

## Teresa's Message

Once again, during the week, we have encountered a world where natural disasters have claimed and changed the lives of many. Typhoons,



earthquakes and tsunamis have resulted in many people losing their homes and their families with the natural and built environment turned into chaos. These disasters can evoke within us a real sense of powerlessness as we watch people on our TV screens struggle with the enormity of their grief and despair.

We have also been caught up in the frenzy of end of season football, where an enormous amount of emotion is poured out in stadiums and in front of TV screens, resulting in the glory of victory and the desolation of loss. It seems to me that sport gives us a common language and conversation while providing us with great entertainment and relaxation.

The headline on the front of Saturday's Sydney Morning Herald read "Jarryd, the father and the Holy Ghost". It seems that Jarryd Hayne, a Parramatta player, has "found God, attends Hillsong Church with teammates and treats his body like a temple. The results have been astounding, with Hayne apparently inhabiting another dimension on the field and able to conjure events to suit his will." Like Hazem El Masri, the media do not find it difficult to attribute the goodness in these players to a belief in God, who enables the players to respect their own bodies, while respecting the people around them and the world in which they find themselves.

Last week at the diocesan Culture and Mission Conference I found it refreshing to be with the priests who have come to mission to us from overseas. They have come to us because of their belief in God and the Catholic Church. I was struck by their prayerfulness, spirituality and gentleness. I think we can learn much from just being present with them.

While driving around over the past couple of weeks I have been thrilled to see the many Jesus. All About Life banners. Two of my children from Queensland were visiting over the weekend and they noticed these banners and were asking what it was all about. One of their friends, who has nothing to do with religion, asked if there was a Jesus sect being launched to which my son replied, "Yes, it is called Christianity." So at least the campaign is creating the conversations it sought to do.

*Where are these threads leading in my message this week?*

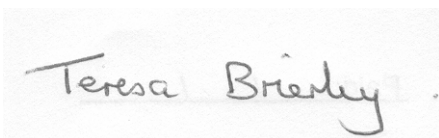
Our first reading at Mass on Sunday was from Genesis, telling us that God is the originator of all and is present in all reality. I think that this reality can be painful and disturbing, but also joyful and calming. I believe we are meant to connect to the great

Mystery and to trust that all is for our good. Jesus is our great teacher, he came to give us life and to give it to us abundantly – “I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full” (John 10:10). We need to be connected to the Scriptures in order to examine our daily lives and the events that surround us - they help us make sense of the “mess”, and give us direction. Our challenge is to invite others into conversation with us about Jesus. This will happen naturally if those we meet are amazed by our goodness, peace and joy. “Awe and wonder came over everyone” (Acts 2:43).

In today's Newcastle Herald, journalist Joanne McCarthy makes reference to those who have walked away from the experience of church as oppressive and restrictive. Yes, many have walked away, but I think it is more challenging to remain and reach a position of loving “The Way” and trying to deal with the how - the how of the institutional church. Ms McCarthy wrote, “It would be wonderful if those other messages – of humility, loving thy neighbour as thyself, compassion, forgiveness, honesty and respecting the right of everyone to “have life, and have it to the full” – were heeded by Christians and their institutions” (‘Get the right message’ The Herald 6<sup>th</sup> October 2009).

Samoans came together during the past weekend to pray for those who perished during the tsunami and their grieving families. In their sorrow they gathered together believing in a God of compassion and justice. As Christians we seek comfort in gathering as a community while connecting to the creator of all. This witness of gathering and praying provides consolation not only for those who are the primary grievers but also for those who are loosely connected to the situation.

We are called to be in relationship with ourselves, with others, with creation and with God. This way of being must form the basis for our mission, our call to go out to the world, “Go therefore, apprentice all the nations in my way” (Matthew 28:19). Please dialogue with your world as a community and as people on behalf of community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Teresa Brierley". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

Teresa Brierley  
**Vice Chancellor Pastoral Ministries**  
6<sup>th</sup> October, 2009



# Catholic Communications

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## Media Release

***For Immediate Release 6 October 2009***

### **Local Community Invited to Share their Response to the Issue of Abuse by Some Clergy**

Throughout October and November, all members of the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle and the broader community are invited to attend a local gathering and share their feelings about the impact of abuse by some Catholic Clergy.

The invitation was recently published in the diocesan magazine, *Aurora*, in the form of a letter from the organisers of the gatherings.

“Most people in our diocese have been affected, perhaps to varying degrees, by the issue of abuse by some clergy,” the letter states. “Regrettably, many have been directly and personally affected. Others have been part of parish communities from which clergy have been, or are currently, the subject of legal allegations and/or criminal proceedings.”

“Sexual abuse can elicit many feelings and reactions: confusion, disbelief, fear and anxiety, powerlessness, betrayal, divided loyalties, grief, disillusionment, anger, resentment,” the letter continues. “Some of us who have previously been committed wholeheartedly to our faith and church may have stopped attending Mass, or may have walked away from our communities. Some of us may be just hanging in there, still hoping that we can come through this ordeal as part of the (albeit deeply scarred and perhaps forever changed) community of the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.

“Others may question church leadership, structures and culture which have perhaps enabled abuse to occur. Some may think this issue is being given too much attention, and others may feel it is still being denied, covered up, suppressed.”

In January 2009, the Diocesan Executive Team formed a group of people with varying backgrounds to consider what could be offered in response to the shared pain of the community in relation to the issue of sexual abuse by some clergy. The group, now known as *Insights*, consists of people with backgrounds and professional experience in counselling, pastoral care, education, ritual, spirituality and communications.

According to the published letter “at one of our very first meetings we shared an experience that has shaped something of what we now present to you. It was the simple act of a small group of people sharing their feelings on this painful issue; being able to speak and to be heard in a spirit of respect and acceptance. One of our members made the statement that every person in the diocese should be given that opportunity.

“So, we now wish to invite you to participate in what we are calling *Insights gatherings*. You are invited to participate in a small group with others from your parish and region; to share your thoughts and feelings about the way this issue has affected you personally.... For legal and privacy reasons, we are not permitted to discuss current or previous allegations or instances of abuse. Recognising the emotional sensitivities and complexities of these issues, *Insights* will be facilitated by skilled and experienced local professionals. From the small group experiences, we hope that we will each discern a way forward, or at least the next step in what we hope can be a process of healing for each of us as individuals, as parishes, regions, and as a diocese.”

Visit our website at [www.mn.catholic.org.au](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au)

For further information please call 4979 1111 or email [chancery@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:chancery@mn.catholic.org.au). To read the letter in full, visit [http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/newsroom/auroraissues/aurora87\\_story2.htm](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/newsroom/auroraissues/aurora87_story2.htm)

**Dates, Times and Locations for *Insights***

Wed 21 October, 7.00-9.00pm Therry Centre, King Street, East Maitland

Wed 4 November, 7.00-9.00pm Gateshead Parish Hall, Felton Street.

Sun 8 November, 10.30 am, Taree Parish Hall, Albert Street.

Wed 11 November, 7.00-9.00pm, Raymond Terrace Parish Hall, William Street.

Wed 18 November, 7.00-9.00pm, Glendale Parish Hall, Oakland Street.

Sun 29 November, 11.00 am Aberdeen, St Joseph's High School Library. <ends>

**Media Enquiries:** Communications Team Ph: (02) 4979 1136 or 0419 263 901.

# Catholic Mission

## Asia/Pacific Crisis Update 2009

# Pray for our neighbours

**Fears are increasing for people in South East Asia and the Pacific in one of the worst weeks for natural disaster since the Asian tsunami of 2004.**

Latest reports of more earthquakes near Tonga follow devastation already caused at the islands of Niuafu'ou and Niatoputapu. "All phone lines are cut, and the airport is damaged," said Maria Afuhia, Bishop's Secretary of the Diocese of Tonga. "Clothes and water are needed. We've collected

things from the parishes for the boat to take across and sent a priest. The boat will take two days.

"We really need your prayers. Nine people have died. The survivors are still in shock. About 60% of houses are gone."

At 2pm Friday 2 October 2009 local time a category

6 earthquake hit near the Pacific island of Tonga. Tonga adds another country to the list of those affected either by floods, earthquakes or tsunamis. Catholic Mission calls for all Australians to pray for the people of the Philippines, Indonesia, Samoa, American Samoa, Vietnam, Laos and Tonga.

## Frontline report from the Philippines

**Evacuations have started in Manila as a "super typhoon" threatens to hit the Philippines this Saturday. Already hundreds of people have died and millions of homes have been flooded since tropical storm Ketsana hit a week earlier.**

National Director of Catholic Mission, Philippines, Fr Socrates Mesiona reported to us today, "The flood that struck us was so quick that most people were unprepared. The most affected areas are the Dioceses of Antipolo, Pasig, San Pablo, Paranaque, Caloocan, Bulacan, Novaliches and Manila. Some areas still have no power or water supply. Others are still under water.

"It's really a very depressing situation. Lives and livelihoods have been lost. There are still thousands of families in evacuation centres. And as I write, a super typhoon is already on its way to hit us again.



"We have done relief operations but the basic needs of the victims are just so overwhelming. We just hope and pray that we can overcome this tragedy.

"Thank you so much for your message of solidarity at this time. We are still trying to make sense after what has happened to us."

***Please join Catholic Mission in praying for the families, our brothers and sisters, who are facing such loss and suffering. Sadly, more is expected.***

**Above:** Before the storm hit, life on the water's edge

### SUPPORT BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE DISASTER

These are just some of 160 countries which have been assisted by Catholic Mission over the past 185 years. **For more information phone 1800 257 296 or go to [www.catholicmission.org.au](http://www.catholicmission.org.au)**



*Reach out. Give life.*

**[catholicmission.org.au](http://catholicmission.org.au)  
1800 257 296**

# Earthquake fears for children

**In March 2007, children in the Padang Diocese, Sumatra, Indonesia lost homes and loved ones. Now they face it again.**

Less than two years on, the impact was still present with Catholic Mission internationally providing assistance for the children with accommodation, school fees, medicines and clothing.

“It’s hard to imagine the heartbreak and fear these children will be feeling – from loss of relatives and friends,” said Martin Teulan, National Director of Catholic Mission, Australia. “The ongoing danger now is the impact on their health and welfare due to lack of clean water and sanitation, and the potential for disease.”

This year Catholic Mission internationally is funding projects in Padang, Sumatra, to help more than 5500 children. These projects include building and repairing schools and accommodation to help children of Christian and Muslim backgrounds.

**Right:** Indonesian home now devastated



ROSLAN RAHMAN/AFP/Getty Images

# Catholic missionary in Samoa rescues 320 children as earthquake, tsunami strikes School

**An Australian Sister working in Samoa has evacuated 320 children in the wake of the tsunami and earthquakes that struck the coast this week.**

Salesian Sister Doris Barbero says the disaster struck as the children were walking to St Joseph’s School, Leauva’a, in coastal Samoa. She and the Sisters at the neighbouring convent hastily gathered the children together and moved them to higher ground.

Sister Doris says the children are “terrified but unharmed.” Some are still to learn the fate of their families and friends in some of the worst hit areas.

“We’re beginning the task of moving the 320 children from the high ground back to the school and many of them, especially the little ones, have been absolutely terrified by what’s happened. Only a few have been reunited with their families at this stage. Others are asking us ‘Where’s mummy and daddy?’ Most were walking to school alone when the earthquake hit.”

St Joseph’s School has been cut off from the outside world as roads are closed

and there is widespread infrastructure damage. Unidentified bodies continue to be found and identified on the roadside.

Sister Doris says international relief in terms of food and medical supplies are getting through although there is concern that more aftershocks will hit the area.

Catholic Mission internationally supports Sister Doris and her work with the children at St Joseph’s. Significant damage has occurred and needs to be assessed. It is not unusual for earthquake affected buildings to be completely rebuilt for safety reasons. Sr Doris has also stressed the need to build an earthquake shelter at the school, as well as emergency facilities on the overlooking hill.

Catholic Mission National Director, Martin Teulan praised the bravery of St Joseph’s sisters in rescuing the children but stressed the hardest task lay ahead.

“As well as putting their own lives at risk to rescue the children, the Salesian Sisters also provided them with love and care in the absence of their parents, who were in their villages when this disaster struck,” Mr Teulan said.

“Catholic Mission urges all Australians to help us provide care to the many families who have suffered hurt and heartbreak through the loss of relatives and destruction to their homes, and also to repair the many damaged buildings such as St Joseph’s School.”

**Below:** Sr Doris Barbero FMA



*Reach out. Give life.*

**catholicmission.org.au  
1800 257 296**



Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle

# A note from the Chancery

Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2009

Dear Clergy and Parish Staff,

We are currently in the process of updating our database and seek your assistance in assuring that the contact details we have for the weekly parish mail out are up to date and accurate.

Therefore, could you please complete the form below and send to Sarah Lonsdale by 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009.

P: Chancery Office, PO Box 780 Newcastle NSW 2300

E: [sarah.lonsdale@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:sarah.lonsdale@mn.catholic.org.au)

F: (02) 4979 1119.

Many thanks

*Chancery Staff*

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## Contact details for the Parish mail out

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parish:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_



***Come join us for a time of retreat  
and reflection on the life of Jesus***

***Venue: St Philip's Catholic Church,  
31 Vista Parade, Kotara***

***Date: Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup>  
10.15am to 2.30pm***

***Morning and afternoon tea provided  
Bring your own lunch***

***Invite someone who would like to know more about Jesus  
to come with you***

***For organisation purposes please let us know if you  
are coming. Ring 4957 5949 or 4954 0977 by  
Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> October***

## Presenters

### Archbishop G. Lazzarotto DJC

Apostolic Nuncio in Australia

### Archbishop Philip Wilson DD JCL

Archbishop of Adelaide

President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC)

### Archbishop Silvano Tomasi PhD

Apostolic Nuncio and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the Office of the United Nations and Specialized Institutions in Geneva  
Former Secretary of the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People

### Bishop Joseph Grech DD

Bishop of Sandhurst, Victoria

Bishop Delegate

Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office

### Cardinal George Pell DD STL Med DPhil Oxon (FACE)

Archbishop of Sydney

### Mons John J Murphy

Director

Australian Catholic Migrant & Refugee Office

### Rev Dr Fabio Baggio PhD

Director, Centre for Migration Studies Manila

Editor of Asian Pacific Migration Journal (APMJ) and Asian Migration News (AMN)

Extraordinary Professor at the Pontificia Universitas Urbaniana, Rome, Italy

Professor at the Masteral Internacional de Migraciones of the Universidad de Valencia, Spain

Professor of the Migration Theology Program at the Loyola School of Theology, Quezon City, Philippines

Vice President of the Philippines Migrant Rights Watch (PMRW)

Member of the Directive Board of the Red Internacional Migracion y Desarrollo, Zacatecas, Mexico

### Archbishop Mark Coleridge DD BA DSS

Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn

### Bruce Ryan

Executive Secretary

Bishops Commission for Pastoral Life

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

### Fr. Maurizio Pettena M Div STL

Assistant Director—National Pastoral Planning

Australian Catholic Migrant & Refugee Office

### Diocesan Directors of Australian Migrant and Refugee Office

### Dr Di Sansom BA MPsych Ph D

Clinical Psychologist & Consultant to ACMRO

Conference Facilitator



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC  
MIGRANT & REFUGEE OFFICE

### MIGRANT CHAPLAINS GATHERING

27 October 2009

An opportunity to

- provide and obtain mutual support through sharing experiences.
- Gain a deeper knowledge of the role of migrant chaplains in Australia

### SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE PASTORAL CARE OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

28-29 October 2009

To acknowledge and affirm all those working in the pastoral care of migrants and refugees and recognize and value their experience and expertise in this work of the Gospel.

To hear the latest in the Church's teaching on pastoral care to migrants and refugees both from Australia and from overseas.

To contribute to the further development of the National Plan for Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees, Graced by Migration.

To present local Pastoral Plans based on Erga Migrantes Caritas Christi and Graced by Migration to the Conference.

### Contact Details

#### Fr Maurizio Pettena

Assistant Director

Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office

GPO Box 2720

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Telephone 02 6201 9895

Fax 02 6247 74 66

Email [assistantdirector@acmro.catholic.org.au](mailto:assistantdirector@acmro.catholic.org.au)

# Widen the space of your tent

Is 54:2

[www.catholic.org.au](http://www.catholic.org.au)



### Second National Conference on the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees

27-29 October 2009

- Welcoming the stranger, a characteristic of the early Church, remains a permanent feature of the Church of God. It is practically marked by the vocation to be in exile, in Diaspora, dispersed amongst cultures and ethnic groups without ever identifying itself with any of these • EMCC 22
- Pastoral care of migrants means welcome, respect, protection, promotion and genuine love of every person in his or her religious and cultural expressions • EMCC 28
- The cultural situation today, global and dynamic as it is, calls for the incarnation of the faith in many cultures and thus represents an unprecedented challenge, a true kairos for the People of God • EMCC 34



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC  
MIGRANT & REFUGEE OFFICE

VENUE: SMC Conference & Function Centre  
66 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW 2000

MIGRANT CHAPLAINS GATHERING - Australia - wide

TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER, 2009

8.30 – 9.30 Registration & tea/coffee

9.30 - 9.45 Opening Liturgy

Fr. Maurizio Pettena

9.45 -10.00 Welcome

Mons. John J Murphy

10.00-10.15 Intervention

Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto

10.15-11.00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**ERGA MIGRANTES FIVE YEARS ON.**  
An Overview of the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees  
Throughout the Church

Archbishop Silvano Tomasi

11.00 – 11.30 Morning Tea

11.30 -12.15 Small Discussion Groups

12.15 – 13.00 Plenary — Group Reports and Discussion

13.00 -14.30 Lunch

14.30 – 15.15 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA.**  
**THE SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTION OF CATHOLIC IMMIGRANTS**

Archbishop Philip Wilson

15.15 – 15.45 Small Discussion Groups

15.45-16.30 Plenary - Group Reports and Discussion

16.30-17.00 Afternoon Tea

17.00-17.30 Intervention

Bishop Joseph Grech

17.30 – 19.00 Free time and travel to St. Mary's Cathedral

SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE  
On the  
PASTORAL CARE OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Opening of the Second  
National Conference on the Pastoral Care of Migrants & Refugees

19.00 Celebration of the Eucharist in St. Mary's Cathedral

President: Cardinal George Pell Archbishop of Sydney

Concelebrants:

H. G. Archbishop Giuseppe Lazzarotto

H. G. Archbishop Phillip Wilson

H. G. Archbishop Silvano Tomasi

H. L. Bishop Joseph Grech

Guest Priests

20.30 Official Dinner and Opening of Conference 2009

Entertainment offered by migrant groups in Sydney

WEDNESDAY 28 October 2009

8.15-9.00 Registration & tea/coffee

9.00-9.30 Opening Liturgy

Welcome – Bishop Grech

Message from the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI

9.30-10.00 Where Are We Coming From?

An overview of recent history (Erga Migrantes, 2005  
conference, Graced By Migration {GBM} )

Mons. John Murphy

10.00-11.00 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**PLANNING FOR THE PASTORAL CARE FOR MIGRANTS  
AND REFUGEES IN A MULTICULTURAL CHURCH**

Rev Dr Fabio Baggio

11.00-11.30 Morning tea

11.30-12.00 What has been achieved since 2005?

GBM strategies and other achievements  
Bruce Ryan and Fr Maurizio Pettena

12.00-13.00 Working Groups - Further development of the  
National Plan for Pastoral Care of Migrants  
and Refugees: considering sections of GBM  
(Special interest workshops)

13.00-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.30 Working Group Reports & plenary discussion  
(5 groups)

15.30-16.00 Afternoon tea

16.00-17.00 Working Group Reports & plenary discussion  
(4 groups)

17.00-17.15 Summing up  
Dr Di Sansom

17.30-18.00 Book launch:  
**CARING FOR MIGRANTS- A collection of Church  
Documents on the Pastoral Care of Migrant**

Cocktail party

THURSDAY 29 October 2009

8.45-9.15 Tea/Coffee

9.15-9.25 Opening Liturgy

9.25-10.30 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**SPIRITUALITY OF THE TENT/JOURNEY**  
Archbishop Mark Coleridge

10.30-11.00 Morning Tea

11.00-12.30 Local Pastoral Plans – NSW, Vic, Qld

12.30-13.30 Lunch

1.30 – 14.30 Local Pastoral Plans – SA, WA

14.30-14.45 Drawing together of local plans  
Dr Di Sansom

14.45 – 15.45 Australian Government representatives  
on Immigration

15.45-16.00 Summing up and close  
Bishop Grech

16.00PM Afternoon tea



Widen the space  
of your tent Is 54: 2

# The Tenison Woods Education Centre

*A ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Lochinvar*

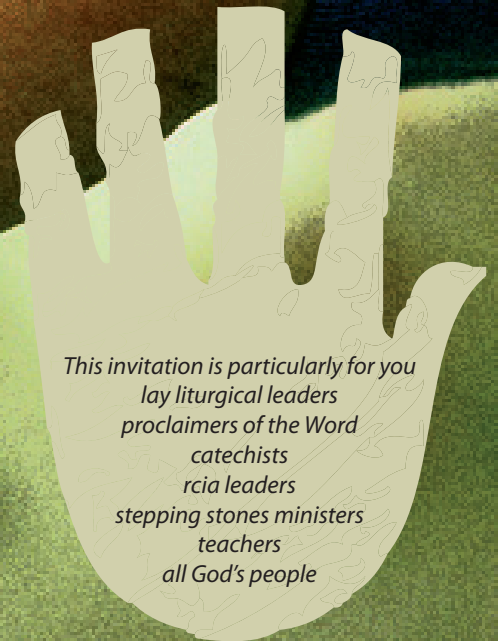
*invites*



*You*

*to get ready for the new  
liturgical year*

*Come and See  
Luke's Jesus*



*This invitation is particularly for you  
lay liturgical leaders  
proclaimers of the Word  
catechists  
rcia leaders  
stepping stones ministers  
teachers  
all God's people*

**WHERE:**

Tenison Woods Education Centre  
St Joseph's Convent  
New England Hwy  
Lochinvar

**WHEN:**

**Saturday 7 November 2009**

Come for a day of reflection  
prayer and input on Luke's Gospel.  
8.45am gathering and 5.30pm departure.  
BYO lunch. Morning and afternoon tea provided.

**Friday evening 6th – Saturday 7th November 2009**

Anyone interested is invited to extend this retreat  
into an overnight experience. Come early and rest awhile:  
experience warm hospitality, a relaxing meal and some  
extra opportunities to reflect on life in conversation with  
Luke's Jesus.  
Gathering time 5.30pm Friday. Fully catered.

**WHO:**

**Lynette Pearce rsj**

**WHAT:**

Time to sit down at the table of Luke's  
gospel and savour  
• God's faithful loving of us in Jesus  
• the inclusivity of Jesus' table-fellowship  
• the Eucharistic life of Jesus in the power  
of the Spirit  
• our personal response to Jesus

**COST:**

Overnight participants - \$85.00  
Day participants - \$25

**RSVP:**

Friday 23 October 2009

To register please contact  
Margaret or Colleen  
phone: 4930 9601  
email: [twec@ssjl.org.au](mailto:twec@ssjl.org.au)

*Come...*

*Immerse yourself in the tender compassion of God.*

Embrace the Other

Welcome Difference

Artwork: Sally Bradley rsm



# Mercy Justice Conference

AN INITIATIVE OF THE  
INSTITUTE OF SISTERS OF MERCY AUSTRALIA

**6th, 7th & 8th November 2009**

Commence 6.30pm Friday, conclude 4pm Sunday

**Queanbeyan NSW, near Canberra**

## **Speakers include:**

- Mick Dodson, *Director National Centre for Indigenous Studies, 2009 Australian of the Year*
- Tim Flannery, *Professor, Macquarie University and 2007 Australian of the Year*
- Margot O'Neill, *Walkley-award winning Lateline journalist*
- Jan Gray rsm, *Theologian, true believer in politics for social change*
- Maryanne Loughry rsm, *Psychologist, refugee worker, academic*
- Madge McGuire, *Director Catherine House Inc., SA*
- Denise Coghlan rsm, *Social justice advocate, Friend of Cambodia*

**Speakers' Bios: <http://www.mercy.org.au>**

## **Featuring comedians, singers and storytellers:**

*Trent McCarthy & Akoch Manhiem, Ajak Kwai and Indigenous Musicians*

## THE CONFERENCE AIMS

- To provide a Mercy forum for critical thinking, reflection and action on social justice.
- To inform, energise and inspire one another to make a compassionate, practical response to urgent local and global needs.
- To build relationships that support and sustain action for mercy and justice.
- To highlight and respond to the specific issues of Women and Poverty, Eco-Justice, Displaced Peoples, and Indigenous Concerns.

Conference will include Keynote Speakers and will use Open Space Technology Process



*The Mercy Justice Conference will highlight the complex issues of social justice, drawing on research, stories and experiences. It aims to lead those passionate about social justice to further understanding and will offer participants opportunities for a merciful response through action.*

**PARTICIPANTS - All who are interested in looking at justice through a mercy lens....**

including young adults, those in mercy sponsored ministries, Sisters of Mercy, members of disadvantaged communities, people working in community services, teachers, politicians, leaders and members of church communities, members of religious congregations, anyone involved in social justice networks...

**Cost:** \$300 Earlybird bookings available

**Conference Information, Updates and Registration Form:** <http://www.mercy.org.au>

**Venue:** Queanbeyan Conference Centre and Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre

**Enquiries:** [Institute.Justice@mercy.org.au](mailto:Institute.Justice@mercy.org.au)

*This conference proudly celebrates  
the sesquicentenary of the Goulburn Congregation*

# RECEIVING THE GIFT

## DINNER INVITATION



An opportunity for local ecumenists to offer hospitality  
to the NSW Ecumenical Council on our journey towards  
Christian Unity

**FRIDAY  
13 NOVEMBER**

**6.30 for 7.00 pm**

**The Victor Peters Suite  
(Western side of the Maitland/Newcastle Catholic  
Diocesan Complex)  
841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West**

**\$25 per person**

**R.S.V.P by 6<sup>th</sup> November to:**

**Kathy Moroney, NSW Ecumenical Council, (02) 9299 2215  
[kmoroney@ncca.org.au](mailto:kmoroney@ncca.org.au)**

**or**

**Bev Hincks, (02) 4945 0200 [kevinbev@bigpond.com](mailto:kevinbev@bigpond.com)**

# RECEIVING THE GIFT



An opportunity to hear about Receptive Ecumenism,  
share information and local experience  
and enter into discussion about the new worldwide thinking  
in the journey of Christian Unity

**with keynote speaker:**

**Dr. Gerard Kelly**

(President of the Catholic Institute of Sydney,  
Chair of the Faith & Unity Commission of the  
National Council of Churches in Australia)

**SATURDAY  
14 NOVEMBER**

**9.30 am – 1 pm**

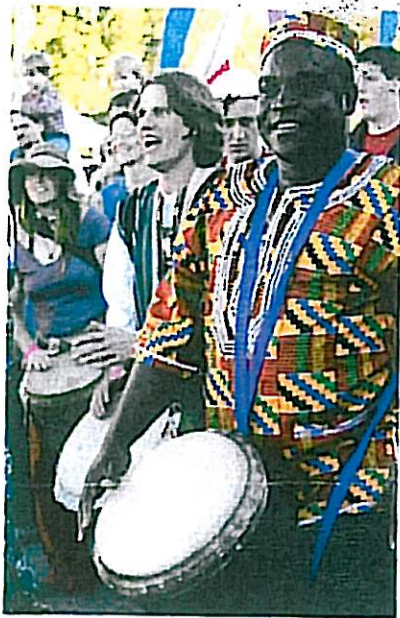
**at Sacred Heart Cathedral,  
841 Hunter Street, Newcastle**

*Followed by the business Half-Yearly meeting of the NSW Ecumenical Council*

To register, or for more information, please contact:

Kathy Moroney, NSW Ecumenical Council, (02) 9299 2215 [kmoroney@ncca.org.au](mailto:kmoroney@ncca.org.au)  
or the Revd. Dr. Jonathan Inkpin, (02) 9299 2215 or (02) 43441662 [jinkpin@ncca.org.au](mailto:jinkpin@ncca.org.au)

A Donation would be appreciated



Share the Joy  
Support your City

Make a World of Differences  
Hearing each other, Healing the earth  
Parliament of the World Religions

A REGISTERED PRE-PARLIAMENT EVENT

**Multifaith Concert**  
**NEWCASTLE City Hall**  
**Mattara Festival 2009**  
**7:30 till 9:30 pm**

A Gold Coin Donation Would be Appreciated

THURSDAY OCTOBER 8

**PARTICIPATING RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES**  
Aboriginal – Anglican – Baha’i – Buddhist – Catholic  
Christian Science – Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
Hare Krishna – Hindu – Jewish – Muslim – Quakers – Salvation Arm  
Sikh – Seventh Day Adventists – Sukyo Mahikari – Uniting Church

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**ALL WELCOME**

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Parliament of the World Religions

A REGISTERED PRE-PARLIAMENT EVENT

A Joyous Multifaith Service as a prelude to the Parliament

Readings and song by all Christian Denominations and by

members of many Non-Christian Faiths organised by :-



THE DEAN OF NEWCASTLE  
The Very Rev'd Dr James Rigney



Date : Sunday November 22, 2009

Time : 3 : 00pm

Venue : Newcastle's Christ Church Cathedral

RSVP : The Very Rev'd Dr James Rigney  
(02) 49292052

More information from Tom Jones (02) 49432444

**INVITATION**

## Suggested Bulletin Notices

Parish Update 6 October, 2009

**We suggest you add “see bulletin notice board for more information” at the end of the appropriate notices.**

### **Insights: a Forum to Discuss the Impact of Abuse by Some Clergy**

You are invited to participate in a small group with others from your parish and region to share your response to the issue of abuse by some clergy and its impact on you personally. The group will be facilitated by skilled and experienced local professionals. For legal and privacy reasons, we are not permitted to discuss current or previous allegations or instances of abuse. Insert details of your regional gathering. For more information see page 5 of the October issue of *Aurora*, visit [www.mn.catholic.org.au](http://www.mn.catholic.org.au) or P 4979 1111.

**(No 2)**

**Jesus. All About Life:** On Sunday 18 October you are invited to ‘A Time of Retreat and Reflection on the Life of Jesus’ at St Philip’s Catholic Church, 31 Vista Pde Kotara. The day will be led by Pastoral Associate, Mr Warren Sheppard. In keeping with the spirit of the JAAL campaign, we are hoping for a non-denominational gathering, and we want you to invite others who just want to know more about Jesus to come with you. **(No 5)**

The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office is calling on people to follow Isaiah’s call to ‘Widen the space of their tents’ with their second conference on the pastoral care of migrants and refugees. The conference will be held at the SMC Conference and Function Centre, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney, from 27-29 October. **(No 6)**

The Tenison Woods Education Centre (TWEC) invites you to a day of reflection, prayer and input on Luke’s Gospel to prepare for the new liturgical year at St Joseph’s Convent New England Hwy Lochinvar on Saturday 7 November 2009 (option to extend retreat to include an overnight stay). For more information P Margaret or Colleen 4930 9601 E [twec@ssjl.org.au](mailto:twec@ssjl.org.au)

**(No 7)**

Mercy Justice Conference, 6-8 November 2009 at Queanbeyan NSW, near Canberra. Speakers include: Mick Dodson, Tim Flannery and Margot O’Neill. For conference information, updates and registration form [www.mercy.org.au](http://www.mercy.org.au)

**(No 8)**

The NSW Ecumenical Council is hosting 2 events in the diocese in November. Dr Gerard Kelly will be the keynote speaker at a receptive Ecumenism event at the Sacred Heart Cathedral on 14 November and a dinner will be held the night before (13 November) at the Victor Peters Suite. **(No 9)**

The Parliament of the World’s Religions invites you to a multifaith service at Christ Church Cathedral on Sunday 22 November at 3pm. For more information please P Tom Jones 4943 2444. **(No10)**