

# JEDO Newsletter

Issue 12 | Spring 2017

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

## Everyone's Business

The **Justice, Ecology and Development Office (JEDO)** within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth, Western Australia (WA) was privileged to host the Perth launch of the Social Justice Statement on Thursday the 21st of September (at the Newman Siena Centre in Doubleview) – on the international day of peace. The 2017-18 Social Justice (SJ) Statement from the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC) is: **Everyone's Business – Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy.**

The national Bishops' have called us all to act in solidarity so we can put the perceived last first. As Most Rev. Vincent Long Van Nguyen said in his Chairman's Message (pg. 2 of the SJ Statement): *"This Statement is inspired by the teachings of Jesus and by the unswerving vision of Pope Francis – that the most vulnerable and excluded are the ones who need to take first place in our hearts and in our actions as individuals and as a society. As this Statement makes clear, our Pope draws on Christ's message of love and ministry to the poor."*

Within the Social Justice Statement, the national Bishops' asked us to consider whether our economy is just or unjust. Areas of concern were highlighted, such as an insecure workforce, crackdowns on welfare, the housing and homelessness crisis as well as the First Australians treated last. However, we can do better than this. We need to restore our moral and ethical compass as guided by and through our Catholic faith. Discerning and then acting on recommendations within the Social Justice Statement is a good place to start.

Acknowledging that our Catholic Social Teaching and thinking calls us to have a preferential option for the poor, Pope Francis instituted the **1st World Day of the Poor** that was held on Sunday the 19th of November, with the call to action, guided by Scripture: *Let us love, not with words but with deeds.* Let us now heed this call to act for what is right and just. Wishing you God's blessings, peace and **Advent** joy.

Some of the guest speakers at the Perth Launch included (L to R in photo) Cheryl Lennox-Bradley (Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Council), Vicky Burrows (ACM Director), Damian Walsh (The Shopfront Director), Auxiliary Bishop Don Sproston, Bronia Karniewicz (Respect Life Office Director) with Carol Mitchell (JEDO Director)



We welcome your inclusion and participation in our 'call to action'.

With **Catholic Social Teaching** as our guide, let us walk together as one to make a difference in our communities – to **think globally, but act locally** – within our families, parishes, schools, work, civic and leisure communities, and beyond...We welcome you on our shared journey: [www.jedo.perthcatholic.org.au](http://www.jedo.perthcatholic.org.au)

"THE CONVERTED PERSON SEES, HEARS AND UNDERSTANDS WITH A DIVINE EYE, A DIVINE EAR, A DIVINE HEART."

- Henri Nouwen

## JEDO Networking

### Integral Ecology

#### Conversion and New Hope

On Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup> of July, JEDO and the Centre for Faith Enrichment (CFE) co-hosted the conversation with Professor Anthony (Fr Tony) Kelly CSsR that was held at the Redemptorist Monastery in North Perth.

#### **In Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home,**

Pope Francis introduced us to a new Catholic Social Teaching principle, **Integral Ecology**. He stated: "A true ecological approach *always* becomes a social approach; It must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear **both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor**" (LS, 2015, # 49).

Fr Tony Kelly CSsR and Dr Pina Ford (CEWA)



It was interesting to hear Fr Tony speak about the varying levels of conversion within his talk: from religious, ecclesial, moral – that is, solidarity with the suffering, intellectual, and psychological - to ecological with an 'earthing of hope' through 'the risen body' and with 'the new creation'. It was wonderful to hear Fr Tony share his wisdom and to then network further with like-minded people of good will.



Auxiliary Bishop Don Sproxtan, Prof Anthony Kelly CSsR, CFE Director Dr Marco Ceccarelli,  
CFE Office Manager Tracy Stevens and JEDO Director Carol Mitchell.

"GREAT IS THE STRENGTH WE POSSESS IN OUR UNITY."

- St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

## JEDO Advocacy

### Your Parish: Building Relationships with the Aboriginal Community

On Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> of October, the JEDO Director had the opportunity to support/co-facilitate the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) workshop (under the Centre for Faith Enrichment umbrella) that was held at the Newman Siena Centre in Doubleview.

The workshop provided parishioners with the opportunity to discern ways to build better relationships with the Aboriginal community and with ACM, with their Message Sticks also being highlighted.

They were inspired by the words of St Pope John 11: "You are part of Australia and Australia is part of you. And the Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received".

The 7 ACM Message Stick themes are: Growing in Culture; Reconciliation; Growing in Gospel Faith; Leadership and Gifts; Living the Mercy and Justice of God; Healing; and Our Story, Our Community.



Vicky Burrows, ACM Director and Donna Ryder, ACM Pastoral Worker promoting the [Aboriginal Acknowledgment Plaque](#) - available from JEDO



"INTEGRITY IS DOING THE RIGHT THING, EVEN WHEN NO-ONE IS WATCHING."

- C.S. Lewis

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## ASSISI ANIMATORS PROGRAM - New Norcia

The JEDO Director was grateful for the opportunity to be a participant in the Laudato Si' inspired retreat held at New Norcia from Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> of October. This live-in experience was well facilitated by Jacqui Remond (National Director) and Nigel Hayward (WA representative) from Catholic Earthcare Australia.

Although most participants were from the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth, we also had attendees from Sydney, Alice Springs and Broome. We were very privileged to have an Aboriginal Yued woman from New Norcia, Donna Ryder, as one of the participants (also ACM Pastoral Worker). This provided a unique insight of connection to country that enhanced the eco-spirituality/theology experience for everyone involved.

The ASSISI Program is for Learning Communities for Sustainability – for a change of heart and mind reflected in action. ASSISI stands for a Strategic Systems-based Integrated Sustainability Initiative. It incorporates the Signs of the Times for ecological conversion and then integral ecology. There was ongoing reflection and learning throughout the retreat that was also inspired by the encyclical from Pope Francis, Laudato Si' – Care for our Common Home.



“OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ENVIRONMENT CAN NEVER BE ISOLATED FROM OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS AND WITH GOD.”

- Pope Francis (Laudato Si' - #119)

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## PARISH PROMOTIONS

### Como Parish

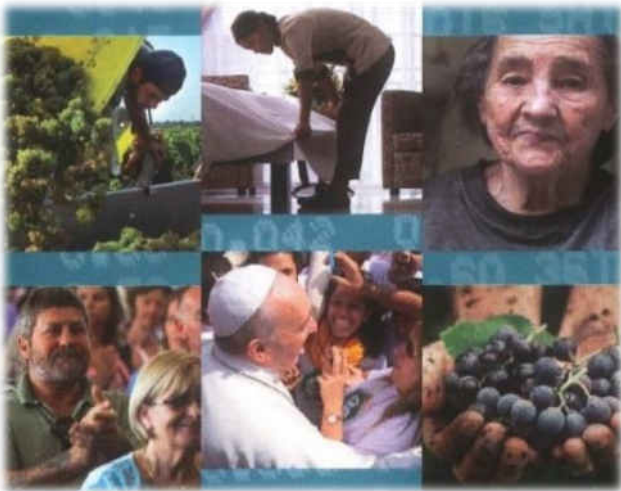


The 2016-2017 Australian Bishops Social Justice Statement was entitled 'A Place at the Table: Social Justice in an ageing society'. The statement celebrates the value, dignity and significant contributions of older people to the life of the community. At Holy Family Parish we have embarked upon an ongoing celebration of our ageing parishioners by creating a "Memories Book".

We are interviewing our ageing parishioners and recording their stories which will be stored digitally and in a hard-bound book that will be available for anyone to read. Excerpts from their stories are published in our @HOME Newsletter. Mary Haydock's story was in one of the editions. (Words courtesy of Como Parish)

### Ten Steps towards an inclusive, sustainable economy

## Social Justice Actions



1. Reflect on the Gospel
2. Become informed about 'economic exclusion'
3. Identify those who experience exclusion
4. Join the work of combatting poverty and homelessness
5. Stand in solidarity with the First People of Australia
6. End poverty and environmental degradation
7. Inclusive, economies, global citizens: You, me, us – Take action for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
8. Call for change as a matter of faith
9. Get active
10. Let us Pray

[SDGs](#) (Sustainable Development Goals)

## EVERYONE'S BUSINESS: Developing an Inclusive and Sustainable Economy

### Order your copy of the 2017 - 18 Social Justice Statement

The Social Justice (SJ) Statement resources (SJ Statement; Ten Steps to an Inclusive, Sustainable Economy; and Prayer Card - for Economic Justice) can be obtained from the **Australian Catholic Social Justice Council**: [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

### Tell us how you (your parish or school) are promoting the 2017-18 Social Justice Statement

Brief articles and photos for future issues of the JEDO Newsletter are most welcome.

Please send any submissions or queries to [admin.jedo@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:admin.jedo@perthcatholic.org.au)

"THE DEEDS YOU DO MAY BE THE ONLY SERMON SOME PERSONS WILL HEAR TODAY."

- St Francis of Assisi

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## Meet the JEDO Director

### Background

My personal and professional passion has always involved working with or for the marginalised and vulnerable, including for women and children's safety. Prior to working at JEDO (began end of February 2014) I worked for decades in three State government departments and two non-government agencies. This was enabled through a Diploma of Dental Nursing; Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion; Graduate Diploma in Women's Studies and Graduate Certificate in Human Rights.

While working for Dental Health Services, I worked at Fremantle Prison; Longmore Juvenile Detention Centre; Graylands Psychiatric Hospital; Pyrtton (for 'clients' who required high need care for their physical and intellectual disabilities); domiciliary/aged care; Royal Perth Rehabilitation Hospital (Shenton Park) for people with an acquired brain injury or spinal injury; and others. While working at the Health Department, I worked on numerous social media campaigns for tobacco control (e.g.: Quit Campaign). Given my interest in the social determinants of health, this led to domestic violence prevention work ('Freedom From Fear Campaign Against Domestic Violence') within the former Domestic Violence Prevention Unit. While working in the former Women's Policy Office, I was engaged in the early implementation stages of the National Plan of Action to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children (2009 – 2021); and many other issues of importance.

The two non-government agencies included Outcare – supports offenders/ex-offenders and their families (where I got the opportunity to author some Inquiry submissions); and the Immigrant Women's Support Service (IWSS) in Brisbane, Queensland – a crisis and referral service for Non-English Speaking Background (NESB) women living with the consequences of domestic violence and/or sexual assault. I have also worked in many voluntary capacities including as an educator with the WA AIDS Council in the mid-1980's (during a time of great fear-based discourse); as a Safety House representative for the local Catholic primary school (while living in Brisbane); and I was involved with the Mercedes Ex-Students' Association (MESA) for several years (the last two as President) just prior to taking on the JEDO Director's role.

On a personal note.... I have been married to Tom Mitchell for over 30 years. He is the Head of College for St Thomas More College, (STMC is the Catholic residential college for the University of Western Australia). We have three wonderful children: Miranda, Xavier and Bronte. The girls go (or went) to my old school, Mercedes College where I was the Head Girl in 1982. Our son went to Aquinas College like his Dad who was College Captain there in 1981.

Carol Mitchell



"THE GOSPEL TAKES AWAY OUR RIGHT FOREVER, TO DISCRIMINATE BETWEEN THE DESERVING AND THE UNDESERVING POOR."

- Dorothy Day

## ACSJJC Social Justice Diary - September to November

1st Sept.	Season of Creation (1st Sept – 4th Oct. Feast of St Francis of Assisi) National Biodiversity Month – Australia
4th Sept.	National Child Protection Week
5th Sept.	International Day of Charity
7th Sept.	National Threatened Species Day
8th Sept.	International Literacy Day
10th Sept.	Child Protection Sunday / World Suicide Prevention Day
15th Sept.	International Day of Democracy
16th Sept.	International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer
21st Sept.	International Day of Peace / World Alzheimer's Day
26th Sept.	International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons
1st Oct.	International Day for Older Persons
2nd Oct.	International Day of Non-Violence / World Habitat Day
4th Oct.	Feast of St Francis of Assisi
10th Oct.	World Mental Health Day
11th Oct.	International Day of the Girl-Child
15th Oct.	World Mission Sunday
16th Oct.	Anti-Poverty Week begins
17th Oct.	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
24th Oct.	United Nations Day / Disarmament Week begins
5th Nov.	World Tsunami Awareness Day
6th Nov.	International Week of Science and Peace / International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict
10th Nov.	World Science Day for Peace and Development
11th Nov.	Remembrance (Armistice) Day
19th Nov.	1st World Day of the Poor (instituted by Pope Francis)
20th Nov.	Universal Children's Day
25th Nov.	International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women Start of UN 16 Days of Activism to Prevent Gender-based Violence



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## In our next JEDO Newsletter

- Advent Blessings and New Beginnings
- Year of Youth - *Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy*
- Parish Promotions and Social Justice Action
- JEDO Networking, JEDO Advocacy, and more...

**“A sense of deep communion with the rest of nature cannot be real if our hearts lack tenderness, compassion and concern for our fellow human beings.”**

Pope Francis (Laudato Si' # 91)



WELCOME TO THE  
**CATHOLIC CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA**



**ACSJC** AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC  
SOCIAL JUSTICE COUNCIL



End poverty. Promote justice.  
Uphold dignity



**Catholic  
Earthcare**  
AUSTRALIA



### Contact JEDO:

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