

# JEDO Newsletter

Issue 8 | Winter Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

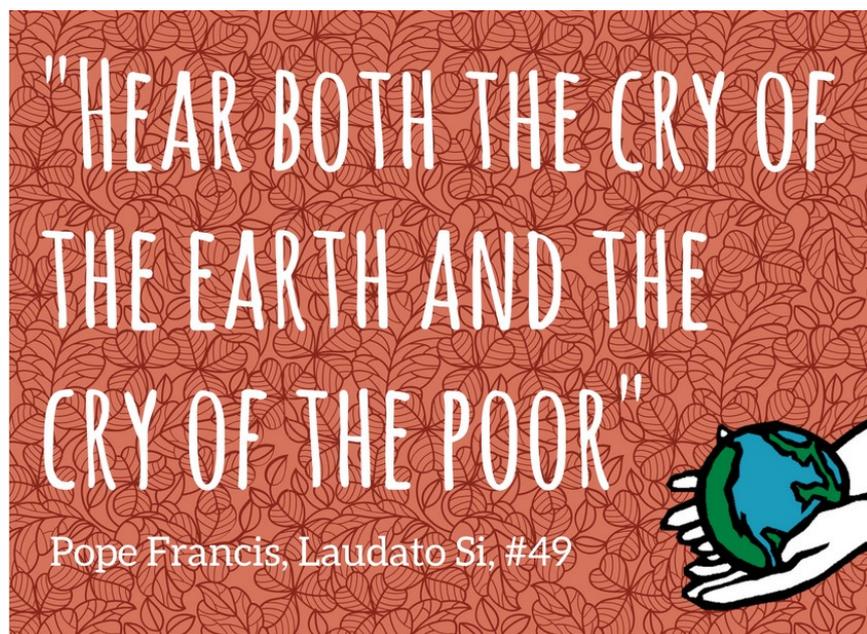
## A voice for the voiceless

The Justice, Ecology and Development Office (JEDO) within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth, Western Australia (WA), gives thanks for the wise words from the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC) that were released in mid-May prior to the Federal election for our discernment and guidance. The ACBC Statement, [A Vote for the Voiceless](#) was addressed to Catholics and all people of good will to highlight that the economic focus prior to elections can sometimes come at the exclusion and marginalisation of many others.

The Bishops stated: "the economy of course is important and there does need to be sound management. But as Pope Francis has pointed out, there is also a danger that the economy can become a kind of false god to which even human beings are sacrificed. This leads to what the Pope has called a throw-away culture" (A Vote for the Voiceless, May 2016, p 2). The following are mentioned as people discarded in such a throw-away culture: refugees and asylum-seekers; Indigenous Peoples; the survivors of sexual abuse; those who suffer family violence; those in the womb; the elderly; those suffering mental illness; those suffering addiction; those entrapped in new forms of slavery; and the desperately poor beyond our shores; with the earth also crying out for justice.

As stated in the [Prayer for the Election](#) from the Catholic Bishops' of Australia: Bless all who are elected to serve the nation; may the wisdom and courage of the Holy Spirit guide them to govern for the good of all. With this point in mind, may all who are impoverished, marginalised and vulnerable be ever-present in our thoughts, words and actions so their inherent dignity and worth is always honoured and respected. May we accompany them on their journey for improved circumstances so we can live in "a community where no-one is thrown away, where all the voices are heard and all the faces are seen" (A Vote for the Voiceless, May 2016, p 3).

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)

"MAY THE POWER OF CHRIST, WHICH BRINGS FREEDOM AND SERVICE, BE FELT IN SO MANY HEARTS AFFLICTED BY WAR, PERSECUTION AND SLAVERY." - Pope Francis

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## — First Australians —

### Sorry Day, Thursday 26th May 2016, Wellington Square, East Perth

Under the leadership of Reconciliation WA and the Bringing Them Home committee and with support from AIME, ICEA, Catholic Education WA (CEWA), Caritas Australia, the Department of Education and some non-government and faith-based agencies, the WA Sorry Day event for schools and the broader public is now the largest of its kind nationally. This wonderful event celebrates our First Australians and accompanies them on a journey of healing and reconciliation.



## — First Australians —

### Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) Mass for National Reconciliation Week

This was held on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> of May at the Holy Trinity Church in Embleton with Auxiliary Bishop Don Sproston as the key celebrant. The Service also included the sacraments of Baptism, Communion and Confirmation for several people. You can read the article that covered the mass on The Record website, [here](#).

#### National Reconciliation Week

celebrates and builds on the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) peoples and other Australians. The date at the beginning of the week, May 27<sup>th</sup>, recognises the 1967 Referendum for ATSI peoples to be included in the national Census. The date at the end of the week, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June recognises the date of the Mabo decision in 1992 that acknowledges the critical connection to land of ATSI peoples – leading to land rights or Native Title.



Another significant time for many of our Indigenous brothers and sisters is **NAIDOC Week**, beginning with **ATSI Sunday** on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July and going through until the 10<sup>th</sup> of July. It stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee and is celebrated in the first full week of July. This is a time to recognise the achievements of Indigenous Australians and to celebrate ATSI culture.

## — Laudato Si' First Anniversary —

### Symposium for Young Redemptorists

Following an invitation from Fr John Hodgson CSsR, it was a privilege to present on Laudato Si' to the future Redemptorist leaders of Asia, Oceania and Zimbabwe at the Retreat Centre at the Redemptorist Monastery in North Perth.

This was just prior to the first anniversary of the Encyclical Letter from Pope Francis, **Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home**, that was released on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 2015. This year, the Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM) has helped to continue to spread the wise words through the promotion of **Laudato Si' Week**: 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> of June.



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## — Laudato Si' First Anniversary —

### Mary Ward Justice Lecture - Wednesday, 22nd June

It was a privilege to attend the lecture by Cardinal Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga SDB that was held at John XXIII College (JTC) on the theme: *Between Heaven and Earth – Conversations on Faith, Ecology and Justice*. JTC co-hosted the event with Loreto Nedlands, Caritas Australia and Catholic Education WA (CEWA).

In 2007, Cardinal Maradiaga became the 11<sup>th</sup> President of Caritas Internationalis. He is a staunch defender of human rights and a powerful voice in the fight against poverty. He continues to challenge the world's richest nations to keep their promises to increase and improve development aid to the world's poorest countries.

In his lecture, Cardinal Maradiaga addressed how the Papal Encyclical, *Laudato Si'* encourages us all to take action to confront climate change and to end poverty. Given the lecture was held just after the global *Laudato Si'* Week, it seems fitting to leave with a question from His Holiness: "What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?" (Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* # 160).



Carol Mitchell, Cardinal Maradiaga SDB and Sr Janet Palafox IBVM (Caritas Aust.). Photo credit to Peter Higgins (CEWA).

### The Art of Climate Change - Donation to JEDO

JEDO wishes to acknowledge and thank Rosa and Mark Ingram for their generous donation of artwork in early August. This work, by artist John Lang, is titled: 'The Art of Climate Change: South West Window on Sea Level Change'. This is a timely reminder for our need to take responsibility and action to Care for Our Common Home as so clearly stated within the Papal Encyclical, *Laudato Si'*.

Pope Francis said:

*"A very solid scientific consensus indicates that we are presently witnessing a disturbing warming of the climate system. In recent decades this warming has been accompanied by a constant rise in the sea level and, it would appear, by an increase of extreme weather events, even if a scientifically determinable cause cannot be assigned to each particular phenomenon. Humanity is called to recognise the need for changes of lifestyle, production and consumption in order to combat this warming or at least the human causes which produce or aggravate it"* (LS # 23).



Rosa Ingram with the donated artwork



## — JEDO Advocacy —

### 2016 Refugee Week: Refugee and Asylum Seeker Catholic Alliance

It was wonderful to have Steve Bowman, Director of the Edmund Rice Centre in Mirrabooka, speak at a seminar held at the Catholic Pastoral Centre in Highgate, on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June. The seminar was hosted by the Refugee and Asylum-Seeker Catholic Alliance.

Steve reminded those in attendance of the great contribution that refugees make as they integrate into West Australian society – with their culture enriching our shared and broader culture. He highlighted the importance of supporting those who arrive as asylum-seekers or refugees as they strengthen our multicultural community. Steve also highlighted some stereotypes and dispelled some of the fear-based myths.

In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, may we be ever mindful that to be merciful like the Father, we must welcome the 'stranger' as our neighbor for we are one human family. This focus supports the **National Refugee Week (19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> June)** theme for 2016: **"With Courage let us all combine"** – which is taken from our national anthem. May we remember to humanise rather than politicise the varied asylum-seeker and refugee experiences and journeys – that really are only a search of belonging.

You can read the article that covered the seminar on the Archdiocesan website, [here](#).



Steve Bowman, Director, Edmund Rice Centre, Mirrabooka - now known as Edmund Rice Centre, WA: [www.ercwa.org.au](http://www.ercwa.org.au).

### Catholic School Youth Summit - Friday, 24th June

Drawing from the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) Conference theme, 'Faith to Lead, Lead to Faith', the University of Notre Dame hosted the youth focused event at the Fremantle campus that began with key messages of encouragement from His Grace, Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB, Prof. Celia Hammond, Vice Chancellor of UNDA and Dr Tim McDonald, Executive Director of CEWA. The day was then facilitated effectively by Sophie Stewart (Australian Young Christian Students) and seminarian, Dom Sandon.

A key focus of the day was for the students to consider how they can effectively use their voice on issues of importance to them; as well as to consider the meaning and power of names. Some personal stories were shared such as from Mimi and FlyBz – also a talented rapper, with the powerful story of Malala Yousafzai being used in smaller group discussions to help demonstrate the importance of names. The day provided an opportunity for the young leaders from Catholic schools to reflect on servant leadership as modelled by Jesus, with scriptural references highlighting how God knows all of us by name. There were many other activities on offer, that provided a day of contemplation and action that would have left a positive impression for all students and staff involved. I was certainly pleased to have a small part to play in this special day. Well done to all of the organisers and students involved.

You can read the article that covered the Youth Summit on The Record's website, [here](#).



From left: Mimi, FlyBz, JEDO Director, Carol Mitchell, Sophie Stewart

"OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH, BEFORE IT IS ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE, IS ABOUT A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD. A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD BUT ONE THAT TAKES PLACE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH."

- Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB, June 2016

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## — JEDO Networking and Advocacy —

### LifeLink Catholic Primary School Launch

On a beautiful clear day on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> of June, Lake Monger Reserve became the focus of celebration for hundreds of students from 74 Catholic Primary Schools as they helped to launch the Archbishop's LifeLink Day for 2016. Each paper link of the visual display represented a gold coin donation that will go toward LifeLink agencies within the Archdiocese. This 'Link Up on LifeLink Day' activity was supported by more than 32,000 students prior to the official launch.

Many of the student and teacher representatives from schools involved with the launch got the opportunity to listen to and possibly meet Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB, Auxiliary Bishop Don Sproxton and Catholic Education WA (CEWA), Executive Director, Dr Tim Mc Donald. Some members of the Archdiocesan Jubilee Year of Mercy Committee were also able to attend. The Archbishop stated: *"In this Year of Mercy, may this example of our Catholic young people inspire people of all faiths, all ages, to open their hearts and help everyone in need in the community"*.



You can read the article that covered the event on the Archdiocesan website, [here](#).

### Is She Safe? Combating Child Trafficking Through Education

On Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, a seminar was hosted by Catholic Mission (Perth office) and ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans), that was held at James Nestor Hall at the CEWA, Leederville. This women/girls only seminar space brought five experts on human trafficking together to highlight this important issue. They included Prof. Jennifer Burns (Anti-Slavery Australia), Prof. Marietta Latonia (University of the Southern Philippines), Hang Sreyputh (Education in Small Villages Project, Cambodia), Jacinta Cardozo (Pinya Sanyae Institute of Education in Myanmar) and Andrea Creado (Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Centre), with Sophie Stewart (Young Christian Students) being the MC on the day. It was good to see several secondary students in attendance with some of their teachers as they got the opportunity to mix with attendees from various professional backgrounds and faiths and to consider potential solutions, with girls education being noted as a key mechanism to reduce vulnerability of exploitation in various forms. As stated by Malala Yousafzai: *"One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world. Education is the only solution"*.

You can read the article that covered the seminar on The Record's website, [here](#).



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## — JEDO Committee of Management (CoM) — *News, updates and changes*

### Best Wishes

The current JEDO CoM and agency networks wish Joanna Sadowska (Former JEDO CoM Chairperson) every blessing in her ministry and future endeavours – both personally and professionally. We are grateful for her contributions to the CoM and to JEDO.



Joanna Sadowska

### JEDO is pleased to welcome two new members to the Committee of Management:

- **Clare Cole**, a teacher at Ursula Frayne Catholic College;
- **Gem Oliveiro**, works for a State Government Department.

We will be sharing more with you about our new members in subsequent JEDO Newsletters.

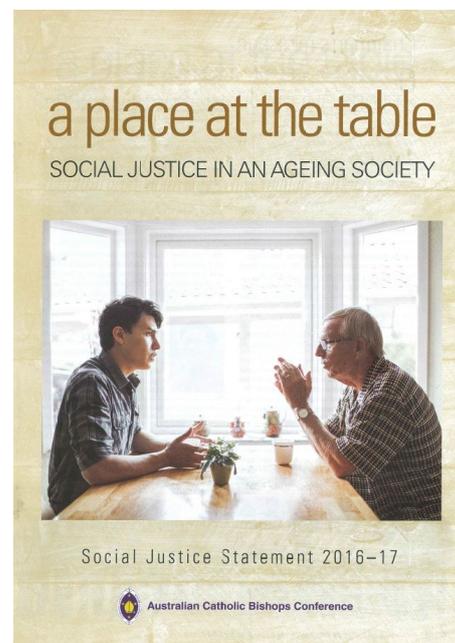
## Order your copy of the 2016 -17 Social Justice Statement Now

The Social Justice Statement from the **Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC)** is promoted or launched initially for many Parishes on **Social Justice Sunday** (always the last Sunday in September). However, given the theme is for a year, we all need to consider the many opportunities to further promote this important message: **'A place at the table – Social justice in an ageing society'**.

Pope Francis stated:

*"Just as God asks us to be his means of hearing the cry of the poor, so too He wants us to hear the cry of the elderly. This represents a challenge to families and communities, since 'the Church cannot and does not want to conform to a mentality of impatience, and much less of indifference and contempt towards old age. We must reawaken the collective sense of gratitude, of appreciation, of hospitality, which makes the elderly feel like a living part of the community. Our elderly men and women, fathers and mothers, who came before us on our own road, in our own house, in our daily battle for a worthy of life'. Indeed, 'how I would like a Church that challenges the throw-away culture by the overflowing joy of a new embrace between young and old'.* (ACBC Social Justice Statement 2016-17, p 3).

The Social Justice (SJ) Statement resources (SJ Statement; Ten Steps to Creating a Place at the Table; and Prayer Card -with a lovely intergenerational focus) can be obtained from the **Australian Catholic Social Justice Council**: [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)



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## JEDO Diary - April to June

<b>4 April</b>	ACRATH Meeting	Admin Centre, Good Shepherd Sisters, Leederville
<b>5 April</b>	Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy (JYoM) – Committee Meeting	CEWA, Leederville
<b>5 April</b>	Meeting with the Vicar General about ACRATH, human trafficking & slavery-like conditions	Church Office, Perth
<b>8 April</b>	Visit Carmelite Monastery Holy Door (with JYoM members & other Parish friends)	Nedlands
<b>9 April</b>	Pilgrimage for the Sisters of Mercy	From the Bell Tower to Victoria Square, Perth
<b>12 April</b>	Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM), Coming Home Together follow-up meeting	Perth
<b>12 April</b>	Ecumenical Social Justice Roundtable (ESJR) meeting	Council of Churches, Noranda
<b>26 April</b>	Guest presenter focusing on JEDO & Laudato Si' at Staff Reflective Process	Mercedes College, Perth
<b>29 April</b>	Refugee and Asylum-Seeker (RAS) Catholic Alliance Meeting	Griver House, Perth
<b>30 April</b>	RAS Catholic Alliance Awareness-Raising Seminar	Gosnells Parish, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament
<b>4-5 May</b>	WACoSS Conference, 'WAY Ahead – Leave no-one behind'	Pan Pacific Hotel, Perth
<b>10 May</b>	Leadership Forum Lunch with guest speaker, Dr Tim McDonald	Catholic Pastoral Centre, Highgate
<b>26 May</b>	Sorry Day	Wellington Square, East Perth
<b>27 May</b>	RAS Catholic Alliance Meeting	Griver House, Perth
<b>29 May</b>	ACM National Reconciliation Week Mass (Our History, Our Story, Our Future)	Holy Trinity Church, Embleton
<b>31 May</b>	CentreCare Meeting	Perth
<b>2 June</b>	Interviewed by Central TAFE student about refugees and asylum-seekers	Newman Siena Centre, Doubleview
<b>2 June</b>	Twilight Retreat facilitated by Sr Kerry Willison rsm	Catholic Pastoral Centre, Highgate
<b>3 June</b>	Spoke about Laudato Si' at Redemptorist Symposium	Redemptorist Monastery, North Perth
<b>8 June</b>	LifeliNK Day for Catholic Primary Schools (& Year of Mercy focus)	Lake Monger Reserve
<b>14 June</b>	ACM Coming Home Together Network Meeting	Catholic Pastoral Centre, Highgate
<b>18 June</b>	RAS Catholic Alliance Seminar (Guest speaker, Steve Bowman)	Catholic Pastoral Centre, Highgate
<b>23 June</b>	Edmund Rice Network seminar for National Refugee Week	Trinity College, Perth
<b>24 June</b>	Catholic School Youth Summit	University Notre Dame, Fremantle
<b>28 June</b>	'Hurt People, Hurt People' Professional Development	Catholic Pastoral Centre, Highgate
<b>29 June</b>	'Is she safe?' workshop: combatting child trafficking through education (girl-child focus)	CEWA, Leederville

“O GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD; FOR HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER.” - **Psalm 135:1**

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## ACSJJC Social Justice Diary - May to August

<b>1 May</b>	International Workers Day/ St Joseph the Worker
<b>7 May</b>	Fair Trade Fortnight begins (14 <sup>th</sup> – World Fair Trade Day)
<b>8 May</b>	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins
<b>15 May</b>	Jubilee Sunday
<b>26 May</b>	National Sorry Day
<b>27 May</b>	National Reconciliation Week
<b>5 June</b>	World Environment Day
<b>15 June</b>	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
<b>19 June</b>	National Refugee Week begins (20 <sup>th</sup> – World Refugee Day)
<b>3 July</b>	National ATSI Sunday & NAIDOC Week begins
<b>30 July</b>	World Day Against Trafficking in Persons



<b>1 August</b>	National Homeless Persons Week
<b>9 August</b>	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
<b>19 August</b>	World Humanitarian Day
<b>23 August</b>	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade & its Abolition
<b>28 August</b>	Refugee and Migrant Sunday
<b>29 August</b>	International Day Against Nuclear Tests



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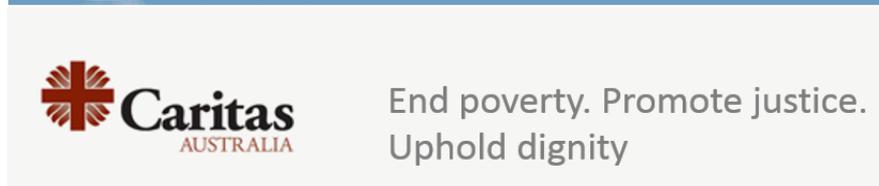
**In our next**

**JEDO Newsletter**

- Mercy: "Large-heartedness"
- A 'Just Peace'
- *A Place at the Table*: Social justice in an ageing society
- JEDO Networking, JEDO Advocacy, and more...

*"May the message of mercy reach everyone and may no one be indifferent to the call to experience mercy"*

Pope Francis



## Contact JEDO:

**Visit:** Newman Siena Centre, 33 Williamstown Road, Doubleview

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