

Subject: Read the second Take the Way of the Gospel consultation report 🗨️

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Go out to the whole world; proclaim the gospel to all creation. Mark 16:15

Obrigado.

Welcome to Proclaim, a regular newsletter to help keep parish leadership teams informed and inspired as they proclaim and live out the joy of the Gospel.



600 Melbourne World Youth Day pilgrims are now settling back into life across our

Archdiocese.

We simply wanted to say this to our priests, parish leadership, and our communities of grace who have supported this pilgrimage to Lisbon:

Obrigado. Thank you.

Thank you for walking with us - fundraising, encouraging, forming and [praying](#) for our pilgrimage and its [leadership team](#).

Our pilgrims followed [the footsteps of Jesus](#) in the Holy Land and [prayed in the catacombs of Rome](#). Our Emerging Leaders learnt from Church [experts](#) and [leaders](#).

And our pilgrims even had a [private audience with the Pope!](#)

Joy abounded in Lisbon as the [Melbourne pilgrimage](#) encountered young pilgrims from all over the world.

The Pope said that [the Lord loves us and calls us by name](#).

Prayer was at the heart, whether it was experiencing the Stations of the Cross, celebrating the Eucharist and Reconciliation, the [Vigil with the Pope](#) and 1.5 million others or the moments of sharing faith in our small groups and with other pilgrims.

The fruit of your prayers and efforts were seen throughout this pilgrimage of grace and hope.

Over the next little while, our team will be supporting pilgrims in unpacking their WYD experience with resources and a post-WYD retreat in September with details to be announced soon.

You may have already heard from pilgrims and we encourage you to continue to listen to their experiences.



'Collaboration for Mission' summary report now available

The second series of our Take the Way of the Gospel regional forums took place over May and June 2023 with parish clergy and lay representatives. This series explored how we might respond to Pope Francis' call to be more missionary by collaborating within and across parish boundaries.

The summary report from the 'Collaboration for Mission' consultations captures the emerging themes out of these conversations.

The next round of regional forums 'Formation for Mission' will take place in August and September.

[Read the report](#)



Social Justice Sunday (27 August) resources available

Each year, the Catholic bishops of Australia release a Social Justice Statement. This year, *Listen, Learn, Love – A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples* invite us, as Catholics, to begin a new engagement with the First Peoples to overcome injustice, an engagement grounded in love.

This week, further accompanying resources have been released including liturgy notes, prayer and action cards and posters to support the dissemination of the statement over the coming year.

[Download the Social Justice Statement 2023-24 and resources](#)

An invitation to connect with Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

As the Bishops, in this year's Social Justice Statement, encourage us to connect with our local Indigenous ministries, interested parishioners are invited to spend a day at **Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria, 434 St Georges Rd, Thornbury** on one of these three dates:

Wednesday 13 September 2023

Friday 6 October 2023

Friday 13 October 2023

Limited places are available. Please reply, indicating your interest and preferred date of attendance by 5 September to odette.locastro@cam.org.au

The program (details available on request) will commence at 10am and conclude at 2.30pm. Lunch will be provided.

All are most welcome!



Season of Creation 1 September – 4 October 2023

From 1 September to the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October, Christians from around the world will unite to pray and explore more deeply how we might care for our common home. This year, the theme is 'Let justice and peace flow,' words inspired by the prophet Amos: 'but let justice flow like water, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream' (5:24).

Parish resources are available:

- Caritas Catholic Earthcare Season of Creation [online event](#), Monday 4 September
 - New Caritas [Prayer Service for Parishes](#) and other [Laudato Si' resources](#)
 - 2023 Catholic Season of Creation [liturgical guide](#)
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Flashback - Growing Vibrant and Vital Parishes

'We are still at the beginning of the journey. Each and every parish is invited to embark on the process of renewal. And we will need to keep learning from one another if we want to create vibrant, vital and viable communities of mission that respond to today's needs.'

On 16 July, 160 people from nearly 40 parishes across the Archdiocese attended a one-day workshop, *Leading Missionary Renewal: Growing Vital and Vibrant Parishes*. Through international and local guest speakers, and testimonies from Melbourne parishes, participants heard the importance of keeping Christ at the centre.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming events

Migrants and Refugees Sunday Mass

Sunday 24 September 2023, 2pm Rosary, 3pm Mass

St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne

Celebrate with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli and migrant communities from across Melbourne. All welcome. [Download flyer](#).

Night of the Witnesses

Red Wednesday, 22 November 2023, 7pm - 8.30pm

St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne

A night to remember and pray for the persecuted Church, and to hear testimonies from three international speakers about their personal experiences of persecution.

[Further details](#).

How can we support you?

Proclaim: The Office for Mission Renewal is here to equip, advise and partner with parishes to take the 'missionary option'. Find out more about what we offer [here](#).

Contact us on 9926 5761 or at proclaim@cam.org.au.



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