

# ACSJC Monthly Briefing July 2017 No 191



## From the Secretariat July 2017

Dear Friends

Social Justice Sunday this year falls on 24 September.

The Australian Catholic Social Justice Council is preparing for the launch in September of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2017–2018.

This year's Statement is titled *Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy*. The Statement is built around the Gospel for Social Justice Sunday: Matthew 20:1-16. Jesus tells the parable of the workers in the vineyard, where all are active contributors and are recognised for their human dignity.

The Bishops call for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person.

In doing so, they emphasise the call of Pope Francis for an economic system that places men and women at the very centre – one that meets the needs of all people and is just and sustainable. He denounces economic structures that take a purely utilitarian view of human beings, treating them as mere elements of production, to be thrown away if they are not seen as useful or productive.

Australia has experienced a quarter of a century of continuous economic growth, but the benefits of this good fortune have not been distributed equally. In our workplaces, conditions and security of employment have been eroded, while those who are unemployed subsist on incomes well below poverty levels. Australia is experiencing a housing crisis. And our Indigenous brothers and sisters struggle with economic and social burdens that most Australians cannot imagine.

In the light of these challenges, the Statement calls us to build an economy founded on true solidarity with those who are most vulnerable. Such a society will reject an 'ideology of the market' that forgets the principles of justice and equity. Justice must be built into the very foundations of our community, and business can work for everybody's benefit, not just for shareholders. The excluded and vulnerable must have a voice in decision-making. God is calling us to use his bounty wisely, for the good of all and of our planet.

### **To Order**

Parishes, schools and groups can order printed copies (minimum of 10) from the ACSJC. Order form and cost details can be found on the [ACSJC website](#) or call (02) 8306 3499.

### **Social Justice Sunday – Complementary Resources**

The ACSJC produces a range of complementary resources to assist parish communities, schools and social justice groups to celebrate Social Justice Sunday.

Among the resources that will be available on the ACSJC website over the coming months will be:

- Social Justice Sunday Liturgy notes

- PowerPoint and video presentations
- Educational resources

Other resources that are very useful in parishes and schools are the Social Justice Sunday Prayer Card and 'Ten Steps' leaflet. These can be ordered from the ACSJC Secretariat on (02) 8306 3499.

### **Promotion**

The Bishops would welcome promotion of the Statement in the weeks leading up to Social Justice Sunday. A possible entry in your parish bulletin or newsletter could be:

#### ***We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 24 September.***

This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: 'Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy'.

The Statement calls for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website ([www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)) or call (02) 8306 3499.

Any assistance you can give in spreading the word about Social Justice Sunday and the Bishops' Statement would be greatly appreciated.

John Ferguson  
National Executive Officer



### **Current Issues/Resources July 2017**

#### **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY – 2 JULY**

The first Sunday in July is a time for all Catholics to come together and celebrate the gifts that Australia's first people bring to the Catholic Church. With over 120,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics in Australia, our First Nation people form an important part of the fabric of Church life. With the theme 'Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me', the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council have produced a range of resources to assist in your celebration of this significant day. The resources can be accessed [here](#).

#### **ULURU 'STATEMENT FROM THE HEART'**

At the end of May, on the eve of the 50th Anniversary of the 1967 referendum more than 250 delegates at the 2017 First Nations National Constitutional Convention at Uluru issued an historic 'Statement From The Heart' with the hope of improving the lives of future generations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The Constitutional Convention found that Indigenous people don't want recognition in the Constitution if it means a 'simple acknowledgement'. Rather, they want reform that makes a real difference in their communities, endorsing a treaty and calling for a referendum for a voice in Parliament. The Statement can be accessed [here](#).

### **ANTaR's 'LEARNING MORE' PROGRAM**

Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation Qld has produced a self-guided education program aimed at helping you to listen and learn more. It gives a very basic level of knowledge and engagement with the heritage, culture and perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. It is a self-led program that can be completed as quickly or as slowly as needed. This program is an excellent opportunity for non-Indigenous Australians who would like to understand and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and to support their struggle for justice. To find out more, visit [here](#).

### **SBS NEWS: FAMILIES GO HUNGRY UNDER WORK-FOR-DOLE SCHEME**

The federal government's work-for-the-dole scheme is denying Aboriginal people in remote communities basic rights, equal treatment and fair payment for work, legal and human rights advocates have told a Senate inquiry. The North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency and the Human Rights Law Centre have highlighted the 'inherent discrimination' of the social security program in separate submissions to a Senate committee. Read more [here](#).

### **REPORT ON CENTRELINK ROBO-DEBT SYSTEM**

The Senate Community Affairs References Committee has released its report on the 'design, scope, cost-benefit analysis, contracts awarded and implementation associated with the Better Management of the Social Welfare System initiative'. This follows a four-month inquiry gathering damning evidence from 155 submissions and nine public hearings and revealing a program that is inherently flawed and damaging to thousands of vulnerable Australians. St Vincent de Paul's [John Falzon](#) says, 'The inquiry has heard numerous accounts from people burdened with grossly inaccurate debts. People have been intimidated and hounded for money they do not owe, causing deep distress and anxiety.' ACOSS CEO [Cassandra Goldie](#) says, 'Government must consider the Senate Inquiry report carefully and not extend the program as planned to hundreds of thousands of others, with 760,000 people expected to be affected in total. Frankly, robodebt must be abolished.' The Senate report can be downloaded [here](#).

### **2017 ANTI-POVERTY WEEK**

Anti-Poverty week will run from 15 to 21 October, coinciding with the United Nations International Day to End Poverty on 17 October. The aims of the Week are to: strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and hardship around the world and in Australia; and to encourage research, discussion and action to address these problems, including action by individuals, communities, organizations and governments. You can find ideas for activities [here](#) and information about what happened during Anti-Poverty Week in 2016 [here](#). Promotional material to publicise the week throughout your networks can be found [here](#). If you would or any of your network would like hard copies of the national poster, the two sided A4 flyer or the postcard, please contact the Anti-Poverty Week team at: [coordinator@antipovertyweek.org.au](mailto:coordinator@antipovertyweek.org.au)

### **REPORT: 'BUILDING THE FUTURE'**

One in five children in high-income countries lives in relative income poverty and an average of one in eight faces food insecurity. 'Building the Future: Children and the Sustainable Development Goals in Rich Countries' is the first report to assess the status of children in 41 countries in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 'Report Card 14 is a wake-up-call that even in high-income countries progress does not benefit all children,' says Sarah Cook, Director of UNICEF Innocenti. 'Higher incomes do not automatically lead to improved outcomes for all children, and may indeed deepen inequalities.'

Governments in all countries need to take action to ensure the gaps are reduced and progress is made to reach the SDGs for children.’ The report can be accessed [here](#).

#### **REPORT: ‘ELDER ABUSE’**

The Australian Law Reform Commission has launched the report, ‘Elder Abuse – A National Legal Response’, following intensive research and consultations over a 15-month period. It considers Commonwealth laws and legal frameworks that would better protect older persons from misuse or abuse. It makes 43 recommendations for law reform in the areas of residential aged care, screening of care workers, enduring documents, banking and financial institutions arrangements and protection of at-risk adults. It calls for the recommendations to be pursued through a National Plan to combat elder abuse and for new empirical research into the prevalence of elder abuse. The report can be accessed [here](#).

#### **REPORT: ‘DEFENDING DEMOCRACY’**

The Human Rights Law centre says the independent voice of civil society is at risk. The report, ‘Defending Democracy: Safeguarding independent community voices’ highlights how in recent years the ability of community organisations to engage in activism and advocacy work has been threatened by new laws and practices which are slowly but surely eroding their independent voice. The report considers the impact of such things as funding agreements prohibiting organisations from speaking publicly on political issues, the defunding of outspoken peak civil society bodies, and attacks on individuals who speak out critically against government policies, as was the case of Gillian Triggs, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission. This report makes recommendations to defend the space in which we civil society contributes and speaks out on the matters of public importance. The report can be accessed [here](#).

#### **NEW BOOK: ‘Of Labour and Liberty’**

What will the future of work, social freedom and employment look like? In an era of increased job insecurity and social dislocation, is it possible to reshape economics along democratic lines in a way that genuinely serves the interests of the community? Race Mathews is author of ‘Of Labour and Liberty: Distributism in Victoria 1891–1966’ published by Monash University Publishing. Race questions whether political democracy can survive indefinitely in the absence of economic democracy – of labour hiring capital rather than capital labour. He highlights the potential of the social teachings of the Catholic Church and the now largely forgotten Distributist political philosophy and program that originated from them as a means of bringing about a more equal, just and genuinely democratic social order. Cost: \$34.95. Available for order [here](#).

#### **NEW BOOK: ‘Bonded Through Tragedy, United in Hope’**

Hilton Deakin is a Catholic bishop and a key figure in East Timor’s struggle for self-determination, who became a confidante to independence fighters and those in solidarity with them. At a time when most Australians had little knowledge of, or sympathy for the plight of the East Timorese under Indonesian occupation, Bishop Deakin became a voice for the voiceless. His memoir ‘Bonded Through Tragedy, United in Hope: The Catholic Church and East Timor’s Struggle for Independence’ is both a personal story and the story of a people who held hope through their tumultuous struggle for freedom. Published by Garratt. Cost: \$24.95. Available for order [here](#).

#### **UCA NEWS: RELIGIOUS LEADERS SEEK JUSTICE FOR SUSPECTED TAMIL REBELS**

More than 80 suspected Tamil rebels have been detained for 22 years under the terrorism law without

trial. Buddhist, Christian and Muslim clergy are calling for the release of suspected Tamil separatists held for years under Sri Lanka's controversial anti-terrorism laws. The prisoners are believed to have been arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act issued during Sri Lanka's 26-year civil war. The law gives the military sweeping powers to detain and arrest people deemed to be threats to national security. Read more [here](#).

#### **PETITION: FINALISE A FAIR AND PERMANENT BORDER WITH EAST TIMOR**

A number of individuals and organisations, including Sr Susan Connelly SOSJ and the Timor Sea Justice Campaign, are organising petitions for the Australian government to negotiate on fair terms with the government of Timor-Leste to draw a fair and permanent border, based on the median line, which would allow both nations to claim what is rightfully theirs under international law. This would strengthen security and give certainty regarding investment, and would uphold the rights of nations to a defined and internationally accepted sovereignty. You can sign an online petition on the Timor Sea Justice Campaign [website](#) or download the formal paper Petition to the House of Representatives ([available here](#)) and get it signed by those in your networks.

#### **REPORT: CLIMATE OF THE NATION 2017**

The Climate Institute has released its latest edition of the country's most comprehensive annual research into the attitudes of Australians to climate change and energy. Drawing on research based on a national attitudinal survey of 2,660 people, conducted by Galaxy, and eight focus groups conducted by Brand Central, taking in participants from Adelaide, greater western Sydney, Brisbane and greater Townsville, it shows Australians overwhelmingly want our country's energy system to be powered by renewables because they see it as the 'economically smart' thing for Australia's future. The report can be accessed [here](#).

#### **PETITION: RAISE YOUR VOICE FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE**

Are you frustrated with the Government's lack of action on climate change and want to do something about it? Join the largest faith-based climate justice campaign in Australia, supported by the ACSJC, Caritas Australia, Catholic Earthcare, Pacific Calling Partnership and many other faith-based organisations. Until mid August we are gathering signatures for electorate-based 'pen and paper' petitions to the House of Representatives across Australia, calling for stronger climate action. Help create a powerful message for climate justice that our elected representatives cannot ignore! Find out how you can take part [here](#).

#### **CALL FOR A GLOBAL VOICE ON THE GREAT BARRIER REEF**

In the lead up to the UNESCO World Heritage interim review of the Great Barrier Reef in early July, the Parish of St Joseph and St Anthony in Queensland's Bracken Ridge is calling for a global voice in defence of the reef. Fr Gerry Hefferan draws on the Queensland Catholic Bishops 2004 Pastoral Letter on the Great Barrier Reef, when they said, 'We are indebted to our Indigenous sisters and brothers for the lessons they have taught us in seeing things "otherwise", in caring for the land and sea of this ancient continent.' The Indigenous Reef Advisory Committee Statement of 2017 says, 'We believe it is no longer a question of resilience but a desperate need for intervention. With deep respect, we call out to all global citizens and international story tellers ... to walk with us on this journey of courage, to give back her dignity, by nursing her back to health.' To find out more, visit [here](#).

#### **50th Anniversary of Occupation of West Bank and Gaza.**

June 2017 marked the 50th Anniversary of the Israeli military Occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Despite UN General Assembly resolution 242 calling on Israel to withdraw, they refuse to comply. Despite rulings from the International Court of Justice in 2004, the wall is still being built. Despite UN Security Council resolution 2334, Israel continues to expand illegal settlements. Throughout the West Bank checkpoints are being upgraded and Israeli-only roads are being built. The blockade of Gaza has been dubbed the largest open air prison in the world, threatening lives daily. On the Anniversary, Bishop George Browning, President of the Australian Palestine Advocacy Network issued a video message, calling for global solidarity to put an end to the occupation on fair and just grounds. View the Bishop's message [here](#).

### **The Global Peace Index 2017**

Produced by the Institute for Economics and Peace, the 2017 Global Peace Index shows that the world became slightly more peaceful since last year. While this is a positive trend, the Index reveals an increasingly complex world. This improvement comes despite severe ongoing conflict and humanitarian crises in many of the least peaceful countries of the world. The last ten years have seen increases in conflict deaths not seen for 25 years and historic increases in the number of refugees and displaced people. Access the report [here](#).

### **UNHCR's 2016 *Global Trends*: 'FORCED DISPLACEMENT'**

The latest Global Trends reveals that, at the end of 2016, there were 65.6 million people forcibly displaced worldwide – some 300,000 more than a year earlier. This total represents an enormous number of people needing protection worldwide. Refugee numbers at 22.5 million are the highest ever seen. Those displaced inside their own countries number 40.3 million. And asylum seekers number 2.8 million. Of the 65.6 million people forcibly displaced globally, 10.3 million became displaced in 2016. This equates to one person becoming displaced every 3 seconds – less than the time it takes to read this sentence. Access the report [here](#).

### **REFUGEE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA REPORT**

Every year, RCOA staff and volunteers cross the length and breadth of the country to consult with people from refugee backgrounds and the services that support them, to get their input on Australia's Refugee and Humanitarian Program. The latest report brings a crucial first-hand insight into how our Government's policies are affecting those on the front line. It includes recommendations for a more humane approach to the global displacement crisis, including a significant increase into the intake quota, the establishment of an Emergency Contingency quota, an expansion of private refugee sponsorship, and recommendations to reform Jobactive. Access the report [here](#).

### **REPORT: Protecting children on the move from violence, abuse and exploitation**

Millions of children are on the move across international borders – fleeing violence and conflict, disaster or poverty, in pursuit of a better life. Hundreds of thousands move on their own. When they encounter few opportunities to move legally, children resort to dangerous routes and engage smugglers to help them cross borders. Serious gaps in the laws, policies and services meant to protect children on the move further leave them bereft of protection and care. They can become easy prey for traffickers and others who abuse and exploit them. This UNICEF report, 'A Child is a Child', calls for a six-point plan to keep refugee and migrant children safe. To access the report, visit [here](#).

### **#EndChildDetention PETITION**

The Campaign to End Child Detention is seeking signatures on its petition that will be presented to local, national, regional, and global policy makers as the campaign continues to advocate for the rights of

children. The petition reads: 'I sign this petition to support the Global Campaign to End Child Detention. Consistent with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, detaining a child on the basis of their, or their parents migration status is a child rights violation. I urge states to take the lead and end child detention'. Take action, sign the petition today, and get 5 of your closest friends and family to do the same! Visit [here](#) to sign on.

#### **JOB VACANCY – TRADE JUSTICE COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGNER**

The Australian Fair Trade and Investment Network (AFTINET) is a network of community groups and individuals that campaigns for fair trade based on human rights, labour rights and environmental sustainability. This is an exciting opportunity if you have web-based communication and graphic design skills and are passionate about human rights, the environment and trade justice. The position is part-time for 21 hours or three days per week, on a fixed-term contract, with the potential of further contracts dependent on funding. Applications close Monday July 10. To find out more and make lodge an application, visit [here](#).



#### **ACSJC Publications July 2017**

##### **SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2017–2018 – ORDER NOW!**

This year's Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement is entitled 'Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy'. The ACSJC is now taking orders for the Statement. An order form, letter from the President of the Bishops Conference and summary material are available on the [ACSJC website](#).

#### **PASTORAL LETTER – FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 2017**

The Pastoral Letter for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker for 2015 is entitled *The Right to Work – Our shared responsibility*. Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen draws on the words of St Pope John Paul II, when he visited Australia in 1986, to argue for just wages and conditions of work, adequacy in the support and dignified treatment of people who are unemployed, and for the shared responsibility of the community to shoulder the costs and burdens of job creation ensuring the right to work for all. It is available for download [here](#).

#### **DISCUSSION GUIDE: WORLD DAY OF PEACE MESSAGE 2017**

The Australian Catholic Social Justice Council has issued a discussion guide for the annual Message for the World Day of Peace from Pope Francis. The theme of this year's Message is *Nonviolence: A Style of Politics for Peace*. In it Pope Francis confronts the global violence that amounts to 'a horrifying world war fought piecemeal'. He holds up the example of Jesus himself, who walked the path of nonviolence 'to the very end, to the cross, whereby he became our peace and put an end to hostility'. The Pope also reminds us of the many triumphs of nonviolent activism, including St Teresa of Calcutta and St John Paul II's heroic involvement in the downfall of European Communist regimes. The discussion guide is available in print and online: go to [our website](#).

#### **SERIES PAPER 79 – 'Human Trafficking and Slavery: A response from Australian Catholics'**

This paper is written by Christine Carolan, Executive Officer of Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) and Sr Noelene Simmons SM, NSW Regional Co-ordinator for ACRATH.

It describes the forms that slavery and related crimes take in the modern world, the Church's teaching on and response to slavery and other forms of exploitation, and the international and Australian laws that deal with slavery. It also describes the work of organisations committed to combating slavery and helping its victims – in particular, ACRATH's efforts to educate Australians, to advocate on behalf of victims, and to work with similar organisations here and overseas to shut down human trafficking and help its victims. The paper discusses particular problems faced by those who experience trafficking and exploitation, including people who may be subject to forced marriage. It also gives suggestions for people interested in supporting the work of ACRATH and similar organisations. [Link](#).

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

The 2016–2017 Social Justice Statement of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference 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 – see [our website](#).

### **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 July 2017**

#### **Manus class action 'not about the money'**

26-Jun-2017

A former Manus Island teacher says a huge class action against the federal government on behalf of 1900 asylum-seekers detained on the island was "not about the money", The Catholic Leader reports.

#### **Army goes to war against domestic abuse**

26-Jun-2017

Male and female soldiers have described being kicked, punched and spat on by their partners in a powerful new Army video produced to help stamp out domestic and family violence, ABC News reports.

#### **Asylum-seekers need our support**

23-Jun-2017

Australia needs to work towards the just and humane treatment of migrants and refugees in its care, writes Parramatta Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv on the ACBC Media Blog.

### [Ending child poverty an elusive goal](#)

23-Jun-2017

Thirty years ago today Bob Hawke declared that "by 1990, no Australian child will be living in poverty," writes Michael Koziol in the Sydney Morning Herald.

### [Pope donates cash in lieu of South Sudan trip](#)

22-Jun-2017

With a trip to South Sudan postponed indefinitely, Pope Francis is sending close to \$US500,000 to the war-torn country to show his solidarity and support, CNS reports.

### [Chan film a story of mercy and second chances](#)

21-Jun-2017

An Australian producer is planning a movie about the faith journey of executed Bali 9 drug trafficker Andrew Chan, The Catholic Leader reports.

### [Welfare changes 'based on meanness'](#)

21-Jun-2017

The St Vincent de Paul Society has urged the Senate to reject a government proposal that will deny access to the Disability Support Pension (DSP) for people with a disability caused by drugs or alcohol, the charity reports.

### [Schools welcome refugees from war-torn countries](#)

20-Jun-2017

More than 400 children from Syria and Iraq have been taken in by Catholic schools in Sydney, and that number will rise over the coming months, the Catholic Weekly reports.

### [Catholics divided over Adani coalmine](#)

20-Jun-2017

To mine or not to mine? It's a question capable of dividing Catholics as much as any other issue, reports The Catholic Leader.

### [Pope tells Merkel to keep up climate change fight](#)

19-Jun-2017

Pope Francis has asked Germany to keep fighting for the Paris climate change deal and to "tear down walls" that inhibit international cooperation, Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Saturday, Reuters reports.

### [CAN DO approach to humanitarian crises](#)

19-Jun-2017

Caritas Australia is leading a consortium of eight church agencies who have partnered with the federal government to better respond to humanitarian crises, particularly in the Pacific region, the charity reports.

### [Government urged to act on elder abuse](#)

16-Jun-2017

The Australian Law Reform Commission has urged the federal government to seize a "once in a lifetime opportunity" to stop the financial and physical abuse of the elderly, ABC News reports.

### [PNG deports lay missionary](#)

14-Jun-2017

The Papua New Guinea government has deported a lay missionary after he tried to help villagers who were taking legal action against a giant Malaysian logging company, ABC News reports.

### [Joining forces to fight human trafficking](#)

08-Jun-2017

Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans and St Vincent's Health Australia have joined forces to change the way hospitals treat trafficked people and to 'slavery proof' the goods and services they use, the two groups have announced.

### [Program creating opportunities for Aboriginal people](#)

07-Jun-2017

A new MercyCare traineeship program is offering Aboriginal people in Western Australia the life-changing opportunity to gain qualifications and experience, the organisation says.

### [Welby challenges faith leaders on terror](#)

07-Jun-2017

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, says the terrorist attacks are to do with religion and that to claim otherwise is "not getting us anywhere", The Tablet reports.

### [Minimum wage rise 'woefully inadequate'](#)

07-Jun-2017

Australia's 2.3 million lowest paid workers will get their biggest pay rise in six years but unions and church groups warn it is still not enough to lift them all out of poverty, AAP reports on news.com.au.

### [Pope asks for prayers to end arms trade](#)

06-Jun-2017

Pope Francis has asked people to pray for the elimination of the arms trade in his worldwide prayer intention for June, Vatican Radio reports.

### [Churches call for Aussie leadership on climate](#)

05-Jun-2017

The National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA) has called on Malcolm Turnbull to show leadership in commitment to the global climate agreement, Insights Magazine reports.

### [Australian Jesuits to divest from fossil fuels](#)

05-Jun-2017

The Australian Jesuits have marked World Environment Day by committing to join other world organisations in responding to the call to divest from fossil fuels.

### [Bishops urge PNG to ban deep sea mining](#)

02-Jun-2017

Bishops from Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands are calling on the PNG Government to ban deep sea mining in the country, Pasifik News reports.

## [New bid to free Bali Nine](#)

02-Jun-2017

A prominent Australian barrister has vowed to renew a fight to free Brisbane Catholic Scott Rush and the remaining members of the Bali Nine in jail in Indonesia, The Catholic Leader reports.

Courtesy [CathNews](#)



## Social Justice Diary July 2017

July 2017

1	Sat	<a href="#">International Day of Cooperatives</a> <b>2012: <a href="#">Commencement of the Fair Work Amendment (TCF Industry) Act 2011, ensuring fair pay and conditions for outworkers in the garment industry</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Workplace Justice</a></b> <a href="#">Tartan Day</a> (Australasia)
2	Sun	Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time <a href="#">National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday</a> - ACSJC resources on Justice for <a href="#">Indigenous Peoples</a> READ MORE ↓ <a href="#">NAIDOC Week begins</a>
3	Mon	
4	Tue	
5	Wed	1935: <a href="#">Birth of the Dalai Lama in Tibet – awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989</a>
6	Thu	
7	Fri	1945: <a href="#">Blessed Peter To Rot</a> – killed in Papua New Guinea, recognised as a martyr

8	Sat	
9	Sun	Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time <a href="#">Apostleship of the Sea</a>
10	Mon	1985: <a href="#">Sinking of Greenpeace ship <i>Rainbow Warrior</i> in Auckland</a>
11	Tue	<a href="#">World Population Day</a>
12	Wed	1971: <a href="#">Aboriginal Flag first flown in Adelaide</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Justice for Indigenous People</a>
13	Thu	
14	Fri	1995: <a href="#">Proclamation of Aboriginal Flag and Torres Strait Islander Flag as official flags of Australia</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Justice for Indigenous People</a>
15	Sat	<a href="#">World Youth Skills Day</a>
16	Sun	Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 1945: <a href="#">Detonation in New Mexico of the first atomic bomb</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Peace Building</a>
17	Mon	
18	Tue	<a href="#">Nelson Mandela International Day</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Confronting Racism</a> 1918: <a href="#">Birth of Nelson Mandela</a>
19	Wed	
20	Thu	1969: <a href="#">First moon landing accomplished by US astronauts</a>
21	Fri	
22	Sat	

23	Sun	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
24	Mon	
25	Tue	
26	Wed	1833: <a href="#">Approval of Emancipation Bill, abolishing slavery throughout the British Empire</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Trade Justice</a>
27	Thu	
28	Fri	<a href="#">Schools Tree Day</a> - ACSJC resources on the <a href="#">Environment</a> READ MORE ↓
29	Sat	
30	Sun	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Bible Sunday <a href="#">International Day of Friendship</a> <a href="#">World Day Against Trafficking in Persons</a> - ACSJC resources on <a href="#">Trade Justice</a>
31	Mon	<a href="#">National Missing Persons Week begins</a> <a href="#">National Tree Day</a> - ACSJC resources on the <a href="#">Environment</a> READ MORE ↓