



Respect: Confronting Violence & Abuse

From the Director

The Justice, Ecology and Development Office (JEDO) within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth, Western Australia (WA) acknowledges the timely and critically important Social Justice Statement message for 2022/23: Respect – Confronting Violence and Abuse. As President of the ACBC: (Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference), Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB notes in the Statement Foreword (SJS, p 2) that "the teaching of Christ urges us to promote relationships marked by respect and freedom rather than coercion and control. The message of the Gospel is not a message of domination of one person over another but a message of mutual esteem and kindness". The Statement from the national bishops (through the ACBC) resonates with the biblical wisdom: 'Peace and violence cannot dwell together, and where there is violence, God cannot be present' (cf. 1 Chronicles 22: 8-9). With the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church (# 496) stating that 'violence is never a proper response... violence is a lie, for it goes against the truth of our faith, the truth of our humanity. Violence destroys what it claims to defend: the dignity, the life, the freedom of human beings'.

Pope Francis, in his World Day of Peace Message in 2017, Non-violence: A Style of Politics for Peace (#5) stated that "if violence has its source in the human heart, then it is fundamental that nonviolence be practised before all else within families...The family is the indispensable crucible in which spouses, parents and children, brothers and sisters, learn to communicate and to show generous concern for one another, and in which frictions and even conflicts have to be resolved not by force but by dialogue, respect, concern for the good of the other, mercy and forgiveness...I plead for disarmament and for the prohibition and abolition of nuclear weapons...I plead with equal urgency for an end to domestic violence and to the abuse of women and children". Given the gendered and learned nature of domestic and family violence, we are called as a community to reject violence and abuse and the structural systems that enable it, such as environments with toxic masculinity and "the unequal distribution of power and privilege, unequal access to resources and life chances" (SJS, p 8). The Statement from the national bishops challenges all of us to confront violence and abuse in its many forms and to build capacity for respectful relationships, dignity, justice, transformation and hope. With Jesus, the Prince of Peace central to your thoughts, feelings and actions, we challenge you to prayerfully consider what will call you to timely and safe action?



Be Well - Be Safe - Be Connected

Wishing you blessings of peace, joy and hope  
Carol Mitchell (JEDO Director)



Link to (The Record) Perth Launch of the 2022-23 SJS  
Link to (The Record) Aussie Bishops lament family, domestic violence in annual justice statement

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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

"DIGNITY IS AS ESSENTIAL TO HUMAN LIFE AS WATER, FOOD AND OXYGEN"  
LAURA HILLENBRAND



JEDO Advocacy & Networking

JUSTICE



Perth Launch of the Social Justice Statement: Held Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 2022



(Click image to enlarge)

- Link to (CathNews) [Catholic Religious Australia calls for action against violence](#)
- Link to (CathNews) [Extent of coercive control revealed as legislation looms](#)
- Link to (CathNews) [Bystanders 'can play a role' in preventing domestic violence](#)
- Link to (CathNews) [Bishops condemn family violence in annual justice statement](#)

FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2022/09/21/natsicc-assembly-2022/>

National Reconciliation Week 27th May - 23rd June 2022

- <https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/>
- <https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/2022-actions-to-make-change/>

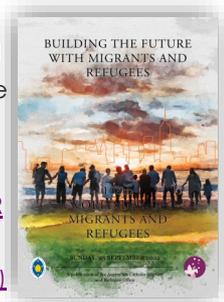


Link to (CathNews) [Francis Takes Uluru Statement to Heart in Vatican Meeting](#)

World Day of Migrants & Refugees – Sun. 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. '22

“Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees” was the theme chosen by the Holy Father for the 108th World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR). Pope Francis highlights the commitment that we are all called to share in building a future that embraces God's plan, leaving no one behind.

- <https://migrants-refugees.va/world-day-of-migrants-refugees/>
- Link to (ACMRO) [Migrant & Refugee Kit 2022](#)
- <https://migrants-refugees.va/>
- Link to (Pope Francis) [2022 Prayer - WDMR](#)
- <http://www.wacmro.perthcatholic.org.au/>
- Link to (OJEP) [Faith Leaders Release Statement Calling for the End of TPVs - Office for Social Justice \(catholic.org.au\)](#)



“WHEN WILL OUR CONSCIENCES GROW SO TENDER THAT WE WILL ACT TO PREVENT HUMAN MISERY RATHER THAN AVENGE IT”  
ELEANOR ROOSEVELT



## JEDO Advocacy & Networking



### ACRATH <https://acrath.org.au/>

- Link to (pdf) [ACRATH June Newsletter](#)
- Link to (pdf) [A Prayer for Human Trafficking](#) (Written by the Young Pressies Co-Curricular Group)
- Link to (ACRATH) [16 Days REFLECTION](#)
- Link to (ACRATH) [ACRATH 2023 Calendar](#) - Order Now



### ECOLOGY



### Catholic Earthcare Australia

<https://catholicearthcare.org.au/>



Link to [Earthcare Steps to Ecological Dialogue](#)



Link to [Plastic Free July](#) - CEA

### Season of Creation

<https://seasonofcreation.org/>



Link to [How to live a more sustainable Season of Creation \(and a more sustainable life\)?](#)

<https://www.columban.org.au/media-and-publications/educational-resources/a-catholic-season-of-creation-sundays-of-september-year-a>

### DEVELOPMENT



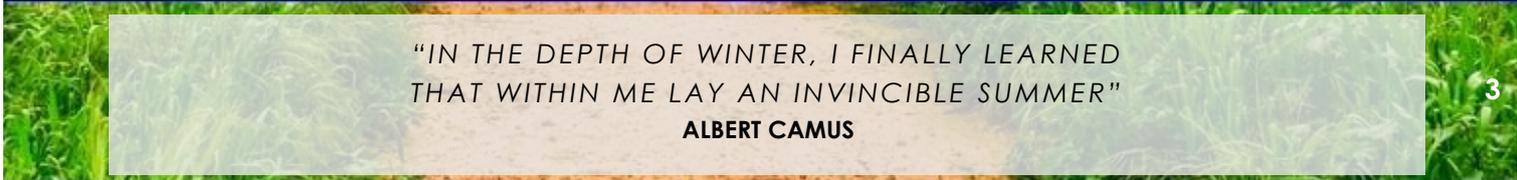
### CARITAS Australia IS Compassion in Action

<https://www.caritas.org.au/>

Link to (The Record) [Caritas Australia launches appeal to address hunger](#)

As the Catholic Church's international aid and development agency, Caritas Australia works hand in hand with the most marginalised communities in Australia and overseas, to confront the challenges of poverty. Through locally-led programs, Caritas work with all people, with shared hope and compassion, towards a world where all can thrive and reach their full potential. Through partnerships with local organisations and Church networks, and as a member of Caritas Internationalis, one of the largest humanitarian networks in the world, Caritas is able to reach where the need is greatest and work together for a just future.

**Working together for justice and dignity. Building together a thriving future for all.**



*"IN THE DEPTH OF WINTER, I FINALLY LEARNED THAT WITHIN ME LAY AN INVINCIBLE SUMMER"*

ALBERT CAMUS



Social Justice Action

Listen to Sophie Stewart share her social justice passion

Link to (video) [Three Things You Already Have That Can Change the World](#)

Link to (Lifelink) [Lifelink Winter Appeal](#)



Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development

"The very concept of person, born and matured in Christianity, fosters the pursuit of a fully human development. Because person always signifies relationship, not individualism; it affirms inclusion, not exclusion; unique and inviolable dignity, not exploitation; freedom and not constraint"

Pope Francis, Address for the 50° Anniversary of Populorum Progressio, 4 April 2017

Based on Joseph Cardijn's 'See-Judge-Act' approach, the Dicastery's new structure is: (1) Listening & Dialogue; (2) Research & Reflection & (3) Communication & Restitution

[Presentation of the new organisation of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development - Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development](#)

[Vatican dicastery restructures on see-judge-act line - Australian Cardijn Institute](#)

Link to (UN SDGs) [THE 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development \(un.org\)](#)

<https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/sviluppo-umano-integrale/cura-del-creato.html>

Link to (video) <https://youtu.be/OXTBYMfZyrM>

<https://www.humandevlopment.va/en.html>

PEACE



Choosing Peace – Choosing Non-violence

"To be true followers of Jesus today also includes embracing His teaching about non-violence... I pledge the assistance of the Church in every effort to build peace through active and creative non-violence... Every such response, however modest, helps to build a world free of violence, the first step towards justice and peace" – Pope Francis, 2017 Message for the World Day of Peace.

"Before you speak of peace, you must first have it in your heart" – St Francis of Assisi

"The message of peace is not about a negotiated settlement but rather the conviction that the unity brought by the Spirit can harmonise every diversity" – Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, # 230

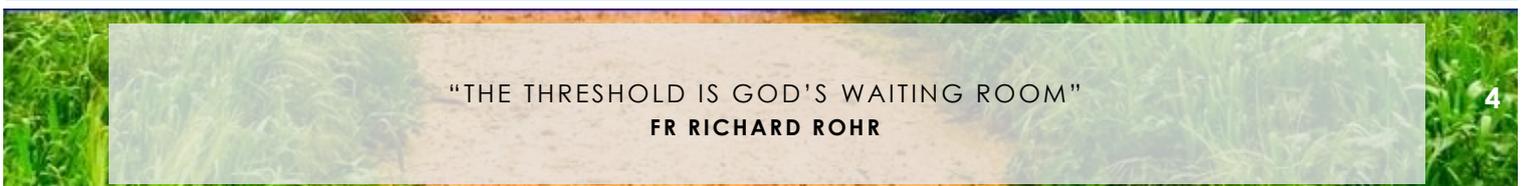
Link to (CathNews) [Pope renews call to end 'horror of war' in Ukraine](#)

[UN International Day of Peace](#) - 21<sup>st</sup> Sep '22

[International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons](#) - 26<sup>th</sup> Sep '22

[UN International Day of Non-Violence](#) - 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct '22

[Armistice / Remembrance Day](#) - 11<sup>th</sup> Nov '22



"THE THRESHOLD IS GOD'S WAITING ROOM"  
FR RICHARD ROHR



Upcoming EVENTS

Anti-Poverty Week (APW) - 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct '22

<https://antipovertyweek.org.au/>

Link to [APW Act Now Host an Event](#) (pdf)

Link to [The 17 Sustainable Development Goals](#) (pdf)

Link to [APW Women, Violence and Poverty](#) (pdf)

Link to [APW Child & Family Poverty in Australia](#) (pdf)

Download the [Pledge to halve child poverty by 2030](#) – take a photo and post to social media with #EndChildPoverty (encourage your CEO/ED to do so).

<https://antipovertyweek.org.au/make-a-pledge-to-halve-child-poverty/>

6<sup>th</sup> World Day of the Poor – Mon. 15<sup>th</sup> Nov '22

Link to (Pope Francis) [Sixth World Day of the Poor](#)

Link to (CathNews) [No Christian is Exempt From Helping the Poor: Pope](#)



16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence (From 25<sup>th</sup> Nov to 10<sup>th</sup> Dec)

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women - Thurs. 25<sup>th</sup> Nov '22

Human Rights Day - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec '22



PLENARY COUNCIL

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

Link to (PLENARY Council) [PLENARY Post # 48](#)

Link to (PLENARY Council) [PLENARY Post # 49](#)

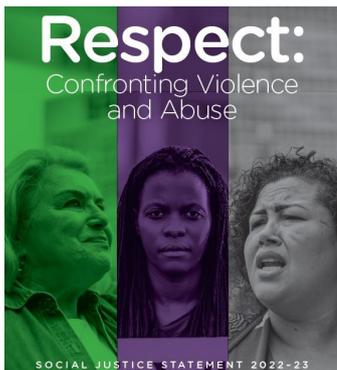
Link to (PLENARY Council) [PLENARY Post # 50](#) (FINAL)

*“Teach us to read the sign of the times in the light of the Gospel, with deep listening and patient discernment, and send your Spirit to lead us into all truth, that the journey of the Fifth Plenary Council may strengthen the participation and communion of all members of the Church in this land, and raise up a living witness to your presence among all peoples and through all creation.*

Mary, Mother of the Church and Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.”

**(Extract from the prayer in the Framework for Motions May 2022 )**



2022-23 **‘RESPECT - Confronting Violence and Abuse’**

Download your copy of the **2022-23 SJS Resources** [HERE!!!](#)

([SJ Statement](#); [Action Card & Prayer Card](#) and [Liturgy Notes](#)).  
These can be obtained from the ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace:  
[www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)

We invite you to forward brief articles and photos of your parish or school Social Justice actions for the upcoming JEDO Spring Newsletter.

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

**“WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IS GAINING GROUND BECAUSE SO MANY BRAVE WOMEN HAVE BEEN UNWILLING TO ACCEPT ANYTHING LESS”**

**MADELEINE ALBRIGHT**



**SYNOD 2023**

Link to (The RECORD) [Three Australians named to key Synod of Bishops group](#)

Link to (The RECORD) [Catholic sector needs to make 'Christ-centred decisions](#)

**CST & Thought**



**The Common Good**

Individuals live in common with others and the rights of the individuals must be balanced with the wider common good of all. The rights and needs of others must always be respected.

**Benedict XVI**, Caritas in Veritate, (#7)

*"To love someone is to desire that person's good and to take effective steps to secure it. Besides the good of the individual, there is a good that is linked to living in society: **the common good**. It is the good of 'all of us', made up of individuals, families and intermediate groups who together constitute society ... To take a stand for the common good is on the one hand to be solicitous for, and on the other hand to avail oneself of, that complex of institutions that give structure to the life of society, juridically, civilly, politically and culturally, making it the polis, or 'city.'"*

**Catechism of the Catholic Church – The Common Good**

# 1911: Human interdependence is increasing and gradually spreading throughout the world. The unity of the human family, embracing people who enjoy equal natural dignity, implies a **universal common good**. This good calls for an organisation of the community of nations able to "provide for the different needs of men (and women); this will involve the sphere of social life to which belong questions of food, hygiene, education, . . . and certain situations arising here and there."

# 1912: The common good is always oriented towards **the progress of persons**: "The order of things must be subordinate to the order of persons, and not the other way around."<sup>30</sup> This order is founded on truth, built up in justice, and animated by love.

**Caritas Australia** – The Common Good <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4CZcLJkNddU>



**Being & Becoming**

According to classical theology and philosophy, **oneness, truth, goodness and beauty** are considered to be 'transcendental properties of being'. Hermann Hesse gently expressed: "They both listened silently to the water, which to them was not just water, but the voice of life, the voice of **Being**, the voice of perpetual **Becoming**". Fr Richard Rohr also shares his wisdom stating: "Your True Self is who you are, and always have been, created in the image and likeness of God who is love (1 John 4: 8, 16). Love is both who you are and who you are still becoming, like a sunflower seed that becomes its own sunflower. Most of human history has called the True Self your 'soul' or your participation in the eternal life of God". The eternal invitation to be graced by God's Trinitarian love through our Being and Becoming is also shared and expressed simply yet knowingly by St Catherine of Genoa: "My deepest me is God".

**"A CHRISTIAN IS NEVER IN A STATE OF COMPLETION BUT ALWAYS IN A PROCESS OF BECOMING"**  
**MARTIN LUTHER**



**OJEP Social Justice Diary - June 2022 to August 2022**

*(Linked to the JEDO online Calendar for Social Justice Planning)*

- 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022 International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
- 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 World Environment Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022 World Oceans Day
- 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022 World Day Against Child Labour
- 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 **World Elder Abuse Day**
- 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022 World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
- 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Intl Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict
- 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022 **World Refugee Day**
- 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Day of the Seafarer
- 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Intl Day in Support of Victims of Torture
- 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Intl Day of the Tropics
- 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Intl Asteroid Day  
World Social Media Day



- 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 Coming of the Light Festival
- 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022 Intl Day of Cooperatives
- 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022 **Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander SUNDAY** (NAIDOC Week 3<sup>rd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022)
- 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022 World Population Day
- 15<sup>th</sup> July 2022 World Youth Skills Day
- 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022 Nelson Mandela International Day
- 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022 School Trees Day
- 30<sup>th</sup> July 2022 **World Day Against Trafficking in Persons** (Link to **United Nations**)  
Intl Day of Friendship

- 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022 National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day
- 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022 Intl Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
- 19<sup>th</sup> August 2022 World Humanitarian Day
- 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 Intl Day Commemorating the Victims of Violence Based on Religion or Belief
- 28<sup>th</sup> August 2022 **Social Justice SUNDAY** (Link to **OJEP SJ Resources**)
- 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022 Intl Day Against Nuclear Tests
- 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022 Intl Day of the Victims of Forced Disappearances

*"I WAS A PERSON WITH DIGNITY AND SELF-RESPECT AND SHOULD NOT SET MY SIGHTS LOWER THAN ANYBODY ELSE JUST BECAUSE I WAS BLACK"*



*In our next  
JEDO Newsletter*

- **Discernment**
- **2nd Plenary Assembly & the Laudato Si' Action Goals**
- **JEDO Advocacy, Networking & more**
- **Social Justice Action / Upcoming Events**
- **CST & Thought**

“When we reach the end of what we know, that’s where we find God”

**The Cloud of Unknowing**



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE



A PROGRAM OF Caritas AUSTRALIA



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“GOD IS NOT SATISFIED WITH APPEARANCE. GOD WANTS THE GARMENT OF JUSTICE. GOD WANTS THE CHRISTIANS DRESSED IN LOVE”  
ST OSCAR ROMERO