



Catholic Social Services
Victoria

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 Easter 2013

Upcoming CSSV Events

April

Tuesday 23

Formation in [Catholic
Social Teaching](#)

Induction Workshop
1.30pm – 5.00pm

May

Tuesday 14

[Breakfast Briefing](#)

Dr Bob Dixon: *The
changing composition of the
Catholic Church in Australia:
Implications for Catholic
social services.* 7.15am for
7.30am start.

Friday 24

In conjunction with
Aboriginal Catholic
Ministry a [workshop](#) on:
*Becoming a Culturally
Competent organisation*
9.30am – 1.00pm

July

Friday 26

Annual Dinner, at Leonda,
including Life Membership
for Bernie Geary.
More details to come.

A season of Hope

Hope can be characterised as a sense of connection to the future. In a Christian setting, we are invited to connect with the Kingdom that Christ revealed, and in this hope we rely on the grace of the Holy Spirit rather than our own strength.

Pope Benedict XVI reminded us repeatedly of the centrality of loving service to the building of the Kingdom – [click here](#) for a reflection from Catholic Social Services Victoria on this. Pope Francis has, in a very different way, also stressed the priority that we are all called to give to service and work for justice. His actions in attending the Holy Thursday ceremonies at a youth detention centre speak loudly. This has strengthened hope for many, both inside and outside the Church.

The hope that Easter brings builds on the darkness of Good Friday. As Michael Smith SJ, Director of the [Campion Centre](#), reflected recently:

When Jesus is raised from the dead his disciples do not recognize him at first. Then slowly they come to be aware of his presence with them. The meaning of the resurrection is that you and I can recognise and experience Jesus with us now.

May the experience of God-with-us strengthen our hope and commitment to the building of a more just and compassionate society,

Easter blessings to all, from Catholic Social Services Victoria



In this newsletter:

[Policy and Advocacy updates](#)

[Recent developments](#)

- [welcoming new Council members](#)

[Conference](#) on the impact of mission and identity, October 2013

[Resources and events](#)

[Sector](#) events and developments



Policy and Advocacy updates

Victorian budget

Catholic Social Services Victoria recently wrote to the Victorian Treasurer proposing budget priorities which would:

- meet the diverse needs of those who are disadvantaged or marginalised - for basic necessities, such as housing; for appropriate preventative services and service structures; and for adequate protection of their rights.
- ensure a just social and economic structure, which would include addressing cost of living pressures for Victorian families; and providing access and inclusion for older Victorians, regional communities, and the many others who can be marginalised in so many ways.
- investing to meet the diverse infrastructure needs of Victoria's future, keeping in mind the impact of infrastructure and of its absence on vulnerable Victorians – public transport and community facilities have a major impact on community wellbeing.



Contact [Denis Fitzgerald](#) for comment or discussion.

Respect for dignity and rights – reflecting on the involuntary sterilisation of people with disabilities

Based on consultation with member organisations that provide care and support for people with a disability and their families, and with people whose family lives include experience of caring for family members with a disability, Catholic Social Services Victoria recently contributed to an inquiry by the Community Affairs Committee of the Australian Senate is currently inquiring into the involuntary sterilisation of people with disabilities.

This is a complex issue, but international human rights agreements and Catholic Social Teaching both support a ban on medical procedures done without the informed consent of the person affected, where there is no medical indication of the need for the procedure. [Click here](#) for an article that provides detail of the submission.

Interchurch Criminal Justice Taskforce

There are many current criminal justice policies and developments where a more safe and just society would result from greater attention to the principles of working for the common good, respecting the dignity of each person, and working in solidarity across the society. Overcrowding in prisons, sentencing laws that divert from accepted wisdom, inadequate emphasis on rehabilitation, and a lack of attention to prevention and re-integration are among the many problem areas.



Over recent years a combined Churches taskforce has worked to bring issues such as these to the attention of politicians and of Churches. At a recent meeting, Church representatives re-committed to this work, under the chairmanship of Catholic Social Services Victoria. The experience and wisdom of Catholic prison chaplains, program leaders from Jesuit Social Services, etc, will be key to effectiveness in this area. An early priority will be to work to ensure that the new prison proposed for Victoria is designed to maximise respect for dignity and the rehabilitation of prisoners.

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Recent developments

Welcome to new members of Council

A warm welcome to newly elected members of the Council of Catholic Social Services Victoria: Julie Edwards, CEO of [Jesuit Social Services](#), and Jan Horsnell, CEO of [Southern Cross Homes \(Vic\)](#), who were elected at the Annual General Meeting on 14 March. Both Julie and Jan are experienced and gifted leaders in the sector, and we are grateful to them for making themselves available for election. Thanks too to Sr Michelle Reid, CEO of Good Samaritan Inn, who was re-elected to Council at the recent Annual General Meeting. Julie, Jan and Michelle, join the following other members of the Council:

Patrice Scales (Chair of Council)

Br Bill Wilding, nominee of Leaders of Religious Congregations

David Beaver, CEO, Centacare, Catholic Diocese of Ballarat

Fr Joe Caddy, CEO CatholicCare

Fr Tony Kerin, Episcopal Vicar for Social Services and Justice

Gerard Jones, Executive Director Operations, MacKillop Family Services

Paul Fogarty, CEO, CentaCare Sandhurst

Robyn Roberts, CEO, Good Shepherd Youth and Family Services

Tony Hollamby, CEO, St John of God ACCORD

In welcoming Julie, Jan and Michelle, Chair of Council Patrice Scales also thanked retiring members: Joan Donoghue from Catholic Homes, Johanna Snelleman from Marillac, and Brian Dalton from the Society of St Vincent de Paul. Johanna, Brian and Joan have each recently retired from their leadership roles. Each have made a significant contribution to their own organisations, and to the Catholic social services sector. We are all in their debt.

2013 Commissioning Mass and Annual General Meeting

A wide variety of people across the Catholic social services community gathered at All Saints Church, Fitzroy on the evening of Thursday 14 March 2013 for the Annual Commissioning Mass and General Meeting of CSSV.

Bishop Les Tomlinson (Sandhurst) was the main celebrant at the Mass, with Fr Joe Caddy, Parish Priest preaching the homily where he spoke eloquently of the call to and responsibilities of mission. Vicki Clark from Aboriginal Catholic Ministry commissioned CSSV, through Patrice Scales, to be guardians of a beautiful traditional message stick during the liturgy - all present responded with a statement of commitment to the respect and care that has been entrusted to us by our Aboriginal brothers and sisters.



The AGM followed in All Saints Hall and was efficiently conducted by Patrice Scales. Guest speaker was Cath Garner, Executive Director, Mission and Strategy, at Cabrini Health, who presented on Partnering for Mission – see accompanying picture. Kath presented three diverse Cabrini examples of rich and effective mission partnerships in Melbourne, Central Australia and southern Africa; and articulated a partnering philosophy that would advance the mission of both organisations.

A good number of guests adjourned to St Mary's House of Welcome for refreshments and supper and wonderful fellowship.

See our website for links to

- Reports to Annual General Meeting from [Chair of Council](#) and [Executive Director](#)
- [Annual Report](#)
- [Slides](#) from Cath Garner's presentation.

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2013 Conference on the impact of mission and identity



LISTENING, LEARNING AND LEADING:

The impact of Catholic identity and mission on what we do and how we do it

A conference on 9, 10 October 2013, in Melbourne.

Auspiced by Catholic Social Services Victoria and Catholic Social Services Australia, this conference is targeted at leaders - including CEOs and Board members - and future leaders in Catholic social services. Participants beyond the social services sector, and from other faith traditions, are welcome to join us.

It is designed to inspire, challenge and resource around mission-focused leadership, with an emphasis on practical implications for leaders and organisations.

[Click here](#) for early bird bookings for this event.

Our keynote speakers and workshop presenters have been selected to contribute to an integrated dialogue over the two days. These include:

Anne Hunt OAM

Bishop Eugene Hurley

Bob Dixon

Carmel Crawford

Chris Lowney

David Beaver

Fr Joe Caddy

Frank Brennan SJ AO

Jenny Glare

Julie Edwards

Margaret Mary Flynn
ibvm

Micaela Cronin,

Michael McGirr

Patricia Faulkner AO

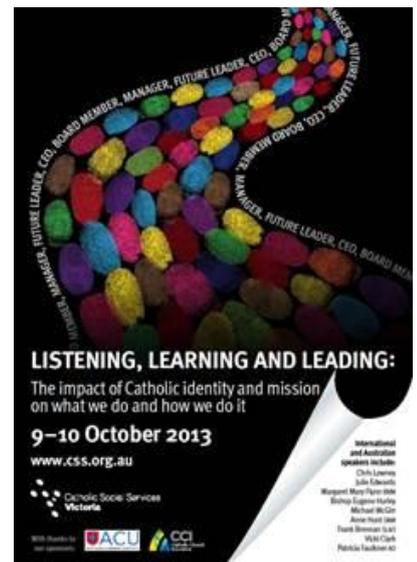
Vicki Clark

Chris Lowney is a writer and speaker on principles of leadership and on personal growth for leadership, drawing on the tradition of St Ignatius Loyola and the Jesuits. Chris will be presenting a keynote and a workshop at the Conference. He has recently been in demand from the US business media, who were looking for items about Pope Francis and his Jesuit background. The following two articles both draw on Chris' book *Heroic Leadership*:

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/johnbaldoni/2013/03/13/pope-francis-jesuit-to-the-rescue/>

http://blogs.hbr.org/cs/2013/03/a_simple_ritual_for_harried_managers_and.html#disqus_thread

With thanks to conference sponsors:



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Catholic Social Services Victoria – Resources and Events

In a faith-based mission-driven organisation, leaders and staff need to learn and develop to enable them to play their part in making the mission come alive. A new section of our website now



presents resources to enable such '**Engaging with Mission**'. These resources relate to recruitment, induction, leadership formation, and deeper engagement. Any feedback on this material, or ideas for further development of this repository, would be most welcome: contact [Peter Hudson](#), tel 9287 5570.



Tuesday 14 May - Breakfast Briefing “The changing composition of the Catholic Church in Australia: Implications for Catholic Social services” 7.15am for 7.30am start. Cost: \$20 per person. Guest Speaker: Dr Bob Dixon, Director, Pastoral Research Office Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

Bookings: <http://www.trybooking.com/CQCN> For flyer [click here](#).

Enquiries: Lucia Brick on 9287 5566 or e: lucia.brick@css.org.au

Friday 24 May: 9.30am – 1.00pm.

“Becoming a Culturally Competent organisation”.

Catholic Social Services Victoria *in conjunction* with Aboriginal Catholic Ministry invite you to an interactive workshop:

This is a three hour interactive workshop will provide community service practitioners and managers with the skills and resources needed to work respectfully with Aboriginal organisations and engage with Aboriginal clients. Bookings: <http://www.trybooking.com/CQJP>

Enquiries: Lucia Brick on 9287 5566 or e: lucia.brick@css.org.au



[Further information](#)

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Catholic Social Teaching – a workshop for new starters in our sector

Tuesday 23 April.

We have recently developed a half-day workshop that will introduce new starters to Catholic social teaching. These are interactive forums, designed for people with a wide range of backgrounds.

The first workshop for 2013 will be on **the morning of Tuesday 23 April** at Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street East Melbourne from **1.30pm – 5.00pm**. The second workshop for 2013 will be on **the morning of Tuesday 29 October** at Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street east Melbourne from 9.00 am to 12.30 pm.

Catholic Social Teaching gives principles and practical direction for the development of a just society based on Gospel values imparted to us by Jesus Christ. It informs the mission and strategies in member organisations. Catholic Social Teaching judges political and economic systems in terms of the way they treat and affect human beings.

This teaching module for Catholic Social Teaching is aimed at engaging and resourcing the wide diversity of employees in agencies across the Catholic sector. It is anticipated that module will complement individual agencies' existing induction programs. The program will contain elements of personal and community reflection, input, interviews and networking.

This module will be offered at CSSV at least twice each year. It can also be presented at individual agencies in tandem with their existing programs. Further details from [Peter Hudson](#), tel 9287 5570.



Sector events and developments

Centacare Gippsland:

The Diocese of Sale has recently undertaken a review of the operations and capacity of Centacare Gippsland. In order to maximise service provision, the decision has been made to contract Centacare Gippsland operations to CatholicCare Melbourne.

CatholicCare Melbourne will be responsible for all administrative functions and will continue a focus on locally managed service delivery in a range of Gippsland communities. The new arrangements take effect from April 1, 2013. At the same time, services in Gippsland will take on new branding and be known as CatholicCare Gippsland.

Services in Gippsland are currently delivered from a range of sites including Bairnsdale, Sale, Morwell, Warragul and Pakenham.

High Tea – **Sunday 21 April: 2.30pm – 4.30pm at the Box Hill Town Hall.**
Cost \$45.00

All proceeds will go to CatholicCare's Alcohol & Other Drug Family Service run from the St Mary of the Cross Centre Fitzroy. [View flyer](#) for further information.



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Mission: one heart many voices Conference. Sydney 29 April to 1 May 2013

Mission: one heart many voices will be a place of gathering participants from many sectors and ministries. The program is being designed to offer participants opportunities to use their heads, hearts, hands and voices – to learn through their intellectual, emotional, spiritual, practical and social natures. A primary driver of the design of the program is that there will be processes of critical reflection and analysis and what emerges is good praxis for living and leading mission better.



The conference organisers have been fortunate to secure many varied and distinguished speakers, expert and leading practitioners in their field. For list of speakers click: <http://mohmv.com.au/program.html>

Trivia Night - Friday 31 May run by Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria (ACMV) as part of Reconciliation Week.



Proceeds of the night will be used for the refurbishment of the ACMV in Thornbury. Tickets will be \$10 per head, 10 people per table. Further details to be provided, but in the meantime, please contact Vicki Clark on 9480 3849 for further information.



HOMEWORK
A Bethlehem Community Inc Event

Saturday 22 June 2013, Grand Hyatt, Time - 7.00pm
Dress – Formal

Immerse yourself in an Exceptional Event!

A truly Melbourne experience, great food, great wine & great entertainment. The chance to dine and dance while making a significant difference in the lives of hidden members of our community... the 9,230 women that are homeless in Victoria each year. HOMEWORK aims to give these women something most of us take for granted... a place to call home.

Information or booking tickets: homework@bethlehem.com.au or call Sam on 0457 080 543. Tickets: \$195 single tables of 10. Book early for priority seating.

Healthcare Chaplaincy Council of Victoria present: Spirituality and Mental Health Conference 7 and 8 August 2013 at The Centre Ivanhoe. Guest Speakers: Professor Chris Mayers and John Watkins.

Conference themes will include: the use of person centred practice; defining spirituality and assessing and meeting spiritual needs; the close relationship between spirituality and mental wellbeing; the quest for 'wholeness', integration of mind, body and spirit; the lived experience. For further information contact Rosalind Cairns, Manager Mental Health HCCVI – phone: 8415 1144; email: mentalhealth@hccvi.org.au or via the HCCVI [website](#).

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Catholic Social Services Victoria

383 Albert St (PO Box 146) 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

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