

# ACSJC Monthly Briefing October 2016 No 183



## From the Secretariat October 2016

Dear Friends,

On Tuesday September 6, the Australian Catholic Bishops' 2016–2017 Social Justice Statement, *A Place at the Table*, was launched in Sydney as part of the annual conference of the Australasian Catholic Press Association (ACPA). The Statement was launched by Father Kevin McGovern, Emeritus Director of the Caroline Chisholm Centre for Health Ethics. The response was given by Sister Patty Fawkner SGS, writer, adult educator and facilitator.

Auntie Elsie Heiss, Aboriginal elder and former member of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council and Sydney's Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, acknowledged the Traditional Owners, the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation.

Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay, Bishop of the Maronite Diocese of St Maroun and member of the ACSJC, contributed a reflection and thanked those participating.

### **'The good of society and our own futures too'**

Fr Kevin McGovern gave his reflections on each of the Statement's three main sections. He started with the reality of age discrimination – 'a monster with many heads', as he called it. One example is workplace discrimination: older Australian workers are less likely to find employment, less likely to be offered training and development, less likely to be promoted and more likely to be made redundant.

'While older workers are generally experienced, productive, hard-working and reliable, negative stereotypes mean that they are often unfairly perceived to be hard to train, uncomfortable with new technology, slow and unproductive. This year's Social Justice Statement reports that in Australia today one person in four aged over 50 has experienced some form of workplace discrimination.'

Age discrimination, Fr Kevin said, can also mean denigration of older persons as 'incompetent, dependent and frail' despite the wisdom and experience they have garnered over the years. There is also 'cultural blindness to the contribution made by many older persons', many of whom are 'more likely to be giving care than receiving it,' he said.

'Some are primary carers, perhaps of their spouse, a disabled adult child, or sometimes their own grandchildren ... They are also volunteers who with little or no financial reward contribute to so many community organisations a lifetime of skill, experience and wisdom,' Fr Kevin said.

Age discrimination can affect the sorts of services older people require, including home care, community services, residential aged care, and healthcare:

'A caring society plans for the provision of these sorts of services. It finds ways to provide these services to those who are unable to pay for them. But if we do not truly value older persons, we will fail to provide older Australians with the assistance and care that they need.'

Turning to 'the grim reality of elder abuse', Fr Kevin commented that it can be 'physical, emotional, social, sexual or financial, and can include mistreatment and neglect. There is a lot of emotional abuse of

older persons. There is also a lot of financial abuse. Sadly, about 90 per cent of perpetrators are family members.'

The Social Justice Statement, Fr Kevin said, 'presents us with two worldviews'.

'The first ... is a worldview which is materialistic, utilitarian and consumerist. In other words, it is concerned only about material reality, and it judges the worth of a person by what they own, what they produce, their net worth, and what they have to spend. Inevitably, this worldview disadvantages those who do not have great wealth, those who are vulnerable, those on the margins. This includes many older Australians.

'The other worldview recognises the dignity and worth and value of each and every human being not because of what we have or do, but simply because of who we are.'

Fr Kevin explained that 'the deepest way to come to this second worldview is through our Catholic Christian faith'.

'Our faith tells us that each person is created in the image and likeness of God. God dwells in every human heart, and each and every human being reveals to us something of God. And as we serve them, we serve Christ, for he has said that insofar as you do this to the least of these brothers and sister of mine, you do it to me.'

#### **'Keep working on love'**

Sister Patty Fawcner SGS paid tribute to the Bishops' acknowledgment that 'the wisdom and lived experience of older people are priceless treasures'.

Sr Patty commended the Statement for confronting 'the stereotyping and demeaning of the elderly in a culture besotted with youth, sexual attractiveness, status and productivity'.

She referred to her mother, Betty, who has been suffering from dementia for ten years.

'Betty doesn't think about the future and she's lost all memory of the past. She lives in the NOW. She reminds me that any fixation on the past or the future prevents me from giving my full attention to the present moment. How hard it is to be present in the NOW ...

'Betty's treasure is not what she does, nor what she produces, but who she is.'

Reflecting on the confronting reality of advancing age, Sr Patty said the elderly 'expose the myth of total independence and narcissistic control'.

'We live in an utterly interdependent world. It is not all about ME. Our newest minted Saint Teresa of Calcutta says "If we have not peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other." We must make room at the table and, I truly believe, be prepared to stay at the table of life.

'The elderly bid us to have the strength of soul to look into the face of suffering and diminishment, our own and each other's. It takes incredible courage to let go, to be dependent ... to be vulnerable, to allow my weaknesses of body and mind to be exposed.'

Concluding, Sr Patty referred to 'the one lesson that sums up all of this – the core of Jesus' whole life and teaching: keep working on love. Keep working on love'.

### **Building communities of mercy and love**

On behalf of Australia's Catholic Bishops, Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay thanked Auntie Elsie, Fr Kevin and Sr Patty for their contributions and thanked the ACPA for their hospitality and efforts in organising the launch.

Bishop Tarabay said: 'More of us are living longer, and, as we have heard today, more of us are attaining old age in good health, still with energy and with much to contribute to society.' He continued:

'People of this generation, who find themselves growing older than their parents and grandparents did, are confronting a society that is becoming more individualistic, more and more ruled by economic considerations. At its worst, this individualism is a force that is tearing at the fabric of family and community.'

A major concern of this Statement, Bishop Tarabay said, is 'those who are most vulnerable among the people who are ageing' – for example, those trapped in long-term unemployment, those entering retirement in poverty, and particularly vulnerable groups including our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters.

'In these cases and many others,' he said, 'we see people who are cut adrift at a time when they are most in need. They are the victims of what Pope Francis famously calls a "throw-away" culture.'

Bishop Tarabay quoted the words of Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* – that we treat our relationships in the same way we treat material objects and the world around us:

'... everything is disposable; everyone uses and throws away, takes and breaks, exploits and squeezes to the last drop. Then, goodbye. Narcissism makes people incapable of looking beyond themselves, beyond their own desires and needs (#39).'

Bishop Tarabay emphasised that this Statement concerns the whole of our society, not just older people.

'This Statement's emphasis is the solidarity between generations that includes every member of our society. It calls all of us to be active in building communities of mercy and love.'

### **Catholic Bishops' Statement and associated resources**

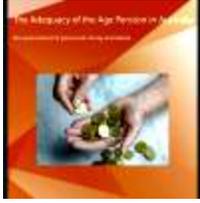
There are many ways the message of the Bishops' 2016–2017 Statement can be promoted throughout the year ahead.

The Statement can be [downloaded](#) from the ACSJC website.

View [this short video](#) from the ACSJC website and consider passing it on to your local parish.

Our website also contains other resources that are ideal for prayer, worship, and personal reflection, and for discussion in classrooms and among groups.

John Ferguson  
(National Executive Officer)



## Current Issues/Resources October 2016

### **BETHLEHEM SCHOOLS' PROJECT**

At the launch of this year's Social Justice Statement, Fr Kevin McGovern spoke about the Bethlehem Schools' Project as one example of how connections can be built between younger and older persons. As a specialist Palliative care service, Calvary Health Care-Bethlehem, has been establishing partnerships that support community capacity & resilience in dealing with life limiting illness, death, dying and bereavement. Recently they produced a palliative care video 'Embracing Life' to encourage conversations about death and dying with students and community groups. The video follows the experience of a group of students from Sacred Heart Girl's College in Oakleigh who spent time at the hospital with patients, staff and volunteers. The inspiring video and further information can be found [here](#).

### **ARTICLE: AUSSIE BISHOPS GET AHEAD OF THE CURVE ON THE 'GRAYBY BOOM'**

John L. Allen Jr., editor of *Crux*, has interviewed Bishop Peter Comensoli about the Social Justice Statement. Allen says, 'As the elderly population in many societies around the world explodes, a trend demographers sometimes call the "Grayby Boom", the Catholic bishops of Australia are insisting that the challenges aren't merely economic and related to production, but are ultimately about the human dignity of aging persons'. The article can be accessed [here](#).

### **JOINT REPORT: AGE PENSIONERS IN POVERTY**

The report 'The Adequacy of the Age Pension in Australia' has confirmed that the current level of the Age Pension in Australia falls short of allowing an acceptable standard of living, with many pensioners suffering 'substantial deprivation'. The joint report by Per Capita, The Benevolent Society and The Longevity Innovation Hub, finds that almost a third of the 1.5 million older Australians relying solely on the Age Pension are in poverty. Age pensioners, especially older women who rent privately and live solely on the age pension, are most exposed to poverty. The key recommendation of the report is the establishment of an independent Age Pension Tribunal to oversee and determine a just base rate for the pension that enables disadvantaged older Australians to live at a standard consistent with the reasonable expectation of all Australians. Access the report [here](#).

### **AUSTRALIAN PRIORITY INVESTMENT APPROACH TO WELFARE**

In September, the Government announced its Australian Priority Investment Approach to Welfare. The emphasis is on early intervention to prevent identified cohorts from falling into the welfare trap and to save money. It uses actuarial analysis to value Australia's future lifetime welfare costs, and the costs of various groups within the population. Catholic Social Service Australia's Marcelle Mogg says the Government must fund programs that improve the overall well-being of people rather than programs that simply move people out of the welfare system. 'While we welcome the Government's commitment to finding new programs to improve the outlook for some disadvantaged Australians, the Priority Investment Approach to Welfare only targets a very small proportion of the people who need assistance. While the new *Try, Test and Learn Fund* programs are being trialed and tested, the Australia Government must continue to provide people with enough income to fully support them to live with dignity. CSSA believes the current level of welfare payments to individuals and families is inadequate,' Ms Mogg said. Read the statement [here](#).

## **50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAVE HILL WALK-OFF**

While the walk-off was initially a fight for equal wages and better working conditions, it was also about previous injustices of invasion, the massacres and the many losses that followed. In August, Rosalie Kunoth-Monks OAM visiting Wave Hill said, 'the main issues remain the lack of self-determination and the absence of treaties.' Georgina Gartland of 'concerned Australians' added, 'how long must First Nations peoples wait for equality and recognition of their sovereignty? These and their calls for treaties have long been denied'. In regards to the future of the Land Rights Act, Ian Viner expressed hope, 'I am sure land ownership under the Act can be used to the economic and social benefit of Northern Territory Aboriginal communities and Territorians as a whole, without the destruction of traditional ownership of existing freehold title.' Jon Altman concluded, 'It is time for a fundamental re-think by the Australian state and society that will see people like the Gurindji treated fairly like Australian citizens and empowered to pursue a vision that accords with their long-held aspirations.' Read more [here](#).

## **REFUGEE COUNCIL ON INCREASED REFUGEE INTAKE**

The Refugee Council of Australia has welcomed as a 'step in the right direction' commitments from the Australian government to address the global displacement of people by increasing the annual refugee intake to 18,750 places, committing a further \$130 million dollars in aid to support peace-building and assistance to displaced people, and resettling refugees currently residing in Costa Rica. Phil Glendenning, President of RCOA said, 'We would like to see this figure increase further, particularly in the light of the commitment made by the US to increase its intake by an additional 22,000 people, which represents an increase of more than Australia's total annual intake. ... However, there is an elephant in the room in the form of our offshore detention system. Our government has sent over 2000 people to detention on Manus Island and Nauru, and has made no meaningful attempt to resettle them. Today's commitments do not excuse this fact.' Read the statement [here](#).

## **UNICEF AND SAVE THE CHILDREN REPORT**

The full human, economic and strategic costs of Australia's asylum seeker policies have been clouded by successive Governments' claims to secrecy. Now, a major report from UNICEF Australia and Save the Children lays out the true impacts. The report 'At What Cost?' details the human, economic and strategic costs of Australia's policies. Some main points include: Offshore processing costs \$400,000 per-refugee per-year; Ending 'open detention' on Nauru and Manus Island could save \$2 billion by 2020; The boats haven't stopped – they've been turned away to other dangers; and Australia's policies are undermining its global standing. The Report calls for safe and sustainable resettlement options for refugees and asylum seekers on Nauru and Manus Island and for proactive support for the establishment of a regional protection framework for asylum seeker and refugee children and families across South East Asia. Access the report [here](#).

## **SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON FORGOTTEN MEN OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND**

The human cost of Australia's immigration detention system was revealed in a [recent article](#) in *The Age*, detailing conditions inside the Christmas Island detention centre, where people seeking asylum are languishing with little outside contact, difficult access to legal assistance and inadequate mental healthcare. Refugee advocates Pamela Curr, from the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, and Sr Brigid Arthur, from the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project, travelled to Christmas Island to visit the men who are currently held in the remote centre. There they found an environment of fear and physical violence where men seeking asylum face ongoing mental trauma and isolation, all while under the direct care of the Australian Government. Find out more [here](#).

### **REFUGEE COUNCIL PETITION: 'BRING THEM HERE'**

The Refugee Council of Australia has launched a campaign calling for the Government to bring people from Nauru to immediate safety, for an urgent independent investigation into all the incidents of alleged abuse, and for a national summit to provide humane, legal and sustainable alternatives to Australia's treatment of people seeking asylum. On August 10, 2016, The Guardian released the 'Nauru Files' – 2116 incident reports detailing child abuse, child sexual abuse, threats, self-harm and psychological damage. Children feature in over half the incidents reported, despite making up less than 20% of the population of the detention centres. To lend your support, visit the Refugee Council [webpage](#).

### **ENDING CHILD DETENTION: A FOCUS OF 2016 MIGRANT RIGHTS DAY**

This year child detention is going to be the focus theme of International Migrant Day (December 18). The Global Campaign to End Child Detention is working with other NGOs, including the ACSJC, in partnership with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, to start a broad community conversation. What motivates you to support the rights of migrants? How can we change the conversation to be one that promotes rights for migrants worldwide? A social media campaign is being run in the lead up to a webinar on December 16, featuring some of the world's leading experts on migrant rights. This year's webinar will focus on the growing acknowledgement that immigration detention of any child is never in the best interests of the child and constitutes a child rights violation. To find out more and lend your support, visit the 'Talking Migrant Rights' [website](#) See also: [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); Twitter

### **FUNDRAISING: CATHOLIC ALLIANCE FOR PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM**

The Catholic Alliance for People Seeking Asylum (CAPSA) aims to shift public perceptions and policies around people seeking asylum in a long-term, sustainable way. To continue their work, CAPSA is seeking donations to fund their project costs into 2017. Your donation will help in the running of events in schools, facilitation of meetings with politicians, and the production of resources and events for the community. If you, your school, parish or workplace is able to give to CAPSA, please follow the instructions on their website to make a donation. Visit the website to make a credit card [donation](#). Call (03) 9421 7600 to make a donation via other payment methods.

### **ACMRO MIGRANT AND REFUGEE KIT**

Migrant and Refugee Sunday was celebrated on 28 August. This year marked the 102nd anniversary of the World Day of Migrants and Refugees. As part of the celebrations, the ACMRO prepared the annual Migrant and Refugee Kit. The purpose of the kit is to help schools and parishes to prepare celebrations for Migrant and Refugee Sunday. The kit reflects on the theme *Migrants and Refugees Challenge Us – The response of the Gospel of Mercy*, as outlined by Pope Francis in his message for Migrant and Refugee Day 2016. The kit is available to download and print [here](#).

### **CARDINAL TURKSON: 'WE DO NOT STOP WAR BY STARTING ANOTHER WAR'**

In a recent interview with *National Catholic Reporter*, Cardinal Turkson, President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, reflected on the April conference with Pax Christi International on 'Nonviolence and Just Peace'. The Cardinal said the Pope's decision to focus his 2017 World Peace Day message on nonviolent strategies to prevent and stop global violence was partly a result of discussions at the conference. On 'just war' theory, the Cardinal said '... it was initially meant to make it difficult to wage war because you needed to justify it. This now has been interpreted these days as a war is just

when it is exercised in self-defence ... or to put off an aggressor or to protect innocent people.’ The Cardinal continued: ‘In that case, Pope Francis would say: “You don’t stop an aggression by being an aggressor. You don’t stop a conflict by inciting another conflict. You don’t stop a war by starting another war.”’ Read the article [here](#).

### **MORNING STAR RISING PRAYER RESOURCES**

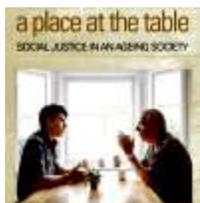
The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace of the Archdiocese of Brisbane has prepared resources for prayer and liturgy in support of the people of West Papua. They say, ‘Fear and deep concern are widespread in West Papua; yet, their faith in God’s abiding love through all their difficulties remains strong. They would appreciate your prayerful support as they endure much pain and oppression. The following resources may be used in whole or in part in public worship or privately.’ The resources can be accessed [here](#).

### **NEW BOOK: ‘REVIEW, REIMAGINE, RENEW’**

This publication, *Review, Reimagine, Renew: Mission making a difference in a changing world*, is edited by Gabrielle McMullen, Patrice Scales and Denis Fitzgerald. Archbishop Mark Coleridge says, ‘In this volume, leaders from Catholic social services and the broader Church explore what it means to be a Catholic ministry, and what difference that makes to the communities that we serve. Such dialogue is welcome, indeed necessary if we are to be true to our Gospel-inspired mission of standing with those who are disadvantaged and marginalised. It fits well with the journey towards the 2020 synod of the whole Catholic Church in Australia, which we can expect to engage with contemporary issues of justice, peace and development.’ Paperback, 224 pages, \$29.95. Order [here](#).

### **EDUCATION RESOURCE: ‘WITH HEAD, HEART, HANDS AND FEET’**

Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) has launched a framework for educating for justice and peace to be implemented in its schools and organisations. This document was launched recently at the EREA Identity Leaders’ Conference in Melbourne following broad consultation during a review of justice and peace education in EREA. At the heart of the framework is a spirituality and pedagogy of justice and peace education. It responds to Pope Francis’ vision to ‘never tire of working for a more just world, marked by greater solidarity’. A holistic approach to justice and peace education includes an integration of head, heart, hands and feet. Find out more [here](#).



### **ACSJC Publications October 2016**

#### **SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2016–2017**

This year’s Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement is entitled ‘A Place at the Table: Social justice in an ageing society’. PDF and Word versions of the Statement as well as a range of print and multimedia resources. [Click here](#).

### **DISCUSSION GUIDES: DIGNITY AND WORK 2016**

The Australian Catholic Social Justice Council has issued three short discussion guides that address critical issues concerning justice for Australia’s most vulnerable workers or for those who confront the reality of unemployment. These vital aspects of work and dignity in our country address: the inadequate levels of income support offered to people who are unemployed; the risk that penalty rates will be cut for vulnerable workers; and the increasing intrusion of work demands into family time and weekends. We encourage you to promote these documents in your networks and publications. We hope that they

will be a valuable resource for anyone who wants to be informed about the Church's commitment to justice and fulfilment in the workplace. The discussion guides can be accessed [here](#).

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

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

### **BUILDING BRIDGES**

The book, *Building Bridges: Social Justice Statements from Australia's Bishops 1988 to 2013*, brings the Statements together in an attractive and readable format. The publication is fully indexed, making this an exceptional resource for education and research. It offers an invaluable insight into Catholic social teaching brought to life in an Australian context over the past 26 years. This collection is a vital resource for anyone interested in the Church's teaching on justice. It is of special interest to schools and universities and to parish and diocesan groups.

*Building Bridges* is available from the ACSJC for \$35.00 per copy including postage anywhere in Australia. Order forms are available [here](#)

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



### **News Monitor October 2016**

#### [Snowden drama captures tension over surveillance culture](#)

23-Sep-2016

This American biographical drama follows the life of Edward Joseph Snowden, the computer expert who leaked classified National Security Agency (NSA) information to the mainstream media.

#### [Bishops reflect new consensus about morality in political life](#)

22-Sep-2016

Australian Bishops were right to welcome the negotiation between the major political parties that modified some of the humanly destructive elements of the budget package. But it was only a beginning, writes Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ in *Eureka Street*.

#### [PM's humanitarian refugee intake welcomed but more needed](#)

22-Sep-2016

The Prime Minister's announcement that Australia will permanently maintain its annual humanitarian intake is a good start but must not mask the "elephant in the room," the plight of refugees on Manus Island and Nauru, writes Phil Glendenning.

[Do something about forced migration, Cardinal tells UN](#)

21-Sep-2016

The Vatican Secretary of State has pleaded for an increased commitment from the international community in addressing the root causes of forced migration, particularly war and arms trading, reports the Catholic News Agency.

[Lunch with refugees drives home impact of conflict](#)

21-Sep-2016

Pope Francis met with refugees and leaders of religious faiths in Assisi but it was the migrants he invited to join him for lunch on Tuesday who illustrated the tangible impact of war and conflict. The Religion News Service reports.

[CSSA welcomes welfare initiative but urges focus on wellbeing](#)

21-Sep-2016

Catholic Social Services Australia has welcomed the Federal government's initiative aimed at moving people off welfare dependency but cautioned that it must try to improve people's well-being rather than just shift them out of welfare.

[Filipino bishops seek to stop death penalty revival](#)

16-Sep-2016

Bishops in the Philippines have appealed to legislators to oppose any attempt to revive capital punishment, reports Ucanews.

[Qld women's group pledges funding for homeless shelter](#)

16-Sep-2016

Queensland members of a Catholic women's organisation have pledged financial support to refugee shelters caring for homeless mothers and children across the State, reports *The Catholic Leader*.

[Australian Bishops welcome change of heart on welfare cuts](#)

15-Sep-2016

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has welcomed the Federal parliament's decision to change its plans to cut the energy supplement to welfare recipients, describing the original plans as wrong "morally and economically."

[Refugee advocates demand closure of offshore camps](#)

15-Sep-2016

Catholic refugee advocates who last week delivered public readings of the Nauru Files say a Senate inquiry into the leaked documents needs to demand closure of the camps, reports *The Catholic Leader*.

[Bishop Comensoli on justice and the 'Grayby boom'](#)

12-Sep-2016

John Allen, from *Crux*, asks Bishop Peter Comensoli about the principles of dignity and respect that underpin this year's Social Justice statement by the Australian Bishops.

[Four reasons for our harsh asylum-seeker policy](#)

09-Sep-2016

Australia's descent into a "uniquely harsh" border control to stop asylum-seekers can be traced to

several key factors, Robert Manne told a recent justice conference held by the Sisters of St Joseph, reports *The Catholic Leader*.

[Social Justice Statement: 'Australia must protect older people'](#)

06-Sep-2016

As more and more Australians live longer, we should celebrate the great "success story" of our ageing population and, as a fair and compassionate nation, foster solidarity among all generations, says the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council.

[ACT candidates urged to fund students with disability](#)

06-Sep-2016

The Catholic Education Commission and school parents have joined forces in the lead-up to the ACT election, asking candidates to commit to equity funding for students with a disability, reports *The Canberra Times*.

[Francis declares care of environment a work of mercy](#)

02-Sep-2016

Pope Francis is proposing adding care for the environment to the traditional, Gospel-inspired works of mercy that Christians are called to perform, reports AP in *The Catholic Herald*.

[Josephite Sister arrested in asylum protest at PM's office](#)

01-Sep-2016

Josephite Sister Susan Connelly has described as "an enormously Eucharistic moment" her "arrest" in Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull's electoral office in Sydney on Monday, reports *The Catholic Leader*.

- courtesy [CathNews](#) from *Church Resources*.



## Social Justice Diary October 2016

October 2016

1	Sat	<a href="#">International Day for Older Persons</a> <b>READ MORE ↓</b> <b>2005: <a href="#">Second Bali bombing: 20 people killed and more than 100 injured</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a></b>
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2	Sun	<b>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <a href="#">International Day of Non-Violence</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a> 1869: <a href="#">Birth of Mahatma Ghandi</a>
3	Mon	<a href="#">World Habitat Day</a> READ MORE ↓ <a href="#">Rosh ha-Shanah (Jewish New Year)</a>
4	Tue	Feast of <a href="#">St Francis of Assisi</a> <b>World Animal Welfare Day</b> <a href="#">World Space Week commences</a> 1957: <a href="#">Launch of Sputnik 1 by the Soviet Union</a>
5	Wed	<a href="#">World Teachers Day</a>
6	Thu	
7	Fri	
8	Sat	
9	Sun	<b>Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <a href="#">World Post Day</a>
10	Mon	<a href="#">World Mental Health Day</a>
11	Tue	<a href="#">International Day of the Girl Child</a> 1962: <a href="#">Opening Session of Vatican Council II</a>
12	Wed	<a href="#">Yom Kippur (Jewish: Day of Atonement)</a> 2002: <a href="#">First Bali bombing:202 people killed and 240 injured</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a>
13	Thu	<a href="#">International Day for Disaster Reduction</a>
14	Fri	

15	Sat	<a href="#">International Day of Rural Women</a>
16	Sun	<p><b>Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>  <a href="#">World Mission Sunday</a></p> <p><b>READ MORE ↓</b></p> <p><a href="#">World Food Day</a></p>
17	Mon	<p><a href="#">International Day for Eradication of Poverty</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">World Poverty</a></p> <p><b>READ MORE ↓</b></p> <p><a href="#">Anti-Poverty Week begins</a></p>
18	Tue	
19	Wed	2001: <a href="#">Sinking of SIEV X</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Refugees</a>
20	Thu	
21	Fri	
22	Sat	
23	Sun	<b>Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
24	Mon	<p><a href="#">United Nations Day</a>  <a href="#">World Development Information Day</a>  <a href="#">Disarmament Week begins</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Peacebuilding</a></p>
25	Tue	
26	Wed	1985: <a href="#">Uluru returned to traditional owners, the Anangu people</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Justice for Indigenous People</a>
27	Thu	
28	Fri	

29	Sat	
30	Sun	Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
31	Mon	