 Albert Rd, Strathfield NSW 2135. Enquiries: (02) 9752 9514. Web: <http://www.cis.catholic.edu.au/news-a-events/biennial-conference>.

5 OCTOBER. SEMINAR: 'BEYOND PUNISHMENT: THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS'. Sydney Law School presents Professor Malcolm Feeley, the 2012 Fulbright Flinders University Distinguished Chair in American Political Science. The United States and Australia lead the world in the development of private prisons. This development has generated considerable controversy and resistance. This seminar will examine the historic and contemporary role of private entrepreneurs in developing innovations in the criminal process. 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm (Registration and refreshments from 5.00 pm). Common Room, Level 4, Sydney Law School, Building F10, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney. Cost: Free, however registration essential Contact: (02) 9351 0429; Email: law.events@sydney.edu.au. Web: <http://sydney.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventid=9799>.

7 OCTOBER. MARY MACKILLOP FOUNDATION SUNDAY ROAST LUNCH. The Mary MacKillop Foundation is delighted to announce they will be hosting a Sunday after Mass on October 7th at Mary MacKillop Place, School House. Proceeds from the ticket will support the Foundation's 'small life-changing projects'. Join us as we celebrate the fantastic combination of delicious food, great company and a dash of music. Includes roast dish, salad, dessert, soft drink and a glass of wine. Limited spots available. 12.00 pm, Mary MacKillop Place: School House, 7-11 Mount Street, North Sydney. Cost: \$35 per person. More information: <http://www.mackillopfoundation.org.au/index.php?section=events&type=future&eventID=69>

8 OCTOBER. SEMINAR: 'LIVING ON THE PERIPHERIES: THE REFUGEE EXPERIENCE'.

Issues faced by many refugees in Australia, and strategies on how to work effectively with refugees. 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm, Conference Room 580, UTS Broadway campus, Level 5, Building 10, 235 Jones St., Broadway. Contact Sydney Development Cycle, 0414 345 114.

8 OCTOBER. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON THE DEATH PENALTY.

To commemorate the World Day Against the Death Penalty, the NSW Pitt Street action group invites you to join them for a panel discussion on capital punishment. The panel will be looking at both the international and national ramifications of capital punishment as well as the personal and psychological toll it takes. Amnesty International's NSW President Senthoran Raj and guest speakers Professor Eileen Baldry (UNSW) and Professor Natalie Klein (Macquarie University) will discuss these challenging questions. Free. 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm, Level 1, 79 Myrtle Street, Chippendale, NSW. Contact: aia.pittst@gmail.com.

8 OCTOBER. SEMINAR: 'HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISRAEL: PARADOX OR PARADIGM?' Join Hagai El-Ad, Israeli human rights activist in conversation with Associate Professor Simon Rice OAM. 12:30 pm, Gilbert + Tobin, Level 37, 2 Park Street, Sydney. RSVP by 1 October to rshaw@gtlaw.com.au or phone (02) 9263 4341.

9 OCTOBER. BOOK LAUNCH: 'PEOPLE ON COUNTRY'. The Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, The Federation Press and the Sidney Myer Fund warmly invite you to the launch of 'People on Country: Vital Landscapes, Indigenous Futures', edited by Jon Altman and Seán Kerins. Launch by Jody Broun, Co-Chair, National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, followed by contributions from Indigenous ranger partners and authors. Hosted by Jason Ardler, General Manager, Aboriginal Affairs NSW. 5.30 for 6.00-7.30 p.m., Mary Jane Barker Theatre, Y Conference Centre, Y Hotel Hyde Park, 5-11 Wentworth Ave, Sydney, NSW. RSVP: elizabeth.yarbakhsh@anu.edu.au or phone (02) 6125 0648 by 2 October. Numbers are limited. Refreshments will be provided at all events.

9 OCTOBER. SEMINAR: 'IN THE SHADOW OF THE WELFARE STATE: THE ROLE OF PAY-DAY LENDING IN POVERTY SURVIVAL IN AUSTRALIA'. UNSW's Social Policy research Centre presents Professor Greg Marston, Queensland University of Technology. A defining characteristic of contemporary welfare governance in many western countries has been reduced involvement by the state in direct social service provision. Large numbers of people on low incomes in Australia are turning to non-mainstream financial services for the provision of credit to make ends meet. 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm, Room 221/223 John Goodsell Building, UNSW Kensington. Registration is required: go to <http://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/othersites/?path=othersites/fass/form/index.php&i=181>.

9 OCTOBER. EVENING WITH DAVE NAVINDRA.

We are delighted to have the privilege of hosting an evening with Dave Navindra from LEADS – TEAR, Australia's long-term partner in Sri Lanka. David will present issues concerning resettlement of IDPs and reconciliation among the Sri Lankan communities. Please contact jozica.crnec@tear.org.au or (02) 9212 4499 if you would like to attend. 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm, Suite 413 / 410 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills. Web: <http://www.tear.org.au/states/news/evening-with-dave-navindra-ceo-leads>.

11 OCTOBER. LECTURE: 'CHALLENGES OF MULTICULTURALISM IN AN EMERGING CONSERVATIVE AUSTRALIA'. Affinity monthly dialogue series for October presents the Hon. Laurie Ferguson MP, Member for Reid. 7.30 pm, Affinity Intercultural Foundation Centre, Suite 5, 3-5 Station Rd Auburn, NSW 2144. Tel: (02) 9702 0789; Web <http://www.affinity.org.au/index.php/component/content/article/44-affinity-lecture-series/175-lecture-laurie-ferguson>.

12 OCTOBER. HUNTERS HILL SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB: 'WOMEN - AN UNTAPPED RESOURCE IN THE CHURCH TODAY'. Speaker: Sr Megan Brock rsj PhD. With a background in teaching, she has worked for the last 20 years as a Registered Psychologist in private practice, and in consultancy to Religious Orders, Dioceses and other groups. Her doctoral work examined the lived experience

of Religious Sisters in Australia/New Zealand and its findings have been presented at a number of conferences both nationally and internationally. 7.00 pm, Villa Maria Parish Hall, corner Mary Street and Gladesville Road, Hunters Hill. Cost: \$50, includes two course meal. Reservations essential: RSVP Thursday 4 October. Register: http://www.catalyst-for-renewal.com.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=30:dinners&Itemid=114

12 OCTOBER. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'EXTREME HOMELESSNESS'. Speakers: John Dowd, AO, International Commission Jurists, and TBA. 6.00 pm to 7.45 pm, the Gaelic Club, 1/64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills NSW 2010. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au>.

13 OCTOBER. MAKE POVERTY HISTORY PHOTO EXHIBITION. Students and teachers at Shoalhaven Anglican School will be hosting the Make Poverty History Photo Exhibition and raising funds for TEAR Australia. Come along and show your support and meet Sue Earl, TEAR's NSW State Coordinator, who will be opening the event. 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm, Shoalhaven Anglican School, Croobyar Road, Milton NSW. Web: <http://www.tear.org.au/states/news/make-poverty-history-photo-exhibition>.

14 OCTOBER. INTERFAITH FORUM: 'FAITH IN MINING?' This interactive forum about mining in Australia covers ecological, economic and social issues and reflections from a diversity of faith traditions. People of all faith traditions and none are urged to participate in this forum. Speakers: Paul Cleary, Jacinta Green, Frances Bodkin, Rev Dr David Reichardt. Q&A and Table Discussions chaired by Stephen Crittenden. 1.30 pm to 5.00 pm, Auditorium, Christian Bros College, 68 The Boulevard, Lewisham. RSVP Ph: (02) 9352 8021 or annelanyon.cmi@columban.org.au.

16 OCTOBER. PALMS INAUGURAL SOLIDARITY AWARDS AND FUNDRAISING DINNER WITH JOSÉ RAMOS-HORTA. Master of Ceremonies: Indira Naidoo, TV news journalist, consumer advocate, environmental activist and author. Keynote Address: Palms Patron, Dr José Ramos Horta (Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and President Timor-Leste 2007-2012). Response:

Palms Patron Rev. Gary Stone, Deacon, Australian Defence Force and a founder of Friends and Partners with East Timor. 6.15 pm for 6.30 pm start. Doltone House, Jones Bay Wharf, Pyrmont, 26-32 Pirrama Road. Individual seats: \$185; members' seats: \$175; tables of 10: \$1800. Enquiries: (02) 9518 9551. Information and bookings: <http://www.palms.org.au/news/palms-inaugural-solidarity-awards-and-fundraising-dinner>.

16 OCTOBER. SEMINAR: 'NEW APPROACHES TO INDIGENOUS HOUSING'. Presented by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI). This event will present findings from research projects by Professor Paul Memmott, Ms Rhonda Phillips and Dr Daphne Habibis. Mr Mike Allen (Chief Executive, Housing NSW) will welcome delegates and the seminar will close with a group discussion and Q&A facilitated by Dr Andrew Hollows. 8.30 am to 12.00 pm, SMC Conference Centre, 66 Goulburn Street, Sydney. Email: kristina.conley@ahuri.edu.au. Web: <http://www.cvent.com/events/new-approaches-to-indigenous-housing/event-summary-14ba5d5bb94e489eb24d9a845c0e49d1.aspx>.

17 OCTOBER. FORUM: 'AFGHANISTAN: CAN WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE?' A forum discussion on preparing for peace and progress for Afghanistan as international troops leave. Presented by Mahboba's Promise in partnership with the Sydney Peace Foundation and the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies. Tickets: \$38.00 (\$28.00 concession); includes light refreshments. All profits benefit Mahboba's Promise projects in Afghanistan. 6.30 for 7.00 pm, Footbridge Theatre, University of Sydney, Parramatta Rd, Glebe. Ph: (02) 9887 1665. Web: <http://afghanistanforum.eventbrite.com>.

17 OCTOBER. STARTTS REFUGEE BALL 2012. This ball is a fundraiser for STARTTS (NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Victims). This year all funds raised will go towards STARTTS' Capoeira Angola program for young people. Cost: \$150 (includes a three course meal, drinks and entertainment). 7.00 pm, Dockside, The Balcony Level, Cockle Bay Wharf, Darling

Harbour, Sydney. Booking: <https://register.eventarc.com/event/view/9994/tickets/the-startts-2012-refugee-ball>.

17 OCTOBER. YOUTH OFF THE STREETS MORNING TEA. Come along to the Morning Tea and have the opportunity to meet and listen to Father Riley present on the work of Youth Off The Streets, enjoy morning tea on the cafe terrace, meet young people from Youth Off The Streets and receive a complimentary tour of the garden. From 10.00 am, Eden Gardens, Corner Lane Cove Rd and Fontenoy Rd, North Ryde. Bookings are essential: contact Eden Gardens on (02) 9491 9900. Web: <http://www.youthoffthestreets.com.au/support-an-event/w1/i1001897>.

17-18 OCTOBER. SUMMIT: 'CATHOLIC SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS: YOUTH ECO SUMMIT (YES) 2012'. The Youth Eco Summit is a curriculum-based event with hands-on workshops. Newington Armory, Sydney Olympic Park. Cost: \$5.00 per student. Contact: YouthEcoSummit@sydneyolympicpark.com.au. Web: http://www.sydneyolympicpark.com.au/education_and_learning/partnerships/YES.

18 OCTOBER. FORUM: 'VATICAN II: PROMISE AND CHALLENGE'. To mark the fiftieth anniversary year of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, the Institute for Mission offers a special night that will look at the great hope and continued challenge of the Council. We will examine the origins and intent of the Council, those who influenced its teachings, the tensions and issues that followed and the ongoing significance of the Council for the Catholic Church today. Join us for this conversation about Vatican II. Speaker: Mr. Daniel Ang. 7.00 to 9.00 pm. Cost: Donation. Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion St Blacktown.

19 OCTOBER. POLITICS IN THE PUB: 'MENTAL HEALTH - THE ORPHAN IN GILLARD GOVERNMENT'S HEALTH "REFORMS"'. Speakers: Professor Anthony Harris, (Sydney University), President Schizophrenia Fellowship; Rob Ramjan, CEO Schizophrenia Fellowship. 6.00 pm to 7.45 pm, the Gaelic Club, 1/64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills NSW 2010. Web: <http://www.politicsinthepub.org.au>.

21 OCTOBER HARMONY WALK 2012. Inspired by the 10th anniversary of the Bali Bombings, Harmony Walk 2012 is a strong statement of fairness and harmony. 2.00 pm, Coogee Beach, Sydney. Register online at www.harmonywalk.org.au.

23 OCTOBER. FILM AND PANEL DISCUSSION: 'HOMELANDS AND HOMELESSNESS'. You are invited to a screening of 'Our Generation' sponsored by Amnesty International. The screening will be followed by a lively panel discussion including John Dowd AO, Chancellor Southern Cross University and former NSW Attorney General; Linda Burney MP, former NSW Housing Minister; and Sarah Marland. 5.00 pm to 9.00 pm, NSW Parliament House Theatre and Jubilee Room, 6 Macquarie St, Sydney. For more details: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/event/29438>

23 OCTOBER. BOOK LAUNCH: 'HOPE: REFUGEES AND THEIR SUPPORTERS IN AUSTRALIA SINCE 1947'. Author Ann-Mari Jordens in conversation with Monica Attard. *Hope: Refugees and their Supporters in Australia since 1947* looks at the humanity behind the current hype about refugees, the people behind the policies. Cost: \$10.00 (\$7.00 concession). 6.00 for 6.30 pm, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe. Phone: (02) 9660 2333; Web: http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/welcome4_htm

24 OCTOBER. SEMINAR: 'ALL IN THE FAMILY? THE USE OF FAMILY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND METHODS IN JUVENILE JUSTICE'. The first seminar in the 2012-2013 Juvenile Justice seminar series, which will explore models of family intervention and their effectiveness in reducing juvenile offending behaviour. Sponsored by Juvenile Justice NSW and hosted by the Institute of Criminology, Sydney Law School. Speakers: Michael Szyjan PhD, Manager of the Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) in Juvenile Justice, NSW; Bron Parker, Manager, ALIVE, Catholic Care; Associate Professor Brian Stout, Associate Professor of Social Work in Department of Social Work, Welfare and Therapy Studies. 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm (Registration and refreshments from 5.00 pm), Law Foyer, Level 2 New Law Building (F10), Eastern Ave, University of

Sydney. Cost: Free, however registration essential. Contact: (02) 9351 0323; Email: law.events@sydney.edu.au. Web: <http://sydney.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventid=9800>.

25 OCTOBER. LECTURE: 'MY BRAIN, MY MIND AND MY BODY: STEM CELLS, ORGAN DONATION AND END-OF-LIFE CARE'. Delivered by Dr Andrew McGee, Lecturer in the Faculty of Law Queensland University of Technology and a member of the Faculty's Health Law Research Program. Response by Dr Steve Matthews, Senior Research Fellow/Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, Plunkett Centre for Ethics. The Plunkett Centre is a joint centre of Australian Catholic University (ACU) and St Vincents & Mater Health. 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm, The Education Centre, UTAS/St Vincents & Mater Health Sydney, 1 Leichhardt Street Darlinghurst NSW 2010. All welcome: Free entry. Bookings (02) 8382 2869 (leave voicemail) or plunkett@plunkett.acu.edu.au. Web: http://www.acu.edu.au/about_acu/news_events/acu_events/north_sydney/plunkett_lecture_2012/.

27 OCTOBER. PRISON SEMINAR. Gather to discuss the 2011 Australian Catholic Bishops' Statement on prisons, and discover how you can act. 10.00 am to 3.30 pm, The Grail Centre, 22 McHatton Street, North Sydney. RSVP October 12 to grailsydney@ozemail.com.au; (02) 9955 3053.

31 OCTOBER. BOOK LAUNCH: 'DON'T GO BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME FROM: WHY MULTICULTURALISM WORKS'. Tim Soutphommasane boldly stakes a claim for the overwhelming success of multiculturalism in Australia. Cost: \$10.00 (\$7.00 concession). 6.00 for 6.30 pm, gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe. Ph (02) 9660 2333. Web: <http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/welcome4.htm>.

2 NOVEMBER. CIRQUE DE SOLEIL 'OVO'. Benefiting Fr Chris Riley's Youth Off the Streets. Under the Big Top on the Showring at the Entertainment Quarter. For more information and tickets: (02) 9330 3500 or web: <http://www.youthoffthestreets.com.au/support-an-event/w1/i1001897>.

9 NOVEMBER. ROCK FOR RECOGNITION. ANTaR, Oxfam, the National Congress and YouMeUnity have initiated a series of concerts called Rock for Recognition to raise awareness and promote the need for recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution. The inaugural Rock for Recognition, headlined by Dan Sultan, will tour to Melbourne, Sydney, Perth and Fremantle in November and features a varied bill of artists including sultry songstress Leah Flanagan and all-star band Dead Marines (NSW). Other artists are likely to join the bill. The Factory Theatre, 105 Victoria Road Marrickville NSW 2204. Ph. (02) 9550 3666 Web: http://www.antar.org.au/dan_sultan_set_to_rock_for_recognition.

10 NOVEMBER. GATHERING OF PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE CONTACTS. Break open the Social Justice Statement, hear from Maureen Eagles, CatholicCare Sydney, and consider how your community can respond. 10.30 am to 3.00 pm, St Patrick's Church, 5 Drynan St, Summer Hill. Contact: Justice and Peace Office, Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, Tel (02) 9390 5935.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

UNTIL 5 OCTOBER. PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION: 'IMAGES OF THE INTERIOR - SEVEN CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN PHOTOGRAPHERS'. An exhibition of 84 images, drawn entirely from the South Australian Museum's collections, that reveal the fragile environment and frontier society of Central Australia during the half-century from the 1890s to the 1940s. Presented by South Australian Museum, SA Government and Charles Darwin University in association with Darwin Festival. No cost. Tuesday to Friday 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, Saturday 11 and 18 August CDU Art Gallery, Chancellery Building Orange 12, University Drive South, Casuarina campus, Darwin. Web: <http://www.darwinfestival.org.au/2012-program/images-of-the-interior/>.

16 OCTOBER. BOOK LAUNCH: 'PEOPLE ON COUNTRY'. The Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, The Federation Press and the Sidney Myer Fund warmly invite

you to the launch of 'People on Country: Vital Landscapes, Indigenous Futures', edited by Jon Altman and Seán Kerins. Launch by Marion Scrymgour, Australian Red Cross, followed by contributions from Indigenous ranger partners and authors. Hosted by Dan Gillespie, People on Country Advisory Committee. 5.30 for 6.00-7.30 pm, Mal Nairn Auditorium, Charles Darwin University Red 7, University Drive North, Casuarina, NT. Numbers are limited: RSVP elisabeth.yarbakhsh@anu.edu.au or phone (02) 6125 0648 by 2 October. Refreshments will be provided at all events.

QUEENSLAND

1 OCTOBER. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL ROHINGYA INFORMATION SESSION. QRC invites you to this information session to learn more about the Rohingya people and their current situation. Speakers include ethnic Rohingya and Burmese minority members, along with Queensland Labor Senator Claire Moore. For catering purposes, please RSVP by Friday September 28 to sujauddin.k@gmail.com or on 0411 378 204. 5.30 pm to 8.30 pm, Brisbane Multicultural Centre, Rooms 1 & 2, 28 Dibley Street, Woolloongabba, Qld, 4102. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/home/event/29824>.

5-7 OCTOBER. COMMEMORATION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BRISBANE COMMONWEALTH GAMES PROTESTS. From 30 September to 9 October 1982, Brisbane hosted the Commonwealth Games. Queensland was the last state to have an 'Aborigines Act' as law. 10,000 people set up tents in Musgrave Park, and hundreds were arrested every day. Soon after these massive protests, the Aborigines Act was repealed and there were land rights victories across the state and around the country. The Brisbane Aboriginal Sovereign Embassy will host a series of events to honour this important historical event. Brisbane Aboriginal Sovereign Embassy, Musgrave Park, South Brisbane. Information: 0408 781 121.

9 OCTOBER. WORKSHOP: 'SERVING THE PEOPLE OF GOD WITH INTEGRITY'. Presented by Sr Megan Brock rsj. These workshops are

designed for those in key positions in Church ministries including leaders and team members of Religious Congregations, PJP Trustees, clergy, key personnel in ministries owned or sponsored by a Religious Congregation, members of Boards, executives, directors, managers, principals, key staff of parishes, church organisations and schools. Participants will need a copy of the Church's document 'Integrity in the Service of the Church' (copies of the document can be purchased through CRAqld). 9.30 am to 3 pm, RSL Kedron-Wavell Community Centre, 375 Hamilton Road, Chermside. For information: <http://www.bne.catholic.net.au/data/portal/00005057/content/02415001346037275933.pdf>.

10 OCTOBER. LEGAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES INFORMATION FORUM. The forum will feature presentations on Legal Aid Queensland's legal information and referral services, legal advice and representation, the areas of law we provide advice and representation in and some of our other programs. 9.00 am to 12.30 pm, Legal Aid Queensland Building Auditorium rooms, ground floor 44 Herschel Street Brisbane. RSVP by Friday, 5 October to events@legaid.qld.gov.au or phone (07) 3238 3431.

2 NOVEMBER. MARY MACKILLOP FOUNDATION ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER. Guest Speaker: The Hon Patrick Keane, Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Australia. An exclusive evening of exquisite food, delightful wine and grand entertainment. With an array of silent and live auction items to make the night extra exciting. All donations from the dinner to the foundation will go toward small life-changing projects in Australia. 7.00 pm, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. Cost: \$165 per person or \$1500 for a table of 10. Information: (02) 8912 2714 or email events@mackillopfoundation.org.au. Web: <http://www.mackillopfoundation.org.au/index.php?section=events&type=future&eventID=67>

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

3-4 OCTOBER. LAW AND LAND MASTERCLASS. Presented by Associate Professor Dr Irene Watson. This Master Class provides the opportunity to develop an appreciation and

understanding of Aboriginal knowledges in law and philosophy; the different relationships Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people have towards the land and the world; and key concepts in both Aboriginal and Australian property laws, from Mabo to the Native Title Act(s). This Master Class is for anyone interested in Aboriginal culture, law and philosophy. Cost: various. 9.00 am to 4.00 pm, lunch and afternoon tea included. Paul Hughes Room, University of South Australia City West campus, Yungondi Building. Registration and information: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/Calendar/Law-and-Land-Master-Class>.

17 OCTOBER. FORUM: 'EMPOWERING POOR COMMUNITIES - GOOD PRACTICES'. With the Hon Robyn Layton AO QC, Adjunct Professor, School of Law, University of South Australia. Jointly presented by Amnesty International and The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre. Poverty reduction is a global challenge. It requires the combination of a country human rights-based framework which provides for inclusive economic growth, as well as consultative community based strategies to ensure appropriate supports and services are provided to those in need. The theories are well known, the constraints have been in the delivery. 5.30 pm for 6.00 pm, Allan Scott Auditorium, UniSA City West campus, rear Hawke Building, 50-55 North Terrace, Adelaide. For information and registration: http://w3.unisa.edu.au/hawkecentre/events/2012events/AI_RobynLayton.asp.

3-4 NOVEMBER. CONFERENCE: 'TOWARDS ELIMINATING NUCLEAR WEAPONS'. This conference, hosted by Australian Red Cross and Flinders University, will explore issues associated with nuclear weapons from the legal, medical and broader community perspectives. Speakers: Judge C.G. Weeramantry, Panel Judge on the 1996 International Court of Justice; Assoc Prof Tilman Ruff AM, Chair, International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN); Dr Sue Wareham OAM. Hawke Building, 50-55 North Terrace, University of South Australia. Costs: various. For further information and registration: <http://www.mapw.org.au/events/towards-eliminating-nuclear-weapons-conference>.

6 NOVEMBER. LAUNCH: 'PRISONERS, PRISONS AND RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS'. An online ecumenical resource, launched by The Most Rev'd Dr Jeffrey Driver, Anglican Archbishop of Adelaide and Chair of Leaders of Christian Churches SA. 2.15 pm to 3.45 pm, New Building, Adelaide Gaol, 18 Gaol Road, Thebarton. Afternoon tea will be served. RSVP by Friday 26 October. Contact: South Australian Council of Churches, 65 Flinders Street, Adelaide SA 5000. E: sacc@picknowl.com.au. Ph: (08) 8215 0300. Web: www.sacc.asn.au.

TASMANIA

8 OCTOBER. UTAS SIR JAMES PLIMSOLL LECTURE: JOSÉ RAMOS-HORTA. Presented by Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, His Excellency José Ramos-Horta. 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm, Stanley Burbury Lecture Theatre, University Centre, Churchill Avenue, Sandy Bay campus. Web: <http://www.events.utas.edu.au/2012/september/2012-sir-james-plimsoll-lecture>.

22 & 23 OCTOBER. THE JOHN WALLIS MEMORIAL LECTURE: 'JOHN XXIII AND VATICAN II THE COUNCIL THAT CHANGED OUR LIVES'. Presented by Fr. Max Vodola, lecturer at the Catholic Theological College. 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm. 23 October: The Emmanuel Centre, 123 Abbott St, Newstead, phone (03) 6334 1082. 24 October: Guilford Young College, 94 Barrack Street, Hobart, phone (03) 6238 4357. Web: <http://www.hobart.catholic.org.au/media/events/john-wallis-memorial-lecture>.

VICTORIA

1-4 OCTOBER. NATSICC NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: 'CULTURALLY ENRICHED THROUGH THE GOSPEL'. NATSICC Assemblies occur only once every three years and hold an important place on the Indigenous Catholic Calendar. We would be thrilled if you were able to attend (even for a day) and participate and we cordially invite you contact us should you need further information. It is very important that we have Indigenous people, Religious, Lay and Clergy from every Diocese at the Assembly so that you can provide input to the direction that NATSICC takes for the next three years. Cost: various.

Rydges Bell City. Contact: 08 8363 2963 or 0402 019 536 or 0401 422 309. Web: http://www.natsicc.org.au/v1/assembly_2012/.

2 OCTOBER. INDONESIA FORUM EVENT: 'GENDER EQUITY IN INDONESIA: UNFINISHED BUSINESS'. Presented by Nursyahbani Katjasungkana, National Coordinator LBH-APIK, Indonesian Association of Legal Aid Societies for Women. Followed by an Indonesian dinner. No charge for entry or dinner. RSVP by Friday 21 September (essential for catering purposes) to j.melvin@student.unimelb.edu.au with 'RSVP Indonesia Forum' in the subject line. All food halal. Specify if vegetarian required. 5.30 pm, Room 102, Melbourne Law School, The University of Melbourne, University Square, 185 Pelham Street, Carlton. Web: http://www.asiainstitute.unimelb.edu.au/events/feature_events/indonesia_forum_event_gender_equity_in_indoneisa.

3 OCTOBER. ANNUAL GATHERING OF RELIGIOUS IN COMMUNITY SERVICES. Sponsored by Catholic Social Services Victoria. Our fourth annual gathering to recognise and reflect with the Catholic Religious who generously support and contribute to a wide range of community services. For Religious working and volunteering in community services, and Lay people who share the mission. Guest speaker: Br Mark O'Connor fms, Director, Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation. 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm, Cardinal Knox Centre, Cathedral Room, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. RSVP 28 September. Bookings and enquiries: (03) 9287 5566 or email lucia.brick@css.org.au.

8 OCTOBER. BOOOK LAUNCH: 'WHY HUMAN SECURITY MATTERS: RETHINKING AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN POLICY'. Edited by Dennis Altman, Joseph A. Camilleri, Robyn Eckersly and Gerhard Hoffstaedter, published by Allen and Unwin. Refreshments will be followed by the formal launch by Gareth Evans. 6.00 pm, Brain Centre, Kenneth Myer Building, University of Melbourne. RSVP: marie.aronsson@unimelb.edu.au.

10 OCTOBER. DAY AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY. Amnesty International invites you to a screening of 'Death Penalty: Another

Murder', as part of our Day Against the Death Penalty. South Korea is abolitionist in practice. Although the country has not executed anyone over the last 15 years, its law retains the death penalty. This film features diverse people, including Kim Dae-jung, former death row inmate, prisoner of conscience and the 15th President of South Korea, speaking on the death penalty. 6.30 pm, Victorian Action Centre, Suite 8, 134 Cambridge St, Collingwood, Vic. RSVP: 8th October 2012 to (03) 9412 0700. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/home/event/29746>.

11 OCTOBER. LECTURE: 'THE INESCAPABLE CHALLENGES OF THE EARLY 21ST CENTURY: SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE, AND THE INTERCONNECTED CHALLENGES OF ENERGY, WATER, FOOD AND CLIMATE'. Presented by Sir John Beddington, UK Chief Scientific Adviser. It is predicted that by 2030 the world will need to produce 50 per cent more food and energy, 30 per cent more available fresh water, whilst mitigating and adapting to climate change. Science and technology can make a major contribution by providing practical solutions. University of Melbourne: 6.15 to 7.15 pm, Basement Theatre, Business & Economics Building, 198 Berkeley Street Melbourne. Enquiries: rtret@unimelb.edu.au or phone (03) 8344 4392. Web: <http://events.unimelb.edu.au/events/2567-the-inescapable-challenges-of-the-early-21st-century-sustainability-and>.

11 OCTOBER. BOOK LAUNCH: 'PEOPLE ON COUNTRY'. The Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, The Federation Press and the Sidney Myer Fund warmly invite you to the launch of 'People on Country: Vital Landscapes, Indigenous Futures', edited by Jon Altman and Seán Kerins. Launch by Monica Morgan, Indigenous Rights Program, Amnesty International, followed by contributions from Indigenous ranger partners and authors. 5.30 for 6.00-7.30 pm, BMW Edge Theatre, Federation Square, Cnr Flinders & Swanston Streets, Melbourne. Numbers are limited. RSVP: elisabeth.yarbakhsh@anu.edu.au or phone (02) 6125 0648 by 2 October. Refreshments will be provided.

13 OCTOBER. FORUM: 'REFUGEES - WHAT CAN WE DO?' The social and political issues

surrounding asylum seekers are rarely uncomplicated and can easily leave us feeling overwhelmed. Amnesty's Ivanhoe Group invites you to join them in discussion of the ways in which the local community can be engaged to make a positive difference to the asylum seeker debate. Guest speaker Peter Job (Victorian Delegate to the AIA National Refugee Team) will lead discussion. Donations appreciated; everyone is welcome. Bring some non-perishable food for donation for refugee/asylum seeker families. RSVPs for catering purposes: contact aiivanhoe@bigblue.net.au. 1.30 pm to 9.00 pm, Scots Uniting Church, 187 Burgundy Street, Heidelberg, VIC, 3084. Web: <http://www.amnesty.org.au/home/event/29799>.

16 OCTOBER. ECUMENICAL LITURGY TO MARK ANTI-POVERTY WEEK. The liturgy is to support Anti-Poverty Week, and to reflect from within the Christian tradition on poverty and justice. Anti-Poverty Week aims to strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and hardship around the world and in Australia. 1.00 to 1.30 pm, Mary MacKillop Room, St Francis Pastoral Centre, 326 Lonsdale St, City. Followed by tea and coffee. Information: (03) 9287 5566. Web: http://www.css.org.au/documents/FlyerforAntiPovertyLiturgy_000.pdf.

16 OCTOBER. THE LIN ONUS CONVERSATIONS : 'ARE WE BEING HERDED ON TO CULTURAL MISSIONS IN THE 21ST CENTURY?' Presented by the Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development. Speakers: Dr Anita Heiss (Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning, UTS), Lois Peeler (Worawa Aboriginal College), Deborah Cheetham (Artistic Director, Short Black Opera and Head, Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development). Moderator: Daniel Browning, Presenter-Producer of *Awaye!*, ABC Radio National. Free admission, bookings required. 6.15 to 8.00 pm, Federation Hall, Victorian College of the Arts, Grant St, Southbank. Enquiries: (03) 9035 9397. Web: <http://events.unimelb.edu.au/events/2317-the-lin-onus-conversations-are-we-being-herded-on>.

17 OCTOBER. CONFERENCE: 'HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS!' A conference to mark Anti-Poverty

Week 2012. Speakers include Dr Cassandra Goldie (ACOSS), Philip Lynch, Liz Curran, Fiona Smith, Susan Ryan, Fr Bruce Duncan, Denis Fitzgerald, Dr John Falzon (Society of St Vincent de Paul), Dr Mark Zimsak. 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Cardinal Knox Centre, Cathedral Room, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Places are limited: RSVP 8 October 2012. Contact rsvp@svdp-vic.org.au or phone (03) 9895 5935. Registration and information: <http://www.css.org.au/documents/17Oct12ConferenceProgram.pdf>.

18 OCTOBER. LECTURE: 'TIMOR-LESTE, THE NEXT PHASE, THE MANY CHALLENGES AND POSSIBILITIES FOR PEACE AND EQUITABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH'. Monash University presents a public lecture by His Excellency Dr José Ramos-Horta GCL, former President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm, Theatrette, National Centre for Synchrotron Science, 800 Blackburn Road, Clayton. RSVP: 5 October 2012. Contact rebecca.hoult@monash.edu, Phone (03) 9905 9904. Reservations: <http://www.monash.edu.au/public-lectures>.

18 OCTOBER. LUNCHTIME FORUM ON INSECURE WORK. As part of anti-poverty week, the Brotherhood of St Laurence is hosting a special two-hour lunchtime forum on insecure work. Associate Professor Sara Charlesworth (panel member of the independent inquiry commissioned by the ACTU to examine insecure work in Australia); Tony Nicholson, CEO of the Brotherhood of St Laurence; Ged Kearney, President of the ACTU; Dr Cassandra Goldie, CEO of ACOSS; and a representative of the business sector. RSVPs by close of business Monday 15 October, are essential. 11.30 am to 1.30 pm, Brotherhood of St Laurence, Father Tucker's Room, 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. Contact: jdouglas@bsl.org.au; Phone: 9483 1364. Web: <http://www.bsl.org.au/About-the-Brotherhood/Whats-on.aspx?id=729&dt=18/10/2012>.

19 OCTOBER. LAUNCH OF THE AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE (AACC). The Brotherhood of St Laurence and the Anglican Parish of Footscray have great pleasure in inviting you to the official opening of the new buildings of their joint venture, the African Australian

Community Centre (AACC). Please join the Hon. Nicholas Kotsiras, State Minister for Multicultural Affairs & Citizenship and Cr John Cumming, Maribyrnong Council Mayor, who will both be officially launching the new centre. 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm, 30a Pickett St, Footscray. Contact: aacc@bsl.org.au, Phone: (03) 9687 9577. Web: <http://www.bsl.org.au/About-the-Brotherhood/Whats-on.aspx?id=725&dt=19/10/2012>.

25 OCTOBER. 2012 CASTAN CENTRE DINNER WITH FORMER LT. COL. DAN MORI. Monash University's Castan Centre for Human Rights Law invites you to its biennial human rights gala. This dinner is a vital fundraiser for the Centre's many policy, public education and research programs. Lt Col Dan Mori (Ret.) represented Australian Guantanamo Bay detainee, David Hicks, from 2003 to 2007. He recently moved to Australia with his family and now calls Melbourne home. Cost: \$160 or \$1600 for a table of 10. NGO and concession tickets are \$95 for an individual and \$950 for a table of 10. Contact (03) 9905 3327, email castan.centre@monash.edu or register online through <http://law.monash.edu/castancentre/events/2012/dinner.html>

26 OCTOBER. FILM FUNDRAISER: 'BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA'. The Refugee Action Collective is proud to host a screening of this powerful new documentary, which has won numerous awards at film festivals around the world. We will also screen a shorter documentary about the conditions on Nauru. Tickets: \$15/\$10 (book online or at the door). 7.30 pm, Level 1 Cinema, Building 80, Swanston Academic Building, RMIT City Campus. More information: 0405 736 265. Web: <http://rac-vic.org/?p=418>.

8 NOVEMBER. ROCK FOR RECOGNITION. ANTaR, Oxfam, the National Congress and YouMeUnity have initiated a series of concerts called Rock for Recognition to raise awareness and promote the need for recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution. The inaugural Rock for Recognition, headlined by Dan Sultan, will tour to Melbourne, Sydney, Perth and Fremantle in November and features sultry songstress Leah Flanagan and the genre-

jumping PBS DJ Ken Eavel (Victoria). Other artists are likely to join the bill as word about the concerts gains momentum. The Corner Hotel, 57 Swan St, Richmond, Vic. Ph (03) 9427 9198. Web http://www.antar.org.au/dan_sultan_set_to_rock_for_recognition.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

5-6 OCTOBER. CONFERENCE: 'PATHWAYS TO TOMORROW - INNOVATIONS AND INTERSECTIONS IN LAW, LAND AND JUSTICE'. The National Indigenous Legal Conference Committee invites you to attend the seventh annual National Indigenous Legal Conference. This year's conference addresses two key themes, 'New Approaches to Justice', and 'Cultural and Natural Resources Management'. Speakers include The Hon Fred Chaney AO, Dennis Eggington, Mick Gooda, Glen Kelly, The Honourable Wayne Martin AC, Greg McIntyre SC, Dr Noel Nannup, Robynne Quiggin, Senator Rachel Siewert, Ben Wyatt, Professor Megan Davis. The conference will be held at the University of Notre Dame, Fremantle and the University of Western Australia, Perth. For information and registration: <http://www.nd.edu.au/events/nilc>.

9 OCTOBER. PANEL DISCUSSION: 'THE POLITICS OF SEEKING ASYLUM IN AUSTRALIA'. The Centre for Human Rights Education invites you to join an expert panel to discuss past and present government policies, their impacts on those arriving to Australia seeking asylum, and the recent report of the Expert Panel on Asylum Seekers. Chair: Associate Professor Mary Anne Kenny. Speakers: Dr Savitri Taylor (La Trobe University), Andrew Bartlett (former Senator), Dr Caroline Fleay (Centre for Human Rights Education, Curtin University). Limited seating: RSVP by Friday October 5 to (08) 9266 1678 (Mon/Tues), (08) 9266 7169 (Wed-Fri) or g.galardi@curtin.edu.au. 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm, Tim Winton Lecture Theatre Building 213.104 Curtin University, Kent Street, Bentley, WA. RSVP: 5th October 2012. Web: <http://blogs.curtin.edu.au/human-rights-education/2012/09/24/event-nauru-mark-2>.

10-11 NOVEMBER. ROCK FOR RECOGNITION. ANTaR, Oxfam, the National Congress and

YouMeUnity have initiated a series of concerts called Rock for Recognition to raise awareness and promote the need for recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution. The inaugural Rock for Recognition headlined by Dan Sultan will tour to Melbourne, Sydney, Perth and Fremantle in November and features a sultry songstress Leah Flanagan and Wolves at the Door (WA). Other artists are likely to join the bill as word about the concerts gains momentum. 10 November: Bakery Artrage, 233 James Street Northbridge. Ph. (08) 9227 6288. 11 November: Fly By Night, Fremantle, 1 Holdsworth Street Fremantle WA 6160. Ph (08) 9430 5976 Web: http://www.antar.org.au/dan_sultan_set_to_rock_for_recognition.

14 OCTOBER. RALLY: 'AGAINST OFFSHORE PROCESSING - NOT MALAYSIA, NOT NAURU'. The Refugee Rights Action Network and other refugee advocate groups around the country are calling for a national rally against the Pacific Solution. Sending asylum seekers to Nauru is inhumane and in contravention to our international obligations to process refugee claims. So join us to say no to Nauru and no to mandatory detention and free the refugees. 1.00 pm, Wesley Church Corner, cnr William and Hay Sts, Perth. Information: 0417 904 329. Web: <http://rran.org/blog/2012/09/rally-against-offshore-processing-not-malaysia-not-nauru-public-event>.

News Monitor

Josephite Sisters oppose increase in coal seam gas mining

The Sisters of St Joseph are the third religious community to publicly voice their concern about the rapid escalation of coal seam gas exploration and will shortly launch an online petition, reported the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

Caritas International chief walks as one with Australia's first people

Caritas Internationalis president, Cardinal Rodriguez Maradiaga, stood in solidarity with Australia's first people when he visited Purple House, a unique medical service operating in Alice Springs and surrounding remote communities, Caritas said in a media release.

Imam arrested for framing Pakistani girl in blasphemy case

Lawyers representing a young Christian girl accused of blasphemy say they will use the same controversial law against her accuser, a Muslim cleric who was arrested at the weekend for evidence-tampering and desecration of the Koran, reported UCANEWS.

Church leaders' concern over asylum seeker legislation

Church leaders in Australia expressed their "grave concern at the passing of legislation to allow for the offshore processing and indefinite detention of asylum seekers," they said in a joint statement released during September.

NT refugees lose a fiery champion

An advocate for asylum seekers killed while riding her bike on a busy Darwin road was on her way to visit detainees when the fatal crash happened. Vikki Riley, 49, was known for her fiery passion for refugees and her strong Catholic belief, reported NTnews.com.au.

Nauru a recipe for disaster, warns priest

The Gillard Government has created a recipe for disaster, warned Fr Jim Carty following the initial arrival of asylum seekers in Nauru, reported the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney newsletter.

Sydney riot a 'minor hiccup' in interfaith relations

The riot by an Islamic group in Sydney in September was a "minor hiccup" for Christian-

Muslim relations, said Fr Patrick McInerney of the Columban Mission Institute, reported *The Catholic Weekly*.

Youth across Australia say no to child detention

A coalition of young people is banding together to call for an end to immigration detention of children. Since September 28, young people throughout Australia have been hitting their social media networks to spread the word, reported Catholic Mission Australia in a media release.

Canberra Catholics set to flex voting muscles
Canberra's Catholics were being urged to use their voice in the upcoming ACT election on October 20. "We're a big group and we represent 25 per cent of the Canberra population," the Catholic Social Justice Commission said on its website, reported *The Canberra Times*.

Vietnamese court sentences Christian bloggers

The People's Court in Ho Chi Minh City passed sentence on three Christian bloggers in a case that has polarised the religious community and drawn international criticism, reported UCANEWS.

Red tape still a concern for not-for-profit groups

Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) welcomed Commonwealth government legislation intended to ensure Australia's not-for profit sector is "sustainable, robust, vibrant and innovative" and free to speak out, but is concerned that the bills involved need amending, if the Government is to achieve its objective, reported *The Catholic Weekly*.

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



- 1 Mon International Day for Older Persons
2005 Bali bombings: 20 people killed and more than 100 injured
- 2 Tue International Day of Non-Violence
1869: Mahatma Gandhi born
- 3 Wed World Habitat Day
Day of Jewish and Christian Dialogue
- 4 Thu Feast of St Francis of Assisi
World Animal Welfare Day
World Space Week commences
1957: First space Sputnik launched by the Soviet Union
- 5 Fri UN World Teachers Day
- 7 Sun Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
- 9 Tue World Post Day
- 10 Wed World Mental Health Day
1967: Treaty on the Exploration and Use of Outer Space
- 11 Thu 1962: Opening Session of Vatican Council II

12 Fri 2002 Bali bombings: 202 people killed, including 88 Australians and 38 Indonesians, and 240 injured

13 Sat International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction World Sight Day

15 Mon UN International Day of Rural Women

16 Tue World Food Day

1992: Rigoberta Menchu Tum (Guatemala) receives the Nobel Peace Prize
Anti-Poverty Week begins

17 Wed International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

19 Fri 2001: Sinking of SIEV X

21 Sun Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Mission Sunday

24 Wed United Nations Day

World Development Information Day

Disarmament Week commences

26 Fri 1985: Uluru returned to traditional owners, the Anangu people

28 Sun Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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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