



# JUST NET

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 6 (JULY 2008)

**Bringing about CHANGE**  
**Actively challenging INJUSTICE**  
**Promoting PEACE**

*Produced by the Tasmanian Catholic Justice and Peace Commission*

## MAKE POVERTY HISTORY

"Flowing from our God-given dignity, each person has basic rights and responsibilities...People have a fundamental right to life and to those things that make life truly human: food, clothing, housing, health care, education, security, social services, and employment. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities - to one another, to our families, and to the larger society, to respect the rights of others and to work for the common good."

U.S. Catholic Bishops, *A Century of Social Teaching*

**JUSTICE EVENT in September**  
**A VISIT FROM DR JOHN**  
**FALZON**  
**CEO, ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

Dr Falzon, Chief Executive Officer of the St Vincent De Paul Society National Council of Australia will be coming to Tasmania in September. His visit is set to coincide with the launch of the **Social Justice Sunday Statement 2008** issued by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in late September. This year's statement is entitled 'A Rich Young Nation: The challenge of affluence and poverty in Australia'. Dr Falzon will be visiting both the North and South of the state to talk about poverty in Australia today. Keep reading **JUST NET** for details closer to the date.

### **HELLO FROM THE TCJPC OFFICE**

Just a quick note to give a big thank you to Mary-Anne Johnson for all her fantastic work with the Tasmanian Catholic Justice and Peace Commission. My name is Perdita Sonntag and I am the new Resource Officer for the TCJPC. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have concerns, suggestions or just want to talk about Catholic social justice. I will be in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings and I look forward to either hearing from you or meeting you at some of our events.

## UNDERSTANDING POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

On June 28<sup>th</sup> this year, Dr Maggie Walter gave a presentation to the TCJPC on understanding poverty and inequality. Dr Walter is a lecturer at the University of Tasmania in Sociology and Social Work. Her presentation highlighted the problems of poverty in modern day Australia. She discussed 'what is poverty?' and came to the conclusion that different groups have different opinions on where the 'poverty line' rests. Dr Walter talked about the causes of poverty, who are the groups considered 'poor' and how being poor affects individuals. In conclusion, Dr Walter stated that the current government policies on economics and social welfare mean that poverty is very much a political issue.

### **UPCOMING DATES -AUGUST**

**4<sup>th</sup> – NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHILDREN'S DAY**

**6<sup>th</sup> – HIROSHIMA DAY, 1945**

**8<sup>th</sup> – Atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, 1945**

**9<sup>th</sup> – INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE**

**12<sup>th</sup> – INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY**

**23<sup>rd</sup> – INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION**

**26<sup>th</sup> – Anniversary of the TAMPA incident.**

**31<sup>st</sup> – REFUGEE AND MIGRANT SUNDAY**

We dare to imagine a world where hunger has no chance to show its face.  
We dare to dream of a world where war and terror are afraid to leave their mark.  
We long to believe in a world of hope unchained and lives unfettered.  
We dare to share in the creation of a world where your people break free.  
Dare we open our minds to difference?  
Dare we open our lives to change?  
Your kingdom come, O God.  
Your will be done.  
Amen.

Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, U.K.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CATHOLIC JUSTICE EVENT ADVERTISED HERE OR HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING JUSTNET, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE TCJPC**

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