



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

Newsletter June 2012

### Feast of Corpus Christi

**Corpus Christi Community Greenvale** celebrated Corpus Christi Day on Sunday 10 June. [Click here](#) for a Catholic Social Services reflection on the connection between the name and the place. As the reflection concludes:

#### CSSV Events

##### June

**Tuesday 26** – Workshop on Mental Health: 'Enabling Social Inclusion'. [Click here](#) for details.

##### July

**Tuesday 17**  
Breakfast Briefing: "the use of social media to solve personal problems." [Click for details.](#)

##### Tuesday 31

Workshop on Mental Health: 'Understanding and Supporting People Experiencing Mental Illness' - 2nd in our mental health series.

##### August

**Friday 24**  
CSSV Annual Dinner. [Click here](#) for details & bookings.

##### September

**Tuesday 4**  
Workshop on "Understanding and Navigating the Mental Health System" 3<sup>rd</sup> of our mental health series.

##### October

**Wednesday 3**  
Religious Gathering 4.30pm

##### December

**Tuesday 4 December**  
Breakfast Briefing "Human Rights" more details tba.

[The name 'Corpus Christi, or 'Body of Christ'] reflects some of the hopes and beliefs that have founded and sustained Corpus Christi Community, as it engages on our behalf with the joys and hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of those members of the Body of Christ for whom it provides care and support.



#### In this newsletter:

##### CSSV events and developments

[Responding](#) to the needs of Asylum Seekers  
[Catholic Aids Ministry](#) and Aged Care providers  
Catholic Church opposes legislation to extend the Northern Territory [intervention](#)  
[National Disability Insurance Scheme](#)  
Understanding and Managing the Impact of [Family Violence](#) at Work  
Forum on [prisons](#) and the criminal justice system  
Victorian government consultation on [housing policy](#)  
Vinnies CEO [Sleepout](#)

##### Sector events and developments

[Pastoral Care](#) Supervisor - Good Shepherd Aged Services  
'[Social Justice in the City](#)', 12.00pm, Wednesday, 27 June - Robert Fitzgerald AM  
Newman College [Helder Camara Lecture](#) Series, Monday, 13 August  
Friday, 17 August 7.00pm – [Good Samaritan Inn Dinner Dance](#)  
[Anti Poverty Week](#)

- Tuesday 16 October: Lunchtime Ecumenical Liturgy
- Wednesday 17 October, 2012: Human Rights Matters!

Reflections on [Mission](#) and identity  
Some grant opportunities from [Foundations](#):  
[Robin Clark Memorial Awards](#) 2012  
[Measuring the wellbeing](#) of a country



## CSSV events and developments

**Refugee Week** is celebrated from Sunday 17 June to Saturday 23 June, to coincide with World Refugee Day (June 20).

---

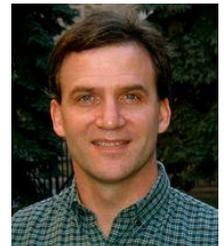
### Responding to the needs of Asylum Seekers

Many parts of the Church in Victoria have been responding to the needs of asylum seekers in our community: parishes, schools, religious congregations and community service organisations have been very active. But much more can be done.

On Friday 11 May 2012 more than seventy people from parishes, schools, religious congregations and community service organisations came together to explore our Catholic **response to asylum seekers in Victoria**, and explore further actions. Bishop Vincent Long joined us, along with several asylum seekers and expert presenters. The range of organisations represented and the combined depth of experience of presenters and participants made for rich conversations and extensive opportunities for networking to strengthen our collective response in this area. [Click here](#) for an initial report on the day.

Follow up will include advice to all Catholic parishes on how they can engage more in assisting asylum seekers in our community, and increased advocacy around the many issues of justice and human dignity that were highlighted on the day.

With thanks to many, including the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project, CatholicCare, Fr Daniel Groody CSC (pictured) and to colleagues and cosponsors from the Melbourne Catholic Migrant & Refugee Office and the Office for Justice & Peace, Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.



---

### Catholic Aids Ministry and Aged Care providers

Catholic Social Services recently convened a meeting between the Catholic Aids Ministry and several Aged Care providers, to investigate issues and options arising from HIV+ people moving into aged care facilities.

The anti-retroviral drug treatment prescribed to many HIV+ patients has the unintended consequence of bringing on premature ageing, much of it linked to early on-set dementia. Significant numbers, mainly men, are reaching the stage of needing to access residential care. There is concern among support groups that more preparation needs to be provided to staff in aged care facilities. The investigation of training options for personal care staff is the next step, with aged care providers ready to respond to this issue.

Contact Terry O'Shannassy, tel 9287 5570 for further information.



---

## Catholic Church opposes legislation to extend the Northern Territory intervention

Catholic Social Services Victoria joined with many organisations across the country in supporting the call from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia (CRA) call for Federal Senators not to pass the 'Stronger Futures Northern Territory 2011 Bill'.

Their 5 May 2012 statement read, in part: "We join with the many Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians who have already urged the government to consult Aboriginal people and their Elders in planning actions and developing policies that will affect their lives for many years." [Click here](#) for the full statement.



---

## National Disability Insurance Scheme:

[Click here](#) for an open letter to political leaders at Victorian and Federal levels calling on them to rise to the challenge of working effectively together to ensure the effective introduction of this vital national reform.

---

## Understanding and Managing the Impact of Family Violence at Work



McAuley Community  
Services for Women  
a ministry of the Sisters of Mercy

Thanks to Joce Bignold, CEO of McAuley Community Services for Women, for leading our 15 June 2012 workshop. The workshop explored key issues: (1) two thirds of women who have experienced family violence are in the workforce and many are at risk of losing their jobs, sliding into homelessness and poverty as a result; and

(2) explored how employers can benefit by supporting such women in their employ. [Click here](#) for an initial report.

---

## Forum on prisons and the criminal justice system

Congratulations to the St Vincent de Paul Society Social Justice Committee on their 5 May 2012 forum. [Click here](#) for a CSSV write up of the day. Presentations and members' experience underlined the need for increased support for preventative and diversion measures, and for a policy approach that saw beyond imprisonment and focused on building a more just and safer Victoria.



There was also welcome news that the Koori County Court trial at Morwell is now to be continued, despite no additional funding being provided in the 2012 Victorian budget. The InterChurch Criminal Justice Taskforce (of which Catholic Social Services is a member) had been among those calling for continued funding, and, although it would have been better to extend the court to other parts of the State, we welcomed the continuation of the Morwell program.



---

## Victorian government consultation on housing policy

On 14 June a number of members met to consider the Victorian Government consultation paper on housing policy, entitled 'Pathways to a fair and sustainable social housing system'. There was ready agreement on the need for a fair and sustainable system, and that such a system needed to meet the needs of the many Victorians for whom adequate housing is currently not available.

Helen Burt is drafting a submission from Catholic Social Services Victoria to the review process. Helen would be happy to discuss any aspect of this, or to receive views or input – [hburt@css.org.au](mailto:hburt@css.org.au),

---

## Vinnies CEO Sleepout



Congratulations to the St Vincent de Paul Society and to VincentCare on their successful 'CEO Sleepout' on Thursday 21 June. On a freezing night, there was a lot of goodwill and awareness generated.

Thanks too to those who sponsored Denis Fitzgerald. (Further sponsorship still welcome - please visit <https://www.ceosleepout.org.au/donate/online-donation/> - note that, in the section labelled 'donate to', you need to click 'CEO', and then choose 'Victoria', and then choose 'Denis Fitzgerald'. )

---

## CSSV forthcoming events

---

### Tuesday 26 June – Focus on Mental Health Workshop: "Enabling Social Inclusion"



A half day seminar focussed on the policy and practice framework required to enable social inclusion for those people living with mental illness.

This seminar will be of interest to practitioners, volunteers, advocates, managers and those involved in 'service design' and research. [Click](#) for flyer and program. To **book** please contact Lucia Brick on 9287 5566 or [lucia.brick@css.org.au](mailto:lucia.brick@css.org.au).

#### Future workshops:

**Tuesday 31 July:** Understanding and Supporting People Experiencing Mental Illness

**Tuesday 4 September:** Understanding and Navigating the Mental Health System

---

### Tuesday 17 July – Breakfast Briefing

#### Topic: Use of social media to solve personal problems, and its implications for service providers

Social media is increasing used as a channel for advice on personal issues. Professor Ruth Webber, Director, Quality of Life and Social Justice Research Centre, Australian Catholic University (pictured), has researched the fast-growing use of social media for seeking advice on personal issues related to sexual abuse.



This Breakfast Briefing will explore the current use of social media sites <http://ask.yahoo.com/> and [www.somazone.com.au](http://www.somazone.com.au) for getting advice on personal issues, and will reflect on the implications of this for counselling and other support. [Click here](#) for flyer.

**Venue:** Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert St, East Melbourne

**Time:** 7.15am for 7.30am, finish at 8.45am

**Cost:** \$20

**Bookings:** <http://www.trybooking.com/BPHU>

**Enquiries:** Lucia Brick [lucia.brick@css.org.au](mailto:lucia.brick@css.org.au) or Tel: 9287 5566.

*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)*



---

## Friday 24 August – 2012 CSSV Annual Dinner

Our annual dinner is an opportunity for the broad Catholic social services community, our supporters and those that we work with to celebrate our work, and to strengthen the links between those who are active within our community of service. Politicians are invited, and spouses are most welcome.

We are delighted this year to have [Chris Lowney](#) (pictured) as our guest speaker. Chris is author of the best seller *Heroic Leadership*, which distils leadership principles from the first decades of the Jesuit order. His *Heroic Living* applies the principles of Ignatian spirituality to everyday life in the modern world.

A feature of last year's dinner was increased interaction between tables. We will be working to enhance that aspect of the dinner again this year.

Tickets are \$80 (with thanks to our sponsors for helping us keep costs down).

Enquiries to [lucia.brick@css.org.au](mailto:lucia.brick@css.org.au) [Click here](#) for flyer and booking information.



---

## Sector events and developments

---

### Pastoral Care Supervisor

Good Shepherd Aged Services have extended the time for applications for this senior position. Click [here](#) and [here](#) for position details.

---

### St Vincent de Paul Society 'Social Justice in the City Presentations'

**12.00pm, Wednesday, 27 June - Robert Fitzgerald AM, Productivity Commissioner**

**Venue:** St Francis Pastoral Centre – MacKillop Room. Please feel free to bring along your colleagues and friends ... **everyone is welcome.**

Organised by the St Francis Conference

---

### Newman College Helder Camara Lecture Series

**Monday, 13 August 5.30pm** – Robert P George "Natural Law, God and Human Dignity". [Click](#) for details.

---

### Friday, 17 August 7.00pm – Good Samaritan Inn 5th Annual Dinner Dance



L'Unica, Reception Centre, Parkville - \$65.00 per person. For bookings and more information contact: Margaret Godino: [mqxtt@iinet.net.au](mailto:mqxtt@iinet.net.au); Tel: 0410 540 436

---

## Marking AntiPoverty Week 2012

### Tuesday 16 October: Lunchtime Ecumenical Liturgy

1.00pm at the Mary MacKillop Room, St Francis Pastoral Centre, City – details tba

### Wednesday 17 October, 2012: Human Rights Matters!

An all-day conference at the Cardinal Knox Centre, details tba



*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)*



---

## Reflections on Mission and identity

Catholic Health Australia is currently releasing series of webcasts entitled *Mission in Focus*. These 10 minute sessions are intended to inform discussion at Board meetings, management groups etc. Although developed for CHA members, they are largely applicable to Catholic social service organisations.

[Click here](#) to read CHA's media release on the webcast series.

The third episode features the first of a two-part examination of Catholic identity from Fr David Ranson of the Catholic Institute of Sydney. Fr Ranson addresses the source of identity, found in the healing ministry of Jesus, and the practice of identity in Catholic facilities. [Click here](#) to access the video.

[Click here](#) to access other episodes in the *Mission in Focus* series, including Bishop Michael Putney of Townsville speaks of how A core element of a Catholic vision is the special relationship between staff and their patients and residents, and Sr Helen Monkovitch of Mercy Health on the role of mission in a changing environment.

---

### Some grant opportunities from Foundations:

- The [Mary MacKillop Foundation](#) offers grants for 'small life-changing projects' which may be 'general', or in partnership with Indigenous organisations;
- The [Honda Foundation](#), supporting organisations that care 'the disadvantaged, disabled, or those suffering from long-term or life-threatening illnesses';
- [Australian Ethical](#), supporting community organisations for 'charitable, benevolent and conservation projects';
- The [ANZ Staff Foundation](#), providing small grants to community organisations for a range of purposes;
- [Telstra's Kids' Fund](#) offers quite small grants for NGOs to run projects and activities for children ;
- The [IOOF Foundation](#) provides grants to support 'aged care, and disadvantaged families, youth and children';
- [Make the Difference! Grants](#) support 'the financially underprivileged and to enable the financial planning profession, and others linked to it, to give back to the community from which they draw their livelihood.'



(with thanks to Catholic Social Services Australia for these notes.)

---

## Robin Clark Memorial Awards 2012

Victorian Government  
incorporating Aboriginal Carer of the Year Award

Nominations are now open for the 11th annual **Robin Clark Memorial Awards incorporating Aboriginal Carer of the Year Award** recognising excellence and leadership in working with children, youth and families



For more information visit [www.dhs.vic.gov.au/childprotectionweek](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/childprotectionweek) - **nominations close on Friday 13 July.**

*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)*



---

## Measuring the wellbeing of a country

The OECD has created the "[Better-Life](#)" [index](#) in order to better measure the overall wellbeing of a society than can be done using the traditional economic measures, such as Gross Domestic Product. Follow this link for details:

<http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2012/06/daily-chart-1/print>

## Catholic Social Services Victoria

383 Albert St (PO Box 146) East Melbourne Vic 3002

Denis Fitzgerald  
Executive Director  
[dfitzgerald@css.org.au](mailto:dfitzgerald@css.org.au)  
9287 5569

Terry O'Shannassy OAM  
Member Support  
[toshannassy@css.org.au](mailto:toshannassy@css.org.au)  
9287 5570

Helen Burt  
Senior Policy Adviser  
[hburt@css.org.au](mailto:hburt@css.org.au)  
9287 5566

Lucia Brick  
Executive Assistant  
[Lucia.Brick@css.org.au](mailto:Lucia.Brick@css.org.au)  
9287 5566

If you wish to [unsubscribe](#) from this newsletter please email: [lucia.brick@css.org.au](mailto:lucia.brick@css.org.au)

## [Return to start](#)