

JEDO Newsletter

Issue 17 | Summer 2019 Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

Peace Making and Gospel Non-Violence

The Justice, Ecology and Development Office (JEDO) within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth, Western Australia (WA) acknowledges the Prayer Intention from Pope Francis for December 2018 in relation to Evangelisation: "That people who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time". I suggest that this language is one of hope, love, generosity, respect, empathy and service. A language that helps to build bridges of peace based on reciprocal trust and tears down walls of fear, oppression and injustice.

Advent is a blessed time to reflect on the importance of our call to evangelisation and for respectful listening and dialogue – this is also a great time to take up the opportunity provided within the [Plenary Council 2020](#) process to 'listen with the ear of our heart to what the Spirit is saying' and to share such insight. (linked to 'Plenary Council 2020' Homepage)

Evangelisation with and through the encounter of our neighbours of diverse cultures, faiths and backgrounds is such an incredible gift. Given we are also called to be Good News people who support and model Just Peace (not Just War) and Gospel Non-Violence through peace-making efforts, I trust that your relationships will be renewed and strengthened at this time so that peace in your heart can be extended to all who you meet, encounter and accompany.

With blessings and peace

Carol Mitchell (JEDO Director)

Perth Peace Conference Interfaith Panel



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

"WHILE YOU ARE PROCLAIMING PEACE WITH YOUR LIPS,
BE CAREFUL TO HAVE IT MORE FULLY IN YOUR HEART"

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JEDO Advocacy & Networking

Perth Peace Conference

(linked to an article in The RECORD titled - 'Peace Conference 2018 promotes matters critical to teachings of Christ')

Perth Peace Conference: Sat. 10th – Sun. 11th Nov. 2018

An **ecumenical Peace Conference** was held in Perth to focus on the importance of the Gospel call to build peace within Christian faith traditions, as well as the call for peace-making from other faiths and people of good will. The Peace Conference incorporated an ecumenical service held at St George's Cathedral on the weekend of the **100th anniversary of World War 1**, on Armistice/ Remembrance Day.

The ecumenical service was attended by Aux. Bishop of Perth, Donald Sproxton VG and the JEDO Director. At the Peace Conference, Sr Margaret Scharf OP was a part of the **Inter-faith Panel on Remembrance Day**, sharing some personal reflections on her call to peace-making. The Peace Conference provided opportunities to hear from many great guest speakers. A post conference **Peace Statement** was also an outcome of this special event.

Perth Peace Conference - **Photo Credit:** Desire Mallet Photography



"WE NEED TO BE ARTISANS OF PEACE, FOR BUILDING PEACE – THAT IS A CRAFT THAT DEMANDS SERENITY, CREATIVITY, SENSITIVITY AND SKILLS"
POPE FRANCIS

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Blessed are the Peace-Makers

(linked to 'JEDO explores peace in discipleship with Christ' - *The RECORD*)

Blessed are the Peace-Makers

On Thursday, 28th February, the JEDO Director facilitated the workshop session, '**Blessed are the Peace-Makers: Gospel Non-Violence and the 2019 World Day of Peace Message**'. It was more broadly promoted by the Centre for Faith Enrichment and was held at the Newman Siena Centre, Doubleview.



Catholic Women Speak & Catholic Women's Mentoring

(linked to 'WA launch Australia Catholic Women's Mentoring program - *The RECORD*')

Catholic Women Speak and Catholic Women's Mentoring

(Both linked to 'Invitations')

On Thursday, 18th October 2018, the Council for Australian Catholic Women presented **Catholic Women Speak** that was held at James Nestor Hall, Catholic Education WA (CEWA), Leederville.

The evening included a guest presentation by Dr Trish Madigan OP: *The Women at Vatican 11, Implications for Today*. This was then followed by a dialogue session for the *Experiences of Women in the Catholic Church* to be shared. On Thursday, 8th November, the **Catholic Women's Mentoring Program** was **launched in Perth** at Foley Hall within the Notre Dame University Fremantle campus. It included a panel of guest speakers.

This new program aims to build the skills, confidence and networks of Australian Catholic women and increase their capacity to use their gifts and talents for the Australian Church and society. Both of these events were well attended and demonstrate the importance of women supporting each other in our various ministries. The JEDO Director was pleased to have been able to attend both of these important events.

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

(linked to '*ACRATH Reflection Sheet*')

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence: 25th Nov. – 10th Dec.

Women and girls disproportionately experience gender-based violence, with Human Trafficking being an extreme form of such violence. Given this, the Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans: **ACRATH Reflection Sheet** offered a focus for each of the 16 Days of Activism.

The **16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence Campaign** originated from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991. The 16 days of activism are from the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women** (also known as White Ribbon Day) on the **25th of November**; through to **Human Rights Day** on the **10th of December**. It was the **70th anniversary** for Human Rights Day in 2018. The United Nations adopted the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** in 1948 proclaiming the inalienable rights everyone is entitled to as a human being – regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion and more.

"COURAGE IS WHAT IT TAKES TO STAND UP AND SPEAK;
COURAGE IS ALSO WHAT IT TAKES TO SIT DOWN AND LISTEN"

WINSTON CHURCHILL

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Season of Creation and Living Laudato Si'

On Tuesday 11th December 2018, the JEDO Director had the opportunity to co-facilitate a Staff Professional Development Day with Jim Smith (for the Centre for Faith Enrichment) at **Queen of Apostles Catholic Primary School** in Riverton. The staff engaged well with the topics and activities to consider how we can **care for our common home**. It was great to witness the identification and prioritising of some of their personal and collective calls to action. It's worth remembering that the Encyclical (letter) from Pope Francis, **Laudato Si' – on care for our common home** was addressed not only to people of faith but to everyone - as one human family. Through the influence of **St Francis of Assisi** and his **Canticle of the Creatures**, Pope Francis calls for us to consider creation through familial language like brother sun and sister moon. There are many opportunities to more fully engage with **Living Laudato Si'** such as during the **Season of Creation** – in the southern hemisphere, this aligns with Spring during the month of September. Of course, many agencies can guide you with reflections and actions throughout the whole year. For climate justice actions, they include **Caritas Australia**: www.caritas.org.au/act/our-common-home

Catholic Earthcare Australia: www.catholicearthcare.org.au

The photo collage (below) represents various social justice action and promotions to demonstrate **Living Laudato Si'** - to care for our common home.



"A GREAT CULTURAL, SPIRITUAL AND EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGE STANDS BEFORE US, AND IT WILL DEMAND THAT WE SET OUT ON THE LONG PATH OF RENEWAL"

POPE FRANCIS (LS # 202)

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Parish Promotions & Social Justice Action

JEDO Produced Parish Social Justice Action Group (PSJAG) Resources



[JEDO Flyer](#)
(linked to 'JEDO - Flyer')



[PSJAGs Cover](#)
(linked to 'PSJAG - Cover')



[PSJAGs # 1](#)
(linked to 'PSJAGs - (1) Setting the Scene')



[PSJAGs # 2](#)
(linked to 'PSJAGs - (2) Getting Started')

www.jedo.perthcatholic.org.au

Some members of the **JEDO CoM** displaying the revised JEDO Mandate
(L to R) Damian Walsh (Arch Rep), Bernadette Dell, Ern Azzopardi, Carol Mitchell (JEDO Dir) & Peter Higgins (CoM Chair)



“JESUS HIMSELF, THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD WAS
THE VERY FIRST AND THE GREATEST EVANGELISER”

POPE PAUL VI

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2018-19 Social Justice Statement.....

A PRAYER FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS

Lord our God, You who so mysteriously call upon us to share in the sufferings of Christ, fill our hearts with compassion for those who lack the warmth of a home.

We commend to you in prayer this day all men, women and children who suffer because they have no shelter; those who sleep in our streets and public spaces, who have nowhere safe to lay their heads, and who wander from place to place as a way of life.

We pray for broken families who cannot pay the rent, for those who are the lost and abandoned, for those on the streets whose minds have been touched by illness or whose bodies are sorely affected by disabilities. We ask that your merciful Grace be poured out upon those with addictions, those who have given up in the face of enormous tribulations, and those driven into a homeless life by crushing poverty.

God of Compassion, your love for us is revealed in your beloved son Jesus, who was born into homelessness, lived with nowhere to lay his head, and died for us in agony on the cross. Inspire us to act in justice, by all means at our disposal, to right the wrongs of peoples who are suffering the deprivations of homelessness, and to see in them the dignity of a brother and sister redeemed by Jesus Christ.

Let us have the commitment, as people of the Gospel, to be ever mindful of our obligations we have to the poor and marginalised, to work in your name, O God, to turn sorrow into joy and to bring all those who live in darkness into your own wonderful light.

Amen.



[2018-19 SJS Prayer](#)



[Click here](#) to order a copy of the **ACSJC Series Paper** titled **'The Human Face of Homelessness'**

A PLACE TO CALL HOME: *Making a Home for Everyone in Our Land*

Order your copy of the 2018 - 19 Social Justice Statement

The Social Justice (SJ) Statement resources ([SJ Statement](#); [Ten Steps to Making a Home for Everyone in Our Land](#); and [Prayer Card](#) - for A Place to Call Home) can be obtained from the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council ([ACSJC](#)): www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

- We would love to hear from you -

Tell us how you (your parish or school) are promoting the 2018-19 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

"WE MUST REFLECT THE LIGHT OF CHRIST THROUGH LIVES OF PRAYER AND JOYFUL SERVICE TO OTHERS"

POPE JOHN PAUL 11

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ACSJC Social Justice Diary - Dec to Feb

1 st December 2018	World AIDS Day
2 nd December 2018	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
5 th December 2018	International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development World Soil Day
9 th December 2018	International Anti-Corruption Day International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of Victims of the Crime of Genocide
10 th December 2018	Human Rights Day
18 th December 2018	International Migrants Day
20 th December 2018	International Human Solidarity Day

1 st January 2019	<u>World Day of Peace</u> (Linked to Good Politics is at the Service of Peace - Pope Francis)
26 th January 2019	Australia Day / Survival Day
27 th January 2019	International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust



1 st February 2019	Beginning of World Interfaith Harmony Week
2 nd February 2019	World Day for Consecrated Life
6 th February 2019	International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation Waitangi Day, Aotearoa New Zealand
8 th February 2019	Feast Day of St Josephine Bakhita
11 th February 2019	International Day of Women and Girls in Science World Day of Prayer for the Sick
13 th February 2019	2008: Apology to Stolen Generations by Australian Government
20 th February 2019	World Day of Social Justice
February 2019	International Mother Language Day

Current International Decades:

2014 - 2024	United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All
2018 - 2028	International Decade for Action 'Water for Sustainable Development'
2019 - 2028	Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace

*"THERE ARE TWO WAYS OF SPREADING THE LIGHT:
TO BE THE CANDLE OR THE MIRROR THAT REFLECTS IT"*

EDITH WHARTON

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In our next JEDO Newsletter

- **Project Compassion** - Caritas Australia
- **Palm Sunday** - Safety for All
- Parish Promotions and **Social Justice Action**
- **JEDO** Networking, **JEDO** Advocacy, and more...

*“Being Christian is living and witnessing to faith in prayer,
in works of charity, in promoting justice, in doing good!
The whole of our life must pass through
the narrow door which is Christ.”*

Pope Francis



WELCOME TO THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



ACSJC AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC
SOCIAL JUSTICE COUNCIL



End poverty. Promote justice.
Uphold dignity



**Catholic
Earthcare**
AUSTRALIA



Contact JEDO:

Visit: Newman Siena Centre, 33 Williamstown Road, Doubleview

Tel: (08) 9241 5256

Email: admin.jedo@perthcatholic.org.au

*“HOPE NEVER DIES WHERE FAITH IS STRONG AND
FAITH GROWS STRONG IN THE PRESENCE OF HOPE”*

CHAD WITMEYER