



JEDO NEWSLETTER

SPRING - Issue # 32

2022

DISCERNING OUR "SAN DAMIANO MOMENT"

From the Director

The Justice, Ecology and Development Office (JEDO) within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth, Western Australia (WA) recognises the opportunities within the challenges of our evolving post-pandemic world as we head toward this Holy Christmas season. As Pope Benedict XVI stated: "It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope".

With that in mind, throughout his pontificate, Pope Francis often spoke about **discernment** in his homilies and speeches noting it's "indispensable for living" since "choices are an essential part of life". At the end of August, he launched his new catechesis series on spiritual discernment outlining the importance of **discerning God's will** and **listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit**. Pope Francis highlighted that making sound judgements requires "knowledge, experience, emotion and the will" and yet, God has given us reason and the freedom to choose. God "is always willing to advise us, to encourage us, to welcome us. But he never imposes his will. Why? Because he wants to be loved and not feared. And also, God wants children, not slaves: free children. And **love can only be lived in freedom**. To learn to live one must learn to love, and for this it is necessary to discern". Source: [General audience - Latest news \(catholicnewsagency.com\)](https://www.catholicnewsagency.com)



The Plenary Council process also highlighted the importance of individual and then communal discernment to "**listen to what the Spirit is saying**". Through a **listening and dialogue** process for prayerful discernment, 6 key themes were initially determined in relation to the question posed: "**What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?**". The identified themes being, (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; and (6) Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform. Through the **listening and discernment** phase, and spiritual conversations of the First Assembly, features of a **Christ-centred Church** were identified and further explored in the Second Assembly. To further enable the process of prayerful discernment, Plenary Council President and Archbishop of Perth, the Most Reverend, Timothy Costelloe SDB, outlined 'A Journey of Discernment - The Plenary Council' in August 2020. May we now recognise the Plenary Council process as our "**San Damiano moment**". That is, like Francis of Assisi in the ruined chapel, being called to "**go and rebuild my Church for it is falling into ruin**" (A Journey of Discernment, p 6). May we now hear the call to respond to past and present pain and distress through the lens of hope to rebuild and renew our Church. As Pope Francis calls the Church to be "**a healer of wounds and warmer of hearts**" (A Journey of Discernment, p 10), our shared journey of healing is ongoing... so, let us begin anew.

Be Well - Be Safe - Be Connected

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



Link to PDF ([A Journey of Discernment - The Plenary Council](#))

Link to [JEDO Christmas Blessings](#)

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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

"GOD INVITES US TO EVALUATE AND CHOOSE:
HE CREATED US FREE AND WANTS US TO EXERCISE OUR FREEDOM.
FOR THIS REASON, DISCERNMENT IS DEMANDING"
POPE FRANCIS (AUGUST 2022)



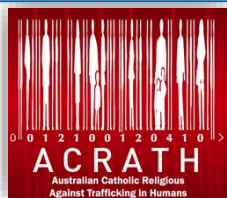
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JEDO Advocacy & Networking

JUSTICE



ACRATH

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

Link to (CathNews) [Christmas boost will ensure modern slavery programs continue](#)

Link to (The RECORD) [Modern Slavery brings ACRATH members and supporters together](#)

Link to (pdf) [High Tea Flyer](#)

Link to (FLYER) [Christmas Reflection 2022](#)

Annual Service of Blessing - Sunday 18 September 2022 @ 3pm St Georges Anglican Cathedral

The JEDO Director attended the WA Heads of Churches Pastoral Care and Chaplains Annual Service of Blessings.

Link to (The RECORD) [WA Chaplains to come together for inaugural blessing of service](#)

FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES

Being a People of Reconciliation - CEWA Catechist Service - Wednesday, 26th October

Reconciliation and Catholic Social Teaching (CST): It was a privilege taking part in '**Being a People of Reconciliation**' that was held at the Newman Siena Centre on Wednesday 26th of October for catechists. Thanks to Stephen Harris (Catechist Service) for enabling Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Director, Donella Brown and the JEDO Director to facilitate reflection and yarning/information sharing sessions. We look forward to other opportunities to collaborate.

Link to (The CathNews) [Walking in Both Worlds - A Key to Reconciliation](#)



Link to (The RECORD) [NATSICC Conference Renews Friendships, Celebrating Catholic Faith & Aboriginal Culture](#)

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry: <http://acm.perthcatholic.org.au/>

NATSICC: <https://www.natsicc.org.au/>

MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

The 2022 theme chosen by Pope Francis for the World Day of Migrants & Refugees (held in September) was **Building the Future with Migrants & Refugees**. His Holiness stated: "No one must be excluded. God's plan is essentially inclusive and gives priority to those living on the existential peripheries. Among them are many migrants and refugees, displaced persons, and victims of trafficking. The Kingdom of God is to be built with them, for without them it would not be the Kingdom that God wants. The inclusion of those most vulnerable is the necessary condition for full citizenship in God's Kingdom. Indeed, the Lord says, "...For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me" (Mt 25:34-36).

With this in mind, on the 1st of August 2022, the St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia welcomed the introduction of legislation in Parliament to **end indefinite and arbitrary detention of refugees**. This has been an important advocacy issue for many years for the ACBC: the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference as noted in the call for action from Bishop Long in 2019.

Ending Indefinite & Arbitrary Immigration Detention Bill

https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Bills_Legislation/Bills_Search_Results/Result?bld=r6888

May we continue to keep all displaced persons in our minds, hearts and actions.

Link to (PDF) [SVDP - Legislation to End Detention](#)

Link to (The PDF) [Bishop Vincent Long's Statement](#)

ACMRO: <https://acmro.catholic.org.au/>

WACMRO: <https://wacmro.perthcatholic.org.au/>

"TO BE A CONTEMPLATIVE IT IS NECESSARY TO TAKE IN WITHOUT RESERVATION
THOSE WHOM THE WORLD CASTS OUT BECAUSE IT IS THEY WHO SHOW US MOST
CLEARLY THE FACE OF THE WAITING GOD"

SR JOAN CHITTISTER



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ECOLOGY



Catholic Earthcare Australia

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

Catholic Earthcare Programs are designed to support Parishes, Schools and Families achieve the 7 **Laudato Si' Goals** and work towards an **Integral Ecology**.

Link to (PDF) [2021 SJS Action Card & LS Goals](https://catholicearthcare.org.au/laudato-si-action-platform/)

<https://catholicearthcare.org.au/laudato-si-action-platform/>

"Discerning a response to the ecological crisis is a profound act of care. At this kairos moment, action is needed. The Laudato Si' Goals guide our actions. Their holistic approach supports a spiritual and cultural revolution as we strive for total sustainability in the spirit of integral ecology.

Laudato Si' Action Platform

<https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/>

Sr Veronica Lawson's Gospel Reflections:

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

Season of Creation (1st September to 4th October)

<https://seasonofcreation.org/>



The 1st of September is the **World Day of Prayer for Creation** and the beginning of the Season of Creation. This goes through to the 4th of October, the **Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi**. Given September is springtime in Australia, the timing for the Season of Creation works well. However, there are opportunities for the global **Laudato Si' Action Goals** to be given more attention. This is not only in the context of **CoP 27** - the Council of Parties gathering in Egypt for the **UN Climate Change Conference**; but also recognising that the **Bishops of Oceania** are due to meet in Suva, Fiji in February

2023 where the vulnerability of neighbouring island nations can speak to their lived experiences and witnessing of current climate disasters. It's worth highlighting that the Second Assembly of the Plenary Council included the theme: **Integral Ecology and Conversion for the sake of our Common Home**. These are further supported by the 2021/22 Social Justice Statement from our national bishops: **'Cry of the Earth. Cry of the Poor'** which are influenced by the urgent call to prayerful discernment and action from Pope Francis in **Laudato Si' – On Care for Our Common Home (2015)**.

Climate Justice

Link to (The RECORD) [Multi-faith service to support call for climate justice](#)

Link to (CathNews) [World leaders have 'moral obligation' to act on climate change](#)

Link to (The RECORD) [Care for Our Common Home to unite Abrahamic faiths](#)

Link to (The RECORD) [COP27 must confront the global climate crisis](#)

Link to (The RECORD) [St Mary's Cathedral hosts multifaith service for climate justice](#)

Link to (YouTube) [Voices of Change: Climate change is about the people](#)

Link to (YouTube) [The Letter - A Message for Our Earth](#)



"CREATION IS THE SONG OF GOD"
ST HILDEGARD OF BINGEN



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JEDO Advocacy & Networking DEVELOPMENT



CARITAS Australia - Tuesday, 25th October

It was wonderful finally meeting the dynamic **Sabrina Stevens**, Caritas Youth Participation Coordinator when she visited Perth in October. Thanks to Deacon Paul Reid for providing the opportunity to hear directly from Sabrina about the **'Walking with God'** program. It supports Laudato Si' inspired actions to care for our common home really well so we can hear and respond to the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor, beginning with a connection to country.



Link to (Caritas) [Christmas Gifts That Make a Difference 2022](#)



Link to (Catholic Earthcare) [Walking With God Program](#)

Link to (The RECORD) [Sabrina Walking With God Through Culture & Faith](#)



Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development

Integral Human Development: <https://www.humandevlopment.va/en.html>

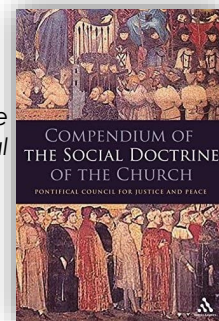
Creation: <https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/sviluppo-umano-integrale/cura-del-creato.html>

Migrants & Refugees: <https://migrants-refugees.va/2022/03/24/pastoral-orientations-on-intercultural-migrant-ministry/>

Papal Magisterium: <https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/risorse/magistero-sociale.html>

The Christian knows that in the social doctrine of the Church can be found the principles for **reflection**, the criteria for **judgment** and the directives for **action** which are the starting point for the promotion of an integral and solidary humanism.

Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, 7



"Pay attention to the people God puts in your path if you want to discern what God is up to in your life".

Henri Nouwen

"OUR DESIRE TO FOLLOW JESUS AS HIS DISCIPLE MUST BE BASED ON A DEEP PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM"
EMERITUS ARCHBISHOP BARRY J. HICKEY



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Social Justice Action

Senate Inquiry on Poverty – Open for Submissions

A Senate Inquiry into 'The extent and nature of poverty in Australia' is open for submissions until 3 February 2023 and will table its report in October next year. The inquiry will examine: the rates and drivers of poverty in Australia; the relationship between economic conditions (including fiscal policy, rising inflation and **cost of living** pressures) and poverty; the impact of poverty on individuals in relation to: **employment outcomes, housing security, health outcomes, and education outcomes**; the impacts of poverty amongst different demographics and communities; the relationship between income support payments and poverty and mechanisms to address and reduce poverty.

Learn more [HERE](#)

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

<https://www.centrecare.com.au/valuing-children-initiative/growing-up-poor-in-australia>



PLENARY Council

The **Second Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council** focused on the following themes to foster a **Christ-centred Church**: (1) Reconciliation - Healing Wounds, Receiving Gifts; (2) Choosing Repentance - Seeking Healing; (3) Called by Christ – Sent forth as Missionary Disciples; (4) Witnessing to the Equal Dignity of Women and Men; (5) Communion in Grace – Sacrament to the World; (6) Formation and

Leadership for Mission and Ministry; (7) At the Service of Communion, Participation and Mission – Governance; and 8 LS Integral Ecology and Conversion for the sake of our Common Home.

Link to (PDF) [Pastoral Letter](#)

Link to (CathNews) [Bishops Conference launches new website](#)



SYNOD

Link to (PDF) [Prayer Petitions:](#)

Link to (PDF) [Bulletin Bit:](#) about the Continental Stage of the Synod of Bishops



PEACE

UN International Day of Non-Violence – 2nd October

The birthday of **Mahatma Gandhi**, the 2nd of October, is the observed day for the International Day of Nonviolence. Mahatma Gandhi was the leader of the Indian Independence Movement and a pilgrim of peace. <https://www.un.org/en/observances/non-violence-day>

Gandhi's way of nonviolence for peace was guided by the '**Sermon on the Mount**' – the **Beatitudes** which he read everyday for 40 years. "We may never be strong enough to be entirely nonviolent in thought, word and deed. But we must keep nonviolence as our goal and make strong progress towards it" – **Mahatma Gandhi**



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

We invite you to forward brief articles and photos of your parish or school Social Justice actions for upcoming JEDO Newsletters. Please send any submissions or queries to

admin.jedo@perthcatholic.org.au

"LET US CONTEMPLATE THE HUMILITY OF THE SON OF GOD BORN INTO POVERTY.
LET US IMITATE HIM BY SHARING WITH THOSE WHO ARE WEAK"

POPE FRANCIS



Upcoming EVENTS

16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence (From 25th Nov to 10th Dec '22)

Link to (JEDO) [16 Days of Activism Prompts](#)

Link to (CathNews) [Catholic organisations welcome plan to end domestic violence](#)

Link to (The RECORD) [Perth Catholics called to unite to end violence against women](#)

International Day for the Abolition of Slavery – Fri. 2nd Dec. '22

This day in 1949, marks the adoption by the General Assembly of the UN Convention for Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/slavery-abolition-day>

International Day of Persons with Disabilities – Sun. 3rd Dec. '22 - Theme: 'Transformative Solutions for Inclusive Development: the role of innovation in fueling an accessible and equitable world'

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/day-of-persons-with-disabilities>

International Migrants Day - 18th Dec. '22

On the 18th December 1990 the UN General Assembly adapted a resolution on the role International Convention on the Rights of the Protection of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/migrants-day>

Australia Day / Survival Day – Mon. 26th Jan. '23

<http://acm.perthcatholic.org.au/>

Link to (PDF) [Massacre Prayer Card Information Sheet](#)

St Josephine Bakhita - World Day of Prayer, Reflection & Action Against Human Trafficking – Mon. 8th Feb. '23

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

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

Link to (YouTube) [The Story of St Josephine Bakhita](#)

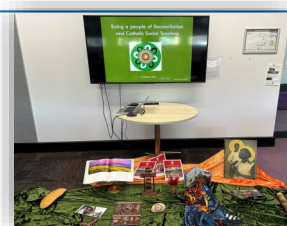
World Day of Social Justice – Mon. 20th Feb. '23

First observed in 2009 in recognition that a 'society for all' must be based on social justice and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

"...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'

(The Framework for Motions, May 2022)



CST & Thought

Solidarity is a firm and ongoing commitment to the common good through **interdependent relationships** for the **flourishing** of all. Given the human community is connected across cultures, classes, creeds and countries, solidarity is expressed by reaching out to those who are most marginalised – by accompanying or walking alongside them. Through loving our neighbour, we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers. According to the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church* (#193), solidarity is a social principle and a moral virtue in the sphere of justice through serving others as opposed to exploiting them, because we are all responsible for all.

As St Pope John Paul II stated: "Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all" "

(Sollicitudo rei Socialis – On Social Concern, # 39)

<https://www.caritas.org.au/learn/cst-toolkit/solidarity/>

"IT IS IN THE PROCESS OF EMBRACING OUR IMPERFECTIONS THAT WE FIND OUR TRUEST GIFTS: COURAGE, COMPASSION AND CONNECTION"

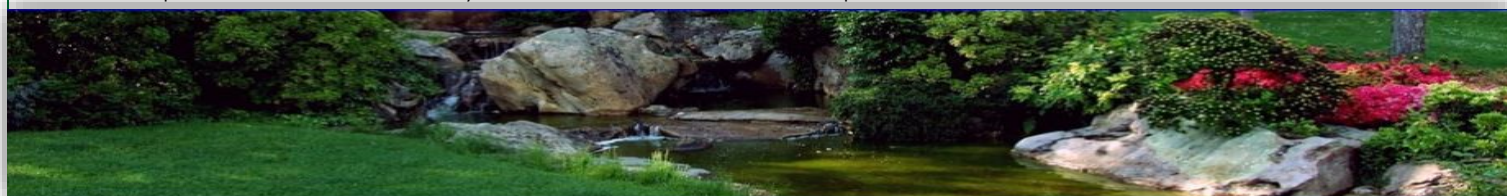
BRENÉ BROWN



OJEP Social Justice Diary - September 2022 to November 2022

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

| | |
|--|---|
| 1 st September 2022 | World Day of Prayer for Creation - Season of Creation Begins Beginning of Biodiversity Month National Wattle Day |
| 4 th - 8 th September 2022 | NH Child Protection Week - 'Every Child in Every Community Needs a Fair Go' |
| 5 th September 2022 | International Day of Charity |
| 7 th September 2022 | National Threatened Species Day |
| 8 th September 2022 | RUOK? Day - 'A Conversation Could Change a Life' |
| 10 th September 2022 | World Suicide Prevention Day |
| 16 th September 2022 | Intl Day for Preservation of the Ozone Layer |
| 21 st September 2022 | <u>Intl Day of Peace</u> - End Racism. Build Peace. (Link to UN) |
| 25 th September 2022 | Migrant & Refugee Sunday |
| 26 th September 2022 | Intl Day for the Total Elimination of Weapons |



| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1 st October 2022 | Intl Day for Older Persons |
| 2 nd October 2022 | Intl Day of Non-Violence |
| 3 rd October 2022 | World Habitat Day |
| 8 th October 2022 | Feast of St Francis of Assisi - Season of Creation Ends |
| 10 th October 2022 | World Mental Health Day |
| 11 th October 2022 | Intl Day of the Girl Child |
| 13 th October 2022 | Intl Day for Disaster Reduction |
| 15 th October 2022 | Intl Day of Rural Women |
| 16 th October 2022 | World Food Day Anti-Poverty Week (16 th October 2022 - 22 nd October 2022) |
| 17 th October 2022 | Intl Day for the Eradication of Poverty |
| 23 rd October 2022 | <u>World Mission Sunday</u> |
| 24 th October 2022 | United Nations Day Disarmament Week |
| 5 th November 2022 | World Tsunami Awareness Day |
| 6 th November 2022 | Intl Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict |
| 10 th November 2022 | World Science Day for Peace and Development |
| 11 th November 2022 | Remembrance (Armistice) Day |
| 16 th November 2022 | International Day of Tolerance |
| 20 th November 2022 | World Youth Day Universal Children's Day |
| 25 th November 2022 | Intl Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women Start of 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence |
| 30 th November 2022 | Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare |

"PURITY OF HEART IS THE RECOVERY OF THE DIVINE LIKENESS
WHERE THE TRUE SELF IS LOST IN GOD"
FIONA GARDNER



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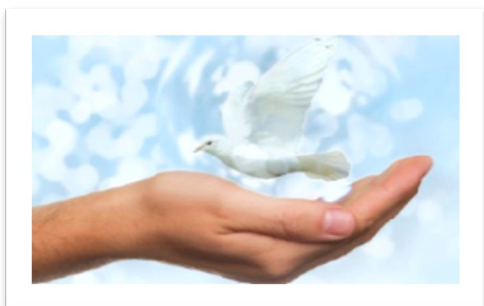
2022

***In our next
JEDO Newsletter***

- **End Gender-Based Violence (GBV)**
- **Our Ocean Home**
- **JEDO Advocacy, Networking & more**
- **Social Justice Action / Upcoming Events**
- **CST & Thought**

*"Pray that a great unity may prevail, that charity may shine
and a holy unworldly wisdom influence our every word and act"*

St Mary MacKillop



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE



A PROGRAM OF Caritas AUSTRALIA



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*"BEAUTIFUL ARE THOSE WHOSE BROKENNESS
GIVES BIRTH TO TRANSFORMATION AND WISDOM"*

BRIAN MARK GREEN