

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)



Catholic Social Services Victoria 2015 Annual Dinner – Friday 4 September

Catholic Social Services invites members, friends and those we work with to our Annual Dinner on the 4 September. As well as an occasion to celebrate our shared commitment, the dinner will be an occasion to honour Vicki Clark, with life membership of Catholic Social Services Victoria. Vicki has been instrumental in establishing, developing and leading Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in Victoria for the past 25 years. *Please join us at 'Leonda By the Yarra' on Friday 4 September.* Click [here](#) for booking details.



NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Pope Francis and the Care of our Common Home
Evening Forum for Parishes a Success
Family Violence: Building a Safer Community

UPCOMING EVENTS

Breakfast Briefing: Pope Francis and the Care of our Common Home: Friday 31 July
Fit for Purpose: Maximising Improvement through Benchmarking – Monday 3 August
Becoming A Culturally Competent Organisation: Friday 7 August
Catholic Social Teaching: Next workshop: Friday 25 August
Annual Dinner: Friday 4 September
Asylum Seeker Parish Support: Save the Date: 14 October - All day Forum for Parishes 'Strengthening Asylum Seeker Support'.



Review Reimagine Renew: Mission making a difference in a changing world

24 - 26 February 2016, Melbourne

Auspiced by Catholic Social Services Victoria and Catholic Social Services Australia. A National Conference, for Leaders and future leaders in Catholic social services and for all who are striving to respond to the Gospel call to build a more compassionate and just society. The setting for the conference includes the rapid change in the environment in which Catholic organisations are working. [Read more](#)

MEMBER NEWS AND EVENTS

St Mary's House of Welcome – People Need Warmth
Recent Member Mergers
St Vincent de Paul - Social Justice in the City Series
Solo Catholics July 2015 Calendar of Events

NEWS AND EVENTS



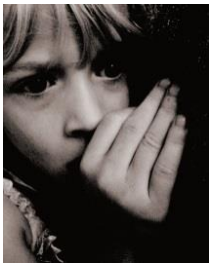
Pope Francis and the Care of our Common Home - Breakfast Briefing Friday 31 July 2015: 7.15am for 7.30am start – finish 8.45am

Pope Francis has published his long-awaited encyclical [Laudato Si \(Praised Be To You\)](#) on our relationship with the whole of creation. The encyclical places the care of creation, our “common home”, at the heart of Christian theology. Please join us with Jacqui Remond, Director of Catholic Earthcare Australia, who joyfully received the Pope’s encyclical. [Read more](#)



Evening Forum for Parishes a Success

Seventy four people from 22 parishes, including two parishioners from Sandhurst Diocese together with several agency representatives attended the Forum at Cardinal Knox Centre, East Melbourne on 18 June 2015. Keynote speakers included Patrick Lawrence, Director of Humanitarian Services, Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC) and Sr Brigid Arthur csb of the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project. [Read more](#)



Family Violence: Building a Safer Community

Click [here](#) for the submission to the Victorian Royal Commission on Family Violence. Thanks to our Working Party for work on this, and for our ongoing project to play our part in building a safer community.

As our submission reflects: "Family violence presents as a crisis in our community – women are dying. A crisis response is therefore needed. But it is also a long-standing issue, affecting a large proportion of society, and all parts of the community. A response on a broad front, to address long term issues, is thus also needed. [Read more](#)



Fit for Purpose: Maximising Improvement through Benchmarking – Monday 3 August

We are excited to announce our next forum in the continuing Pathways to Partnership program which has been offered at CSSV over the past 18 months. The 2014 Forums were well supported and gave priority to addressing specific areas of concern in concrete ways: *Ready for a Changing Environment* and *To Merge or Not to Merge*. This 2015 forum will assist member organisations to look at organisational effectiveness by exploring benchmarking processes. This will be a valuable practical session to show how these processes can add greatly to organisational efficiency and productivity. [Download Flyer](#)



Becoming a Culturally Competent Organisation Friday 7 August 9.30am –1.00pm

In collaboration with Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, this three hour interactive workshop will provide community service practitioners and managers with an introduction to the skills and resources needed to work respectfully with Aboriginal organisations and engage with Aboriginal clients. It is envisaged this workshop will be followed up in early 2016 by another more specifically focussed workshop which will build on this introductory session in 2015. Facilitator: Melissa Brickell, a Yorta Yorta/Wiradjeri woman, educator and consultant. [Read more](#)



Catholic Social Teaching – Tuesday 25 August: 1.30pm – 4.30pm

This next scheduled workshop in the CSSV Catholic Social Teaching series will be targeted to the south eastern region membership of Catholic Social Services Victoria (*although others are most welcome*). The workshop will be presented by the staff of CSSV but hosted by one of our member organisations, the Keysborough Learning Centre at Resurrection Parish, Corrigan Rd Keysborough. It is hoped that the timing and location of this workshop will enable a number of smaller CSSV member organisations in the area to send along a couple of participants. [Read more](#)



Asylum Seeker Parish Support: SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday 14 October 2015

All day Forum for Parishes 'Strengthening Asylum Seeker Support'. *More details to be available soon.* Click [here](#) for other information on Asylum Seeker Parish Support.

MEMBER NEWS AND OTHER EVENTS



People Need Warmth

This winter St Mary's House of Welcome are asking for help to keep people warm. With your help, they will be able to continue to serve meals, provide access to free hot showers, help people experiencing homelessness find accommodation, and provide a safe place of friendship and support for people who are alone. Otherwise, they are literally out in the cold. Please donate to their winter appeal. If you would like any more information about St Mary's House of Welcome, please contact the fundraising team on 9417 7985 or visit their website www.smhow.org.au

Recent Member Mergers

In recent weeks the following CSSV member organisations have formally merged to provide more sustainable and comprehensive services to those most disadvantaged in our society.

- Villa Maria Catholic Homes have become a formal single entity as of 1 July 2015, and
- 30 June 2015, Bethlehem Community merged with Sacred Heart Mission to further enhance the homelessness programs of Catholic social services in Melbourne.

We wish all these organisations blessings and best wishes for their exciting partnerships together.



Solo Catholics – July 2015 Events

Friday 10 July – Dinner at the Village Green – 7.00pm

Sunday 12th July – Matinee “The Cripple of Inishmaan” – 2.15pm

Sunday 19th July – Mass for Solo Catholics followed by Christmas in July Lunch 12.00

Sat 25th July – “Captain Spalding” Band – 7.00pm

Sunday 26th – Port Philip Bay Walk and Lunch – 12.30pm

[Click here](#) for further details.





St Vincent de Paul Society – Social Justice in the City Series

26 August Vicki Clark - *The Story of Place, Home and Social Justice from an Indigenous Viewpoint*

30 September Prof. Ruth Webber PhD, Honorary Professor, Australian Catholic University Catholic Prison Ministry: '*A Light at the End of the Tunnel*' Enquiries: Paula 9895 5800. [Download](#) flyer

Did you miss the presentation by Julian Burnside, Australian barrister, human rights and refugee advocate, and author '*Human Rights: What On Earth Are We Doing?*' [Click here](#) to listen to his presentation.



Nominations open for Victorian Homelessness Achievement Awards 2015

There are seven awards in total which recognise both individuals and organisations. The 2015 Victorian Homelessness Achievement Awards will celebrate the exceptional efforts of specialist homelessness services, consumers and other community members to end homelessness in Victoria. Nominations must be received by **5pm, Wednesday 15 July, 2015** [Read more](#)

Catholic Social Services Victoria

383 Albert St, East Melbourne Vic 3002

Denis Fitzgerald
Executive Director
dfitzgerald@css.org.au
9287 5569

Peter Hudson
Member Support
phudson@css.org.au
9287 5570

Helen Burt
Senior Policy Adviser
hburt@css.org.au
9287 5566

Lucia Brick
Executive Assistant
Lucia.Brick@css.org.au
9287 5566

If you wish to **unsubscribe** from this newsletter please email: lucia.brick@css.org.au

