



## **LEADERSHIP FOR MISSION**

### **Orientation for Leaders and Board Directors in Catholic social services**

#### **A Professional Development Program over three evenings**

**5.30 for 6.00 – 8.30pm, on Wednesdays 25 March, 22 April and 27 May 2015**

Catholic social service organisations have a responsibility to contribute a very particular vision of a just, inclusive and compassionate society flowing from their understanding of their Mission.

The aim of this program is to equip leaders in the Catholic social services sector to more effectively develop and strengthen their organisations in carrying out their transformative role of working for the creation of a just and more compassionate society.

Building on the insights of Pope Francis, the Forums will provide a valuable opportunity to reflect deeply on the relationship leaders have with the Gospel and the mission of their own organisation, and its relationship to the broader social services sector. The richness of Catholic Social Teaching provides an additional and unique framework for putting this vision into action through the provision of services and social justice advocacy. **The Orientation Forums will assist Leaders to articulate this vision and creatively implement it.**

Each forum will be led by a recognized expert in the field:

| <b>Topic</b>   | <b>Date</b> | <b>Led by</b>    |
|--|-------------|------------------|
| <b>Service at the heart of the Gospel</b>            | 25 March    | Fr Noel Connolly |
| <b>Services reflecting Mission</b>                   | 22 April    | Sandie Cornish   |
| <b>Building a Sustainable, Mission-driven Future</b> | 27 May      | Fr Joe Caddy     |

Further details on each session, and on each lead presenter, are at the end of this document.

**Venue:** Thomas Carr Centre, 278 Victoria Pde, East Melbourne

**Cost:** \$250 (includes resource material)

**Bookings:** [www.trybooking.com/GHSJ](http://www.trybooking.com/GHSJ) or contact [Lucia Brick](#), tel 9287 5566. Places are limited.

**Enquiries:** Denis Fitzgerald, tel 9287 5566.



The program will explore the Catholic story, and provide leaders with an opportunity for understanding core concepts. It aims to:

- assist in articulating organisational mission
- link critical decision making to mission and purpose
- introduce Catholic Social Teaching as a key framework for services and advocacy
- provide personal spiritual enrichment
- facilitate relationship-building dialogue with colleagues in social services.

The set of three Forums is designed to be interactive, combining quality input with ample time for discussion, questions and the sharing of experiences. There will also be an opportunity to reflect on the integration of the ideas to your own organisation's goals and strategy – this dimension would be enhanced by the participation of more than one person from an organisation.

### The Rationale for a Leadership Orientation

Working for the creation of a just society and the amelioration of poverty and hardship is essential to the mission of the Catholic Church. To enable leaders in the Catholic social services sector to more effectively develop and strengthen their organisations in carrying out this transformative role, Catholic Social Services Victoria invites senior Executive Leaders and Board Directors, especially those new to Catholic Social Services, to participate in a Formation Program which explores the Catholic Story in more depth.

*'Action on behalf of justice and participation in the transformation of the world, fully appear to us as a constitutive dimension of preaching the Gospel, in other words, of the Church's mission.'*<sup>1</sup>

Catholic Social Service organisations concretely express the Church's fundamental option for the poor which is at the heart of the Church's mission: *'This is why I want a Church which is poor and for the poor.'*<sup>2</sup>

### What the Orientation will provide

This is an orientation to the role of social services as ministries of the Catholic Church, as well as to the culture and ethos central to an authentic Catholic ministry. **It is a formative experience of great importance**, providing new Leaders and Board Directors with a practical understanding of key elements that will assist them to work more effectively within the Catholic Church's culture and setting. It will provide a rich encounter with the core concepts that will assist in articulating the purpose and mission of their organisations enabling decisions critical to the future of staff and programs to be clearly linked to the organisation's mission and the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. This is a unique opportunity for personal spiritual enrichment as well as for relationship-building dialogue with colleagues.

### Attachments:

Details on each forum, and on lead presenters.

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<sup>1</sup> World Synod of Bishops, 1971, *Justice in the World* para6

<sup>2</sup> Pope Francis, 2013, *The Joy of the Gospel*, para 198



## Forum 1, led by Fr Noel Connolly

### Service at the heart of the Gospel:

*Wednesday 25 March, 5.30 for 6.00pm start until 8.30pm*

- An exploration of Pope Francis' style of leadership and theology of mission as found in *The Joy of the Gospel* highlighting:
  - A new style of conversational, consultative leadership suitable for a secular and pluralist world
  - The need for the church to present of joyful and positive message and not just a critique
  - For a warm and merciful church which can heal wounds and warm hearts
  - A church that is dirty and hurting from being out on the streets
  - A poor church serving the poor
  - A discerning, pilgrim church that walks with others
- Catholic social services as a vital expression of the core mission of "Service", essential to the mission of God and therefore of the church.
- How does God work through a human church which has often lost sight of Gospel values (e.g. sexual abuse in our own day). A Church that is often in crisis and always in need of renewal.
- Some elements of a spirituality for mission and service.



### **Fr Noel Connolly SSC**

Noel is a priest with the Missionary Society of St Columban. Noel began his missionary ministry in Korea and later helped found the Sydney Korean Church.

Noel's roles have included Rector of St Columban's Turramurra, including the Pacific Mission Institute; and Central Coordinator for Justice & Peace and Vicar-General of the Society from 1988-2000.

Noel has been Director of the Columban Mission Institute, Sydney and Director of the Columban Region of Australia and New Zealand from 2005-11.

He is currently Coordinator of Mission Studies at the Columban Mission Institute and lectures in Mission Theology at the Broken Bay Institute and the Catholic Institute of Sydney.

Mission and Growing a truly Multicultural Australian Catholic Church are his major interests.



## Forum 2, led by Sandie Cornish

### Services reflecting Mission:

*Wednesday 22 April, 5.30 for 6.00 - 8.30pm*

The mission of the Church is to make the Reign of God present in the world and this includes working for social inclusion and justice for the poor. Catholic social service organisations have an important leadership role to play in this effort.



- This session will focus on how mission and the particular charisms of religious institutes inspire, guide, and are expressed in our work in social services.
- A practical framework situating the roles of faith sources such as Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching and the spiritualities of religious institutes in social services' work for justice and social inclusion will be introduced.
- We will explore entry points for the integration of mission and charism within strategic planning and organizational culture using examples and existing resources.

### **Sandie Cornish**

Sandie is a practitioner in the field of Catholic Social Teaching.

She is currently Province Director of Mission of the Society of the Sacred Heart in Australia and New Zealand.

Sandie has worked with the Good Shepherd Sisters in research and social policy, and with the Australian Jesuits assisting in research, policy, planning, and formation in their social ministries.

Sandie founded the web based *Faith Doing Justice* project. She is a sessional lecturer with the Missiology department of the Catholic Institute of Sydney and a distance tutor in social ethics for the Broken Bay Institute.

Prior to joining The Broken Bay Institute, Sandie led the highly regarded Hong Kong based international human rights agency, the Asian Center for the Progress of Peoples.



### Forum 3, led by Fr Joe Caddy

#### **Building a Sustainable Mission – Driven Future:**

*Wednesday 27 May, 5.30 for 6.00 – 8.30pm*

- Exploring how we can ensure that the mission-orientation of our organisations is embedded in who we are and how we act. What are our sources for reflection, inspiration and monitoring the integrity of our mission? How can we achieve continual improvement in the spiritual dimension through ongoing, systematic formation?
- The implications of mission sustainability in the realms of leadership, communication and information provision and the resources required - people, workshops and forums, documentation etc. - to build in continual improvement in these areas.
- What is required of me as a leader in terms of knowledge, skills, disposition and actions?
- What are some of the ways that the broader Catholic Social services community can contribute to the mission-sustainability of services and organisations?
- Recognising and engaging with diversity; investing in a common sense of mission by diverse groups.
- Collaboration and partnership as a characteristic of mission-driven organisations.



#### **Joe Caddy**

Fr Joe Caddy is a priest and the Chief Executive Officer of CatholicCare Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Joe has a strong background in community service governance and social policy, and regularly advocates for policies and programs to ensure stronger families and communities. In 2012 he commenced as Parish Priest at All Saints Church in Fitzroy.

Joe was the Chair of Catholic Welfare Australia from 2003-2013, the national peak body of Catholic Community service providers. In 1993, he completed a Licentiate in Social Sciences at the Gregorian University in Rome. Since 2003 he has been co-convenor of the highly successful annual conference *Communities in Control*.