

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)



National Child Safety Week

National Child Protection Week invites all Australians to play their part to promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. [Click here](#) for a reflection from Catholic Social Services Victoria on the challenge posed by recent reports about vulnerable children, including *As a good parent would* from the Child Safety Commission.

NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS

For those who've come across the seas...

- Submission on End of life
- Dropping off the Edge 2015
- National Child Safety Week
- Pope Francis and the care of our Common Home
- Becoming a Culturally Competent Organisation
- Catholic Social Services Annual Dinner 4 September

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Anti-Poverty Week Ecumenical Prayer Service, 13 October
- Asylum Seeker Parish Support: Forum for Parishes: 14 October



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 Vincent de Paul - Social Justice in the City Series – 26 August and 30 September
- Solo Catholics Calendar of Events – August – October 2015
- Pope Francis and other Prophetic Voices Conference 17 - 18 September 2015
- Heart of St Kilda rocks the Palais – 22 September
- The Intervention: an Anthology - Launch Thursday 24 September 2015
- Degustation for Dignity - St Mary's House of Welcome: Save the Date - 2 October 2015
- Conference: The Older Person Today: giving and receiving care – 7 October 2015
- Fabulous Fundraising Dinner – Wellsprings for Women – 23 October 2015

NEWS, DEVELOPMENTS AND EVENTS



Social Services Submission to the 2015 Inquiry into End of Life Choices

A Victorian parliamentary inquiry is seeking community views on the need for laws to allow people broader scope in their end of life choices. The inquiry is an opportunity for all Victorians to have their say on an issue that affects everyone.

[Click here](#) for a submission by Catholic Social Services Victoria.

A key message of the submission is that the inherent dignity and worth of each person is not diminished by any form of disability, nor by the vagaries and vulnerabilities that are part and parcel of human existence, especially as a result of the ageing process.



For those who've come across the seas...

Great news that Australia is to take 12,000 more refugees, plus provide additional assistance to those in need in the Middle East. As the [Bishop's Social Justice Statement](#) highlights, it's now also time for justice for all asylum seekers in Australia.

The response across the Church and community has been very positive. [Archbishop Denis Hart](#) has called for a renewed commitment of 'prayer, discernment and work' at parish level and beyond, and pointed out that many Melbourne parishes are already reaching out in support, care and assistance to asylum seekers in our community. He encourages a response 'as Christ would want, to those in need.'



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Pope Francis and the care of our Common Home Breakfast Briefing

On 31 July 2015, Jacqui Remond from Catholic Earthcare Australia presented at a CSSV Breakfast Briefing. At the well-attended event she spoke on the new encyclical "Laudato Si" by Pope Francis and how it inspires us and challenges us to be in respectful and creative relationship with the whole of creation. [Click here](#) for her presentation.



Becoming a Culturally Competent Organisation

Catholic Social Services Victoria, in collaboration with Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, engaged Melissa Brickell, a Yorta Yorta Wiradjeri woman, to facilitate an informative and challenging workshop entitled Becoming a Culturally Competent Organisation for CSSV member organisations and other colleagues on Friday morning 7 August 2015. [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.

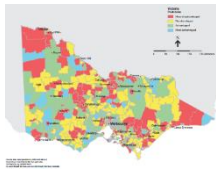


Catholic Social Services Annual Dinner 4 September

Thanks to all who made the dinner a success - together our endeavours are greater than the sum of our individual contributions. Congratulations to Vicki Clark our new Life Member and thanks to Vicki for her inspirational affirmation of the importance of Catholic social services to the Church and to the people. [Click here](#) for more photos of the night.

MEMBER NEWS AND OTHER EVENTS

Identifying geographic disadvantage in order to remedy it



Dropping off the Edge 2015 was launched on 21 July 2015 by Jesuit Social Services and Catholic Social Services. *Julie Edwards from Jesuit Social Services writes:* 'The report maps disadvantage across the country, based on 22 social indicators including long term unemployment, criminal convictions and domestic violence. It follows on from a similar national report released in 2007, and earlier reports covering NSW and Victoria in 2004 and 1999.

[Read more](#)



Solo Catholics – Events September – October 2015

Coming up:

Sunday 20th September

"High Tea" with Soft Music Buckingham Inn, 1130 Nepean Highway

Highbett Cost: \$32pp (champagne \$5 extra)

Contact Rachel on 0412 567 059

October

Sunday 4th

Join the Catholic Walking Group for Bush Walk through a native vegetarian reserve to see wildflowers and native orchids; easy walk 10km circuit at the "The Gurdies" Nature Conservation Reserve Westernport

[Download](#) Calendar



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

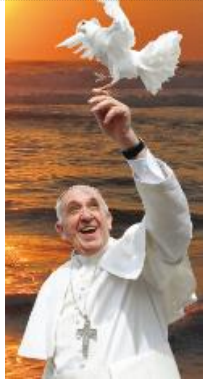
30 September Prof. Ruth Webber PhD, Honorary Professor, Australian Catholic University Catholic Prison Ministry: 'A Light at the End of the Tunnel' Enquiries: Paula 9895 5800. [Download](#) flyer



Heart of St Kilda Concert rocks the Palais in September

Some of Australia's biggest names in music and comedy will perform at this year's Heart of St Kilda Concert at the Palais on Tuesday 22 September. Now in its eighth year, the event is a fundraiser for the Meals Program at Sacred Heart Mission, which provides a hot and hearty lunch every day of the year to over 400 people in need. The dazzling 2015 line-up includes Kasey Chambers, Arj Barker, Col Joye, Denise Scott, The Black Sorrows, British India, Leonard and Slava Grigoryan, David Hobson and Colin Lane, Tim Rogers, Rebecca Barnard, Billy Miller and the Caravan Choir, Emma Donovan, Dave Callan, The Meltdown, TaikOz and Luke McGregor. The irrepressible Brian Nankervis from RockWiz will host the event once again.

[Read more](#)

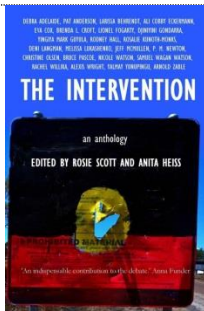


Pope Francis and other Prophetic Voices Conference 17 - 18 September 2015

Pope Francis' vision of faith challenges us to renew our commitment to the public good, be inclusive and just and to welcome the poor and the vulnerable. It is a vision which embraces people of all faiths, cultures and all people of good will. [Download Flyer](#) for further information.

Supporting Events - Youth Forum: 9am-4pm Wednesday 16 September 2015 Registration: [Download Flyer](#) **Public Forum:** 7.30pm – 9.30pm Thursday 17 September 2015 Venue: Australian Catholic University, Cathedral Hall, 20 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, Melbourne.

[Read more](#)



The Intervention: an Anthology - Launch Thursday 24 September 2015

In this historic anthology, award-winning writers Rosie Scott and Dr Anita Heiss have gathered together the work of twenty of Australia's finest writers both Indigenous and non-Indigenous together with powerful statements from Northern Territory Elders to bring a new dimension and urgency to an issue that has remained largely outside the public radar. To be launched by Hon. Alastair Nicholson AO RFD QC together with two of the writers, Nicole Watson of the Birri-Gubba People and Yugambah language group and Arnold Zable one of Australia's most loved storytellers & committee member PEN.

Book Review

Time: 11.30am - 1.00pm. Venue: Arena Publications, 2 Kerr St, Fitzroy, 3065.

Please RSVP by September 18th to Pia at info@concernedaustralians.com.au or 0419 541 733.



Degustation for Dignity - St Mary's House of Welcome: Save the Date - 2 October 2015

After the success of last year's Wine Rules: Fitzroy Foodies for homelessness, held at St Mary's House of Welcome they are expanding the event for 2015. Matthew Jukes will host a multi-course degustation dinner for 200 guests at the historic Fitzroy Town Hall. Melbourne restaurants will donate a canape or tasting sized portion of their signature dish, and UK wine expert [Matthew Jukes](#) will choose its perfect wine match from a selection donated by Australian wineries. [Read more](#)



Conference: The Older Person Today: giving and receiving care – 7 October 2015

The Caroline Chisholm Centre for Health Ethics invites you to a one-day conference which considers ageism in Australia. Ageism can adversely affect our perceptions of older persons. It can also compromise the care that older persons receive in community services, residential aged care, and acute hospitals. This conference will help us recognise, challenge, and move beyond the harmful effects of ageism.

Distinguished speakers include former Victorian Health Minister Hon Rob Knowles AO, Judy Gregurke from COTA Australia, Dr Karen Hitchcock (author of the Quarterly Essay Dear Life: On Caring for the Elderly), and David Petty (Executive Officer, Pastoral and Spiritual Care of Older People). Our conference will be held on Wednesday, 7 October at the Catholic Leadership Centre at the corner of Victoria Parade and Hoddle Street in East Melbourne. The registration fee of \$165 includes morning tea and lunch. Download [brochure](#)



Anti Poverty Week 11 – 17 October 2015

More than one million Victorians are living near or below the poverty line painting an alarming picture of increasing disadvantage across the state. Across Australia there are 2.5 million people living below the internationally accepted poverty line of 50 per cent of median income. Each year during Anti-Poverty Week we seek 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. [Read more](#)



Justice is inevitable, like birth' - A Conversation with Dr John Falzon Thursday 15 October

As part of Anti Poverty Week - St Vincent de Paul Society invites you to a conversation with Dr John Falzon, Chief Executive Officer, St Vincent de Paul Society National Council. [Click here](#) for more details.



Fabulous Fundraising Dinner – 23 October 2015

Wellsprings for Women are holding their 'Fabulous Fundraising Dinner' at Feccia Azzura, 784-796 Spring Vale Road, Keysborough on Friday 23 October at 7pm. Family and friends welcome. \$55.00 per person includes dinner, wine, beer and soft drinks. Raffle tickets can be purchased prior to event as well as at the Event. The evening also includes Trading table, Lucky Dip, Silent Auction and lucky door prize. Contact 9701 3740 or e: fundraiser@wellspringsforwomen.com - [Download](#) flyer and list of ways to support Wellsprings in making their Fundraiser a success.

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