

JEDO Newsletter

Issue 11 | Autumn / Winter 2017 Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

Lenten Journey

The **Justice, Ecology and Development Office (JEDO)** within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth, Western Australia (WA) is privileged to have the opportunity to work with many people of faith and good will. Lent is a time when many of these networks bear fruit with collaborative social justice action. One such agency that JEDO effectively works with in Perth is Caritas Australia, with Deacon Paul Reid (Diocesan Coordinator) and Anita Finneran (Justice Educator) more specifically. Such collaborations will be evident in this Newsletter through the sharing of Shrove Tuesday pancakes; to walking peacefully through the streets of Perth on Palm Sunday in support of our refugee and asylum-seeker neighbours; then attending 'Sorry Day' events at Wellington Square in East Perth on our journey of healing for and with our First Nation peoples. Of course, there are many other individuals, agencies, networks and parishes that JEDO connects with – they are all a blessing.

Lent is a great time for us to recognise our blessings and privilege and determine how we can 'be more'. That is, as Oscar Romero stated, *"aspire not to have more, but to be more"*. With this point in mind, I would like to remind our readers of the words of wisdom from His Grace, Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB in his Easter message (2017): *"In our daily lives we can be signs and instruments of the Lord's loving, healing, restoring and saving presence in the world – or we can obscure and frustrate that presence by our own failures or our own indifference. My hope and prayer for Easter this year is that all of us, as followers of the Good Shepherd, will recommit ourselves to walking in His footsteps."*

There have been many changes for JEDO in 2017 which has resulted in this Autumn/Winter edition only coming to you now – but our time and God's time can be quite different. We welcome you on this shared Lenten journey and beyond. Blessings and peace – Shalom.



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

"FAITH IS TO BELIEVE WHAT YOU DO NOT SEE; THE REWARD OF THIS FAITH IS TO SEE WHAT YOU BELIEVE."

- St Augustine

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JEDO Advocacy

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday Walk for Justice for Refugees (Sunday 9th April 2017):

Many people of faith and good will gathered at St George's Cathedral to hear the key messages of 'Safety for all' and 'Bring them here' in support of refugees and asylum-seekers. Following the powerful speeches, hundreds of people walked peacefully through the streets of Perth as a show of solidarity for our neighbours. Given the Caritas Australia theme for Project Compassion this year is 'love your neighbour', it was wonderful to see so many Catholics support this message through their social justice action.



"JESUS MARKED OUT THE PATH OF NON-VIOLENCE. HE WALKED THAT PATH TO THE VERY END, TO THE CROSS, WHEREBY HE BECAME OUR PEACE." - Pope Francis

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JEDO Networking

Sorry Day

Sorry Day – Friday 26th May 2017, Wellington Square, East Perth:

In a very significant year of anniversaries for First Australians and our nation, many schools, faith-based agencies and non-government organisations came together on our shared journey of healing and reconciliation. 2017 is the 20th anniversary since the tabling in Parliament of the 'Bringing Them Home' Report (1997); the 25th anniversary since the Mabo decision; and 50th anniversary of the Referendum in 1967. Thanks to all of the organisers for enabling this celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their spirituality and heritage – truly a gift to be embraced and shared.



“THE MYSTERY OF GOD HUGS YOU IN ITS ALL-ENCOMPASSING ARMS.”
- St Hildegard of Bingen

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Parish Promotions

Baldivis Parish



Baldivis Adult Faith Education Committee

The St Teresa of Calcutta ('Mother Teresa') Parish of Baldivis engaged with the 2016 -17 Social Justice Statement from our national Bishops: *"A place at the table" – Social Justice in an Ageing Society.*

Promoting the Social Justice Statement and other 'good works' within the community was enabled through the effective leadership of the Adult Faith Education Committee.

In the accompanying photo, the following committee members are in conversation: (left to right) Baldivis Parish Priest, Fr Geoff Aldous, Leeann Antulov, Sandra Carson and Ern Azzopardi.

Christian Service Learning

"A Place at the Table" by Marianne Cole (CEWA).

The Evangelisation Committee at Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) took up the challenge of the 2016/17 Catholic Social Justice Statement "A Place at the Table" by creating a Social Justice Statement Yammer Group within CEWA community with the purpose to study, discuss and share our stories/reflections on the Social Justice Statement. Many CEWA schools have embraced the Social Justice Statement through their Christian service programs. This is evident in the stories shared by two of our schools that highlight steps four, five and seven of the Ten Step resource produced to help people create a place at the table.

Trinity College

"Trinity College Annual Christian Service Assembly acknowledges senior students who have completed from 60 to over 300 hours of Christian Service in their senior years at the College. This year the focus for the Assembly was how, through Christian Service, our school community can make connections with the elderly. This is a privilege for us because they are people who have rich memories of the past to share with us and wisdom from which we can learn. Through respectful engagement with elderly people we can come to recognise them as a treasure in our society.

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"THE FUTURE ENTERS INTO US, IN ORDER TO TRANSFORM US,
LONG BEFORE IT HAPPENS."

- Ranier Maria Rilke

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cont'd...

Christian Service Learning

At the Assembly, our prayer was based on material taken from the 2016/17 Catholic Social Justice Statement "A Place at the Table". We had two Guest Speakers from St Bartholomew's House, a local agency which houses people in difficult economic and social circumstances and has within it James Watson House for elderly people. Our Junior Choir entertained the Assembly with a song they performed for the elderly residents of RSL care as part of their Anzac Commemoration, and two Year 6 students spoke about their experience of giving service in elderly care homes. The highlight of the Assembly was the reflections shared with us by two senior students who completed their Senior Project with elderly people." - **Marya Stewart**, Director of Christian Service

2016/17 Social Justice Statement

"A Place at the Table" -

Social Justice in an Ageing Society



St Mary's School Northampton

"As part of our Christian Service Learning, we believe it is our calling to assist the students to become community members who are committed to enacting the love, compassion and justice of Gospel values in their day to day lives. A close partnership has been formed between St Mary's School and the Northampton Health Service, specifically the Northampton Hospital. Our first initiative relates to our work with Meals on Wheels. Each fortnight, students from the Year 5/6 Class and a staff member, assist with the delivery of meals to the local elderly residents still living in their homes. During this service opportunity, students can see firsthand the physical assistance that members of the community may require and how much their visit means to the residents.

The second initiative is our visits to the 'Never Too Old Club'. Once a term, a class visits the members of the 'Never Too Old Club' spending an afternoon together at the Northampton Hospital. During this visit, the students may perform a song or dance, play games, draw, and converse, entertain and enjoy afternoon tea with all of the group members. The faces of the 'Never Too Old Club' members light up when the students enter the room and the room is filled with much joy, love and compassion.

Our most recent initiative is a program called Brookview Bookworms. Each Monday, a year level visits Brookview and the elderly residents of the Northampton Hospital and the students read one on one to a resident. This initiative helps the students practise their oral reading, ask and answer comprehension questions and bring a ray of sunshine to the lives of others. For the residents, it is an opportunity to engage with the younger generation, give words of encouragement and spend twenty to thirty minutes interacting with a different person in their daily lives." - **Melissa Marquis**, Principal St Mary's School

"IF OUR INTENTION IS PURE AND WE HAVE LOVE IN OUR HEARTS,
WE SHALL HAVE GOD WITH US."

- St Mary MacKillop

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JEDO Committee of Management (CoM): News, updates and changes

Meet a JEDO CoM Member

Clare Cole

Background

I became a teacher because I firmly believe that education is, first and foremost, about forming people. And if we can form people in a way that fosters empathy, compassion, hospitality and love – then the world will be a better place. I have been in Catholic Education for 10 years. In that time, I've taught across Primary and Secondary schools in Western Australia, the United Kingdom and Kenya; as well as undertaking the role of Religious Education and Faith Formation Consultant at Catholic Education Western Australia. I am currently teaching Religion and Life to Senior School students at a co-ed Catholic School in Perth. In 2015, I spent four months volunteering in Kenya. Working with vulnerable children brought home to me just how important it is to ensure the education of all people, young and old, across the world. It is my hope that by sharing this experience with others, especially young people, they may be moved to live their lives in a way that gives life to others. Following my experience in Kenya I became a Director of the Australian Charity that I volunteered with.



Permission for the inclusion of this photo has been granted

Why did you join JEDO?

Peter Higgins (committee member) approached me and asked if I would consider putting in an expression of interest. Peter knows of my background and interest in social justice and thought that it would be a good match. I agreed.

What are you passionate about?

I am most passionate about education (of the whole person), social justice and agapeistic love.

If your friends and family could describe you in THREE words, what would they be?

Passionate, loving, giving.

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

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

"IT IS ONLY WITH THE HEART THAT ONE CAN SEE RIGHTLY;
WHAT IS ESSENTIAL IS INVISIBLE TO THE EYE."

- Antoine de Saint-Exupery

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ACSJC Social Justice Diary - April to August

4 April	International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action
6 April	International Day of Sport for Development and Peace
22 April	International Mother Earth Day
25 April	ANZAC Day
1 May	Feast Day of St Joseph the Worker and International Workers Day
4 May	Yom ha-Shoah, Holocaust Memorial Day
13 May	World Fair Trade Day
22 May	International Day for Biological Diversity
26 May	National Sorry Day
27 May	National Reconciliation Week begins 50th anniversary of referendum that changed articles in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Indigenous People (1967) Week of Prayer for Christian Unity commences
29 May	25th anniversary of launch of Torres Strait Islander flag (1992)
3 June	25th anniversary of the High Court's Mabo Case decision (1992)
5 June	World Environment Day
8 June	World Oceans Day
12 June	World Day Against Child Labour
15 June	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
17 June	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
18 June	National Refugee Week commences
19 June	International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict
20 June	World Refugee Day
26 June	International Day in Support of Victims of Torture
3 July	NATSI Sunday and NAIDOC Week begins
28 July	Schools Tree Day
30 July	World Day Against Trafficking in Persons
4 August	National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day
6 August	National Homeless Persons Week begins
23 August	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition
27 August	Refugee and Migrant Sunday
29 August	International Day Against Nuclear Tests

"TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON AND A TIME TO EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN."

- Ecclesiastes 3:1

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In our next

JEDO Newsletter

- Everyone's Business – 2017/18 Social Justice Statement
- ASSISI Animators Program – New Norcia
- Parish Promotions & Social Justice Action
- JEDO Networking, JEDO Advocacy, and more...

“Remember the past with gratitude; Live the present with enthusiasm; Look forward to the future with confidence.”

- St Pope John Paul II



Contact JEDO:

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