

This is what God asks of you, only this, to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)



Pentecost Prayer Service of Hope

Spirit of love and compassion, grant us hope.
 Spirit of wisdom and understanding, grant us hope.
 Spirit of counsel and fortitude, grant us hope.
 Spirit of knowledge and truth, grant us hope.
 Spirit of peace and reconciliation, grant us hope.
 Spirit of transformation and renewal, grant us hope.
 Spirit of justice and clemency, grant us hope.
 Holy Spirit, Comforter, grant us hope.
 Holy Spirit, Gift of God, grant us hope.
 Holy Spirit Who fills the universe, grant us hope.



Source: <https://educationforjustice.org/pdfs/ej/pentecostps.pdf>, Education for Justice

NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS

- ❖ **Victorian Budget 2016:** strong revenue, sound initiatives, more to go
- ❖ Catholic Social Services Victoria welcomes **Royal Commission report** on family violence
- ❖ Newly appointed Bishop of Parramatta, Bishop Vincent Long OFMConv calls for Australia to reclaim its welcoming and **generous spirit towards people seeking asylum**
- ❖ Welcome **The Asylum Seeker Parish Support Program** forum
- ❖ Do social services shaped by **Catholic identity** make a difference?
- ❖ Australian bishops issue **statement, A Vote for the Voiceless**, for upcoming Federal election

FROM MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

- ❖ The Sanctuary Model breakfast workshop, Friday 20 May, 8am, MacKillop Family Services
- ❖ Good Samaritan Inn 20th Anniversary Dinner Dance, Friday 20 May, 7pm, Keilor East
- ❖ Communities in Control conference, 30-31 May, Moonee Valley racecourse
- ❖ Can Enemies Become Friends? Monday 6 June, 5pm-6.30pm, Newman College, Parkville
- ❖ Solo Catholics' Calendar of Events, May-July. Upcoming event on Sunday 22 May
- ❖ Studies in Equity and Sustainability: Pope Francis, poverty and the environment, 26 July
- ❖ Exclusion and Embrace: Disability, Justice and Spirituality, 21-23 August, Melbourne
- ❖ Anti-Poverty Week 2016, 16-22 October; strengthening public understanding of poverty
- ❖ Cabrini opens new **asylum seeker and refugee health hub** in Brunswick



Council and Council Committees of Catholic Social Services Victoria

The next meeting of the CSSV Council is on Friday 3 June in Ballarat. The Council will meet that day with Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and Marcelle Mogg of Catholic Social Services Australia.

[Click here](#) for a list of council members and council committees. Enquiries etc welcome.



NEWS and DEVELOPMENTS



Victorian Budget 2016: strong revenue, sound initiatives, more to go

‘Strong revenue has enabled sound spending programs and welcome initiatives’, comments Denis Fitzgerald from Catholic Social Services Victoria, ‘but the budget does not yet reflect a central focus on the fundamental needs of those on the margins of our society.

For further analysis of the Victorian Budget, [click here](#).



CSSV welcomes Royal Commission report on family violence

Catholic Social Services Victoria welcomed the Royal Commission, the first in Australia to consider this important issue. The Terms of Reference asked the Commission to make recommendations on how Victoria, through its community and government services, should prevent and respond to family violence.

To read CSSV’s full statement, [click here](#).



Newly appointed Bishop of Parramatta, Bishop Vincent Long calls for Australia to reclaim its welcoming and generous spirit towards people seeking asylum

CSSV congratulates Bishop Vincent Long OFMConv on his recent appointment to the Parramatta diocese. He will be greatly missed as Episcopal Vicar for Social Services. CSSV hopes to host a farewell dinner before his departure – please [let us know](#) if you’d like to be kept informed. In his recent keynote speech at the Welcome the Asylum Seeker Parish Support Program Forum, Bishop Long, called for Australia to reclaim its welcoming and generous spirit towards people seeking asylum. For Bishop Long’s full speech, [click here](#).



Welcome The Asylum Seeker Parish Support Program

More than 50 people, including representatives who attended from at least 16 parishes and a range of other organisations gathered at the Cardinal Knox Centre on Saturday 16 April for an inspiring and informative forum relating to strengthening parish support for asylum seekers. For a full wrap up of the forum and other program news, [click here](#). Also, follow the [Facebook page](#), which has regular updates to our activities and to the activities of other asylum seeker and refugee agencies.



Do social services shaped by Catholic identity make a difference?

In the [attached](#) Catholic Social Services Victoria Occasional Paper, Michael Yore explores whether Catholic social welfare services bring a significantly enriched quality of services and advocacy to their work. This paper is designed to provide a stimulus for further exploration of this question and touches on the related questions of how this quality is to be described, whether or not they actually achieve it, and if they do not, should they? Discussion questions at key points in the paper make it a useful element in an orientation program in a Catholic agency.



Catholic Bishops of Australia issue statement for July Federal election

The Catholic Bishops of Australia have issued a statement, A Vote for the Voiceless, for the July Federal election. The statement reaches beyond economic policy to ‘people discarded in this throwaway culture’.

To read the full statement, [click here](#).



MEMBER NEWS AND OTHER EVENTS

MacKillop Family Services

The Sanctuary Model Breakfast Workshop, Friday 20 May, 8am-9.30am

This event is aimed at senior delegates from community organisations and government departments working with people impacted by trauma. It will include opportunities to network, ask questions and to learn about how you can apply the Sanctuary Model tools in your own organisation.

Location: MacKillop Family Services, 237 Cecil Street, South Melbourne.

[Download flyer](#) for further information or book [online](#).



Good Samaritan Inn 20th Anniversary Dinner Dance, Saturday 21 May, 7pm

It's the Good Samaritan Inn's 20th Anniversary Dinner Dance and you're invited! **Location:** Ultima Function Centre Ballroom, Corner Keilor Park Drive and Ely Court, Keilor Park.

Cost: \$75

For more information, [click here](#).



Communities in Control conference, 30-31 May 2016, 8.30am

Communities in Control focuses on 'Thought Leadership for the Not-for-Profit sector'. In this two-day conference the topic 'It's the Community, Stupid: Putting people and the planet back in the picture' will be explored. Sponsored by CatholicCare, it features an array of innovative, creative and inspiring speakers.

For more information and the flyer, [click here](#).



Council and Council Committees of Catholic Social Services Victoria

The next meeting of the CSSV council members is on Friday 3 June in Ballarat. The Council will meet that day with Bishop Paul Bird CSsR and Marcelle Mogg of Catholic Social Services Australia.

For the full list of council members and council committees of Catholic Social Services, [click here](#).



Can Enemies Become Friends? Monday 6 June, 5pm-6.30pm

The Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation is presenting an interview with Nathan Schneider by Fr Frank Brennan SJ. This event is both a relevant topic in this Jubilee of Mercy and a timely follow-up for participants who attended the recent CSSV conference.

Location: The Oratory, Newman College, 887 Swanston Street, Parkville.

Cost: Free

RSVP: evangelisation@cam.org.au

For the flyer, [click here](#).



Solo Catholics' Calendar of Events May-July 2016

The next Solo Catholics' meet up is taking place on Sunday 22 May. Mass will be celebrated at 10am at St Cecilia's, 27 Hillside Parade, Glen Iris, follow by lunch at The Glass House in Caulfield, from 12pm. All are welcome.

[Download the Calendar of Events](#) for May to July. There is also a registration form for membership at the end of the calendar.



Studies in Equity and Sustainability: Pope Francis, poverty and the environment

Lecturer Fr Bruce Duncan will be offering a 12-week unit of study at Yarra Theological Union on Pope Francis, poverty, the environment and world development, on Tuesday evenings commencing 26 July. Offered in second semester, the unit examines key issues for world development, including the dialogue between religious values and economic matters.

For a flyer, [click here](#).

A multi-faith conference:
**'Exclusion
& Embrace:
Disability,
Justice &
Spirituality'**

Exclusion and Embrace: Disability, Justice and Spirituality, 21-23 August

A multi-faith conference, bringing together people who wish to explore the understandings and experiences of disability and spirituality.

Location: Jasper Hotel, Melbourne

To view the conference website, [click here](#).



Anti-Poverty Week 16-22 October 2016

Anti-Poverty Week is concerned with poverty around the world, especially in the poorest countries but also in wealthier countries such as Australia. Its main aim is to strengthen public understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty and hardship around the world and within Australia, and to encourage research, discussion and action to address these problems, including action by individuals, communities, organisations and governments.

For further information [click here](#).



Cabrini opens refugee health service

The new Cabrini Asylum Seeker and Refugee Health Hub was officially opened on 28 April 2016. The service, located on the ground floor at 503 Sydney Road in Brunswick, will provide healthcare services for asylum seekers and refugees.

For more information, [click here](#).

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