

# JEDO Newsletter

Issue 25 | Summer 2021 Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

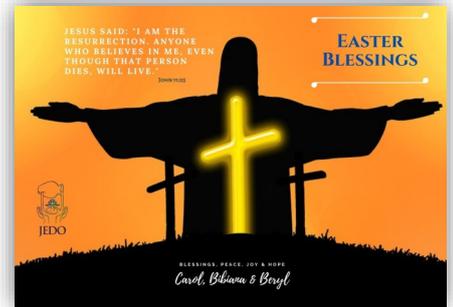
## Embracing a Love Ethic

The Justice, Ecology and Development Office (JEDO) within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth, Western Australia (WA) encourages the overflowing love of God, Agape, to be at the heart of our prayers, discernment and action. As 'good news' people, we are called to be bearers of peace, joy and hope - to endeavour to 'fullness of life', for ourselves and others. This is especially important with so many lives lost given the ongoing pandemic; climate-related tragedies from drought, floods, fires and cyclones; socio-political unrest resulting in displacement of our neighbours; fear-based discourse and assaults; as well as financial and social deprivation including increasing childhood poverty, isolation, domestic & family violence and also mental health challenges. "**Embracing a love ethic** means that we utilise all the dimensions of love - 'care, commitment, trust, responsibility, respect and knowledge' in our everyday lives" (bell hooks - sic). With Joan Chittister stating: "We must make 'Love one another as I have loved you' (John 13:34) the foundation of national respect, the standard of our national discernment, the bedrock of both our personal relationships and a civilised society". As we reflect on challenges and opportunities within this Summer issue of the JEDO Newsletter, the Caritas Australia Project Compassion call to '**Be More**' is a very timely message indeed.

### Stay Well – Stay Safe – Stay Connected

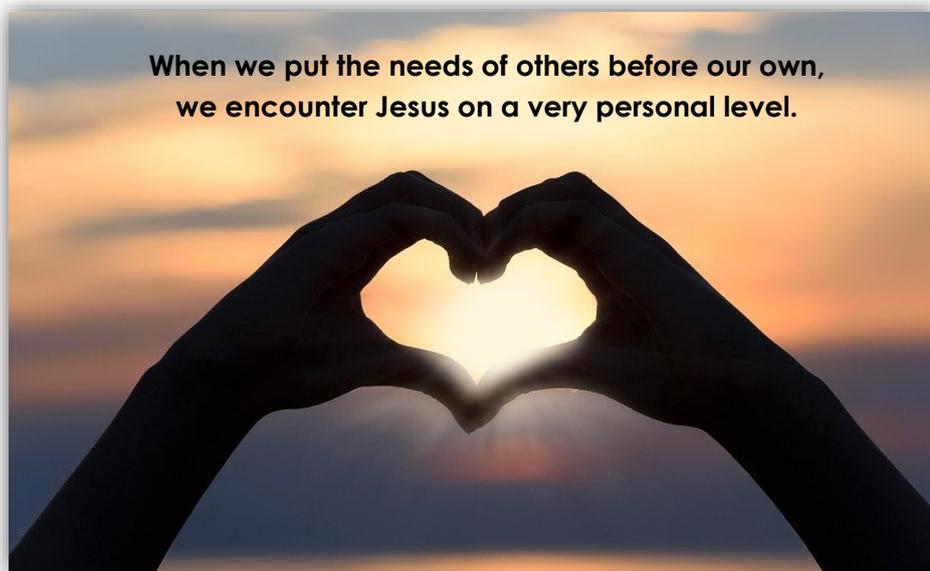
Wishing you **Easter blessings** of **peace, joy and hope**

Carol Mitchell (JEDO Director)



Link to '[JEDO EASTER Message](#)'

Link to '[Lenten Pastoral Letter 2021](#)'



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)

'ANYONE WHO LOVES IS BORN OF GOD  
AND KNOWS GOD...FOR GOD IS LOVE'

1 JOHN 4:7-8

## The Plenary Council

### Listen to what the Spirit is saying:

A **Plenary Council** is a particularly graced instrument for seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance. In Australia it follows on from the Year of Grace celebrated in 2012. The Plenary Council is a formal meeting of the bishops and other representatives of all the dioceses of the Catholic Church in Australia. The bishops will make decisions in light of the process of listening to the Holy Spirit through the faithful, and will then vote on future directions for the church in Australia. The purpose of the Plenary Council is to **discern what God is asking of us in Australia at this present time**. That is, listening to God, by listening to one another's stories of faith.



The process to date is outlined in the Plenary Council website: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au>

Within the section on Theology we note: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/theology>

...Vatican II taught that the Church should be more dialogic and participatory in its processes, involving all the baptised in the Church. The council teaches that the whole Church has been given the gift of divine revelation, as well as the gift to interpret it faithfully. The bishops have a ministry of teaching that necessarily involves a process of listening to the voices of the faithful before they speak... Vatican II spoke of how God, who spoke in the past, "continues to converse" with the church (Dei Verbum, 8). Through our Plenary Council, the Catholic Church hopes to enter more intensely into that divine-human dialogue.

### The Fifth Plenary Council in Australia:

**Phase 1: Listening and Dialogue** - More than **222,000 people** participated in listening and dialogue encounters and contributed 17,457 submissions during the first stage of preparation for the Australian Plenary Council.

### **Phase 2: Listening and Discernment**    **6 key themes emerged:**

1. Missionary and Evangelising
2. Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal
3. Prayerful and Eucharistic
4. Humble, Healing and Merciful
5. A Joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community
6. Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform



<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/themes/about-the-themes>

### Continuing the Journey:

The **Writing and Discernment Groups** brought together the various themes from the Listening and Dialogue and the Listening and Discernment phases through a process of Scripture reading and prayerful reflection:

*'Lord, You once told us: 'Just as you did it to one of the least of these, who are members of my family, you did it to me'. May our eyes be opened to the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick and imprisoned. May our minds be freed from the bounds of self-interest, fear and prejudice. May our hearts be moved to recognise and respond to the needs of your people. May we be open to the fruits of your Spirit, so that our thoughts, words and actions can be infused with love, peace, compassion and selflessness. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen*

Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB provided a paper, as Plenary Council President: [A Journey of Discernment – The Plenary Council](#)

In the Media Release for the Working Document, Archbishop Costelloe said an Instrumentum Laboris, whether for the Plenary Council, for a Synod of Bishops in Rome or a local synod, "seeks to offer an account of what the People of God have expressed as an invitation for ongoing discernment".

"LOVE IS OUR LORD'S MEANING"  
ST JULIAN OF NORWICH

# JEDO Newsletter

Issue 25 | Summer 2021 Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

## The Plenary Council

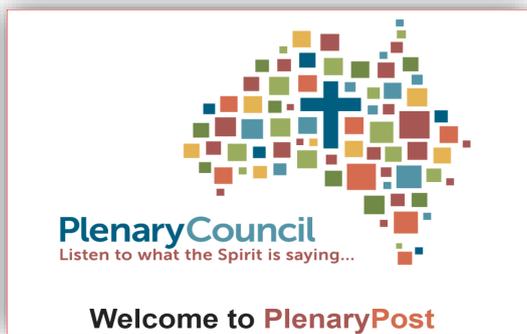
A number of **key themes** emerge in the **working document, Instrumentum Laboris** including:

- Renewing a Christ-centred Church that heals wounds and warms hearts;
  - Strengthening practices of discernment and synodality;
  - The call to co-responsibility in mission and governance;
  - Embedding a response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse;
  - Renewing and supporting the ordained ministry;
  - Promoting discipleship in parishes, families and young people;
  - Forming prayerful and Eucharistic communities that are eager to engage in society for the service of all;
  - Proclaiming the Gospel in a change of era;
  - Renewing the Church's solidarity with First Australians and those on the margins of society;
  - Promoting an integral ecology of life for all persons, societies and our common home, the Earth.

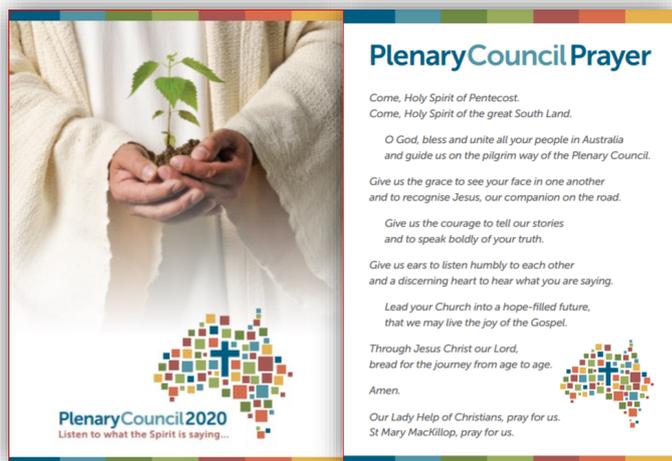
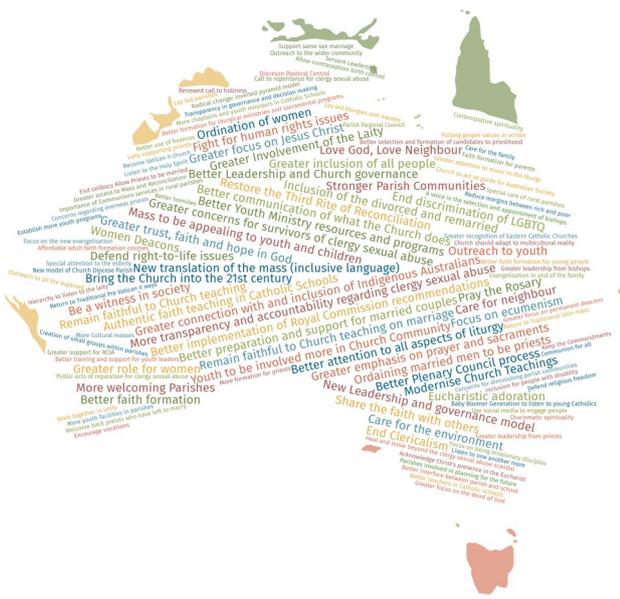
### Continuing the Journey - Instrumentum Laboris (Working Document)

To be kept informed of the progress of the Plenary Council, you can sign up to receive the e-Newsletter, The Plenary Post:

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/plenary-post>



### Plenary Post # 32



### Plenary Council Prayer Card



'SO FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE REMAIN  
BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE'  
1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

## JEDO Advocacy & Networking

### Culture of Care

One of the key themes emerging from the working document of the Plenary Council is **'renewing a Christ-centred Church that heals wounds and warms hearts'**. In the Homily for the Mass of Installation as Archbishop of Perth in March 2012 (and within the Archdiocesan Strategic Plan 2016 - 2021, p 5), Timothy Costelloe SDB suggested that *"the greatest task and challenge we face today, is to return the Church to Christ and return Christ to the Church"*. Pope Francis has stated: *"I see clearly that the thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and warm the hearts of the faithful. It needs nearness, proximity"*. With such guidance toward Christ-centred missionary discipleship, we are called to embrace a **culture of care**. This focus was evident in the papal encyclical (letter to everyone in the world as one global human family), **Laudato Si' – On care for our common home** (2015). It is again evident in the 2021 **World Day of Peace** Message from Pope Francis: **A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace**. The World Day of Peace was first initiated by Pope Paul VI for the **1<sup>st</sup> of January** in 1968. This has become an annual day for the observance of peace ever since. The 2021 **World Day of the Sick** Message is: **"You have but one teacher and you are all brothers" (Mt 23:8). A trust-based relationship to guide care for the sick**. The first World Day of the Sick was in 1993 and initiated by Pope John Paul ii. This culture of care extends to the current call to social justice action from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC): **'To Live Life to the Full – Mental Health in Australia today'**. As *St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta* stated:

**"I have found the paradox, that if you love until it hurts, there can be no more hurt, only more love."**

The papal documents and Social Justice Statements from the national bishops can be used for prayerful discernment when considering social justice action – **JEDO can assist you on this journey:**

[admin.jedo@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:admin.jedo@perthcatholic.org.au)

Link to **'A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace'** (54<sup>th</sup> World Day of Peace Message - Pope Francis)

Link to **'For the XXIX World Day of the Sick 2021'** (Pope Francis)



### Bakhita Day - Global On-line Prayer Marathon:

On Monday the **8<sup>th</sup> of February**, with other members of the Perth, (WA) branch of ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans), the JEDO Director was involved in the **Bakhita Day online prayer marathon against human trafficking**. Josephine Bakhita was born in Southern Sudan in 1869, and during her life experienced kidnapping and slavery in both Sudan and Italy. After gaining her freedom, Josephine dedicated her life to sharing her story and to supporting the poor and suffering. She became a Catholic and eventually a Canossian Sister and was canonised in 2000. Pope Francis declared the feast of **St Josephine Bakhita** on **February 8** the **International Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking**. To mark this year's International Bakhita Day, ACRATH members nationally were part of a special seven-hour global **Marathon of Prayer**. It included a prayer and address from Pope Francis (joining the Marathon at 11.30pm AEDT). A group of ACRATH members and a participant from New Zealand, got the event started with their involvement in the first hour. The ACRATH song by **Sr Margaret Scharf OP, 'Can You See Me?'** was prayerfully considered by ACRATH members from across Australia and with the global audience. ACRATH resources developed for Bakhita Day can be accessed at:

<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/world-day-of-prayer/>

### St Josephine Bakhita Day 2021

#### Buy Slavery Free chocolate products this Easter



**"I AM DEFINITELY LOVED AND WHATEVER HAPPENS TO ME –  
I AM GUIDED BY THIS LOVE. AND SO MY LIFE IS GOOD"**

**ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA**

## JEDO Advocacy & Networking

### Project Compassion 2021 - Be More

The JEDO Director was pleased to be able to attend the **Launch of Project Compassion 2021 for Catholic Schools in WA**, this year, also having a live **on-line presence** for the first time. The launch was held at Corpus Christi College in Bateman on Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of February, Shrove Tuesday. The Perth launch of Project Compassion included students from more than 35 Catholic primary and secondary schools. The Caritas Australia Lenten fundraising promotions share stories from community leaders in Bangladesh, Solomon Islands, Tanzania and Indonesia. For more information: <https://lent.caritas.org.au>

Link to '[Launch of Project Compassion 2021](#)' (The Record)

Link to '[Be More This Lent](#)' (ACBC Office for Social Justice - OSJ)

Link to '[Parish Kit Booklet 2021](#)' (Caritas)

Link to '[Giving Women the Opportunities to Thrive](#)' (Eureka Street)



### Prayer

God of all peoples and nations, as you accompany us on our Lenten journey, may our fasting strengthen our commitment to live in solidarity, our almsgiving be an act of justice, and our prayers anchor us in love and compassion. Through living simply and loving generously, may we care for our global family and our common home, as we **"aspire not to have more, but to be more"**\*. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

\*[St Oscar Romero](#) (Source: Parish Kit Booklet 2021)



"LOVE IS ALWAYS LETTING GO OF A FEAR"

FR RICHARD ROHR

# JEDO Newsletter

Issue 25 | Summer 2021 Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

## Parish Promotions & Social Justice Action

### **JEDO Mental Health Workshops** - 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Through the lens of Catholic Social Teaching and thinking, the JEDO Director facilitated two workshops in February at the Newman Siena Centre in Doubleview to further explore the current Social Justice Statement: **'To live life to the Full – Mental Health in Australia Today'**. The parishioners present engaged well with the topic. This was enabled through the prayerful discernment of Scripture and discussions of possible social justice actions for some of the identified challenges, such as the pandemic and climate-related crises. Using the Social Justice Statement as a guide, the concept of mental health being a continuum from mental wellness to mental illness were explored. Opportunities to enable 'fullness of life' – to flourish were outlined, as well as identifying some of the barriers or triggers for mental ill-health.

Link to '[RUOK asks Bishop Morrissey](#)' (The Record)



[www.waamh.org.au](http://www.waamh.org.au)

[www.raisetherate.org.au](http://www.raisetherate.org.au)

[www.everybodyshome.com.au](http://www.everybodyshome.com.au)

**Mental Health Australia**

**Phone:** (02) 6285 3100

**Lifeline: Phone:** (02) 6285 3100



**Want to enrich your understanding of faith?**

Centre for Faith Enrichment  
CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF PERTH

Then please join us for

### Exploring Mental Health & Fullness of Life – A Call to Action

Over two workshops, the current Social Justice Statement from the national Bishops will be explored: **'To live life to the full: Mental health in Australia today'**. With reference to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and other global and national challenges, the first workshop will discuss the timely Statement incorporating prayerful reflection and discernment. The second workshop will discuss ways of bringing the critically important Statement to life within parishes and hubs, with an invitation for parish-based Social Justice Advocates. **'I have come that you may have life and have it to the full'** John 10:10 CEWA Ongoing Renewal: this course has been approved for Faith Formation.

**When:** Thursdays 18 & 25 February, 9:30am – 11:30am

**Cost:** Free of Charge

**Presenter:** Ms Carol Mitchell - Director – Justice Ecology and Development Office (JEDO)

**Location:** Newman Siena Centre (Room S2.01)

For Further info or to register, please visit [www.cfe.org.au](http://www.cfe.org.au), call 9241 5221 /0425 543 335 or email [cfe@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:cfe@perthcatholic.org.au)

**TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL :** *Mental Health in Australia Today*

Download your copy of the 2020-21 Social Justice Statement [HERE!!!](#)

**- We would love to hear from you -**

**Tell us how you (your parish or school) are promoting the 2020-21 Social Justice Statement**

The Social Justice (SJ) Statement resources ([SJ Statement](#); [Prayer Card](#) and [Liturgy Notes](#)) can be obtained from the

ACBC Office for Social Justice: [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

**"THERE IS NOTHING BETTER OR MORE NECESSARY THAN LOVE"**  
**ST JOHN OF THE CROSS**

## Social Justice Diary - December to February

(Click this Link to access the [JEDO Justice Calendar...](#))

2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2020	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2020	Intl Day of Persons with Disabilities
5 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Intl Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development World Soil Day
9 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Intl Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide Intl Anti-Corruption Day
10 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Human Rights Day
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	International Migrants Day
20 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Intl Human Solidarity Day
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2021	<b>World Day of Peace</b>
22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2021	2021: Intl Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons Enters into Force
26 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Australia Day / Survival Day
27 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Intl Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust



1 <sup>st</sup> February 2021	World Interfaith Harmony Week Commences
2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021	World Wetlands Day
4 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	<a href="#">1st UN International Day of Fraternity</a> (Click on Link) <a href="#">A Document on Human Fraternity</a> (Click on Link) <a href="#">Fratelli Tutti - On Fraternity &amp; Social Friendship</a> (Click on Link)
6 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Intl Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation
8 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	<b>St Josephine Bakhita</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	<b>World Day of Prayer for the Sick</b> Intl Day for Women and Girls in Science
17 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Ash Wednesday
20 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	World Day of Social Justice

*'THE LORD HAS TURNED ALL  
OUR SUNSETS INTO SUNRISE'*  
**ST CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA**

# JEDO Newsletter

Issue 25 | Summer 2021 Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

## In our next JEDO Newsletter

- Women 'Still Listening to the Spirit'
- Palm Sunday - Prayers for Justice
- Global Multi-Faith Climate Action
- Parish Promotions and Social Justice Action
- JEDO Networking, JEDO Advocacy, and more...

*"Agape is an overflowing love which seeks nothing in return. Theologians would say that it is the love of God operating in the human heart"*

**Dr Martin Luther king Jr**



WELCOME TO THE  
**CATHOLIC CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA**



End poverty. Promote justice.  
Uphold dignity



### Contact JEDO:

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

**Tel:** (08) 9241 5253/5256

**Email:** [admin.jedo@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:admin.jedo@perthcatholic.org.au)

*"WE HAVE ALL KNOWN THE LONG LONELINESS AND WE HAVE LEARNED THAT  
THE ONLY SOLUTION IS LOVE AND THAT LOVE COMES WITH COMMUNITY"*  
**DOROTHY DAY**