



What's Up? is a newsletter of the Centre for Multicultural Pastoral Care. It provides A GLIMPSE of recent, current and forthcoming events in multicultural and cross cultural pastoral care in the Archdiocese of Brisbane and beyond. P: (07) 3324 3451 | E: cmcpc@bne.catholic.net.au
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What's Up?

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Church acts on global compacts

The office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is currently working on two Global Compacts – one for refugees and another for migrants, which aim to engage coordinated collaboration and solidarity among nations in addressing large movements of refugees and migrants across the globe.

The Catholic Church, under the guidance of Pope Francis and through the Migrants & Refugees Section of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, pledges support to the imminent adoption of the global compacts with the recent release of the [20 Pastoral Action Points and 20 Action Points for the Global Compacts](#).

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The Migrants & Refugees Section of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development here presents a set of *20 Pastoral Action Points* and *20 Action Points for the Global Compacts*, providing concrete leads for implementing the four actions – to welcome, to protect, to promote, to integrate – in the attitudes and actions of Christian communities and of all those concerned with those who are forced to flee, and in international and national policies.



Dignity for the vulnerable

“Boat people”, “border protection”, “queue jumpers”, “flood of boats”, “people smuggling”, “toughness of government”, “overcrowding of Detention Centres”, “temporary protection visas”, — this was language that we thought was a thing of the past? No! It remains with us today.

Once upon a time, we could actually go about our business on the international stage and say that we were a compassionate people who had fair and just laws to ensure that both our commitment to protection of vulnerable persons, while protecting our sovereign right to govern for the good of our nation, had the right balance. For so long, so many people in Australia were saying to the government “it is only fair that every person be looked at on their merit without any political intervention”.

Isn't it sad to see that today, the “fair go” argument, the rights of the human person and the dignity of the human person is almost muted in our political debate and even in our media.

Asylum seekers, refugees and immigration are treated as “no go zones” for discussion. Immigration and durable solution has been reduced to border control and security. To hear the emotional terms outlined above being bandied around in order to cause emotional responses both in the public domain, media outlets and in the political arena should be concerning to Australians as a whole.

The focus must always be on the dignity of the human person. As Australians, we have one of the most fair and rigorous systems in the world in determining whether one has a genuine refugee claim and whether that person meets security and character concerns.

We need to ensure that fairness and compassion does not escape us. Let us be proud of the fact that, as Australians, fairness and compassion stand stronger than most other virtues. It is what makes us enviable the world over.

Clyde Cosentino

Director

HIGHLIGHTS Catholic Ethnic Communities **Brisbane**

Burmese Community A warm welcome to visitors

Bishop Felix Lian Khang from Kalaymyo, Myanmar (Burma) and Fr Dominic Nya Reh from Loikaw, Myanmar recently visited and ministered to the Myanmar community at St Paul's parish in Woodridge. St Paul's parish Parish

Priest Fr David Batey and Cross Cultural Pastoral Minister Sr Rosa Vazzano FdCC were among many in the community and parish who made them welcome. We thank Sr Rosa for sharing these photos.



Maronite Community Brisbane Maronites witness historic visit



February 9 to 19 were historic days for Maronites in Australia as the first-class relics (a portion of skull) of St Maroun were transported from Lebanon to Maronite parishes in Brisbane, Punchbowl and Adelaide.

St Maroun is the patron of the Maronite Church. His feast day is 9 February.

The relics arrived in Brisbane on Saturday, 10 February. Brisbane Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Monsignor Peter Meneely joined Maronite Bishops Antoine Charbel Tarabay and Mounir Khairallah and the Maronite congregation and guests for an official welcome ceremony and evening prayer at St Maroun's Church in Greenslopes. The gathering was

also attended by the Chaplains and members of the Lebanese Orthodox church, Melkite rite, Ukrainian rite and Coptic Orthodox.

The following day on the 11th, the Community celebrated the Feast of St Maroun with a 10am Mass followed by followed by a community lunch.

Chinese Community Lunar New Year celebrations

The Chinese Catholic Community Mass gathered to greet the Chinese Lunar New Year on Friday 16 February at a 7:30pm Mass and community celebrations.

Mass held at the Sacred Heart Centre was presided by (photo on right L-R) Fr Harry Chan OFM, Fr Mario Debattista OFM, and Community Chaplain Fr Albert Chan.

Happy Year of the Dog, Brisbane!



2018 Chinese New Year

HIGHLIGHTS Catholic Ethnic Communities Brisbane

South Sudanese Community

A reflection on the life of St Bakhita

Canossian Sisters – Sr Mel and Sr Rosa – facilitated a reflection day for a group of South Sudanese. The day reflected on the life of St Josephine Bakhita. On Sunday, 11 February, the community celebrated the Feast of St Bakhita, their patron saint, at Canossa Oxley. St Bakhita is also the patron saint of victims of human trafficking and slavery.



Indonesian Community

Farewell and welcome

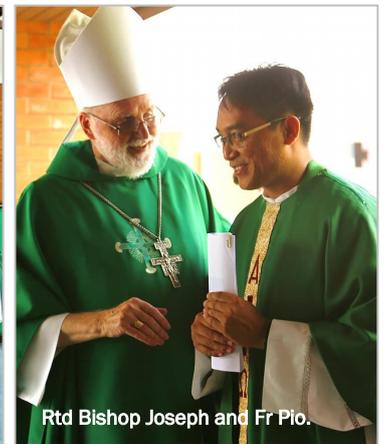
The Indonesian Catholic Family farewelled their 9th Chaplain, Fr Pionius Hendi OFM Cap, at a farewell Mass and community celebrations held on 28 January at St Ita's Church in Dutton Park.

Fr Pio (right photo) ministered to the community for 5 years. The gathering was graced by the presence of Archbishop Mark Coleridge and Retired Bishop Joseph Oudeman OFM Cap. The gathering also welcomed to the community their 10th Chaplain, Fr Martinus Situmorang OFM Cap (left photo).

Best wishes to the Community during this time of transition. <http://icfbrisbane.com/>



Fr Martinus and Archbishop Mark.



Rtd Bishop Joseph and Fr Pio.



Melkite Community

Recognised for service



Congratulations to Fr Elie Francis and wife Yolla Chibly who were among recipients of the 2018 Griffith Australia Day Awards at an awards ceremony held on 26 January.

The award recognised the couple's tireless work at St Clement's Melkite parish and the wider community in Brisbane.

More information on <http://www.terributlermp.com/gada-2018>

"We must reject those who fail to understand that as societies become multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-cultural, diversity must be seen as a source of richness and not a threat."

General Antonio Guterres,
UN Secretary.

Remarks - International Day of
Commemoration in Memory of the
Victims of the Holocaust

Youth Ministry in ethnic and multicultural communities in Brisbane

A snapshot



Migrant chaplains and cross cultural pastoral ministers of ethno-specific and multicultural communities in the Archdiocese of Brisbane recently gathered for an informative morning exploring sustainable youth ministry with Youth Evangelisation Office's Melissa Fenech.

Melissa, Evangelisation Brisbane's Parish Support and Project Officer facilitated a workshop with the Chaplains on 8 February at St Maroun's Maronite Parish meeting hall in Greenslopes.

The workshop anchored the discussion thread on the experiences and thoughts shared by the Chaplains. Following are snippets:

Melkite (Fr Elie Francis)

- Young Melkites prefer enjoyable activities eg. Youth Camp.
- Melkite group in Brisbane is composed of young people from Lebanon, Syria and Iraq.
- Melkite Mass is in Lebanese Arabic including homily, with English text projected on the screen.
- About 16-20 youth gather for bible study on Fridays.

Africans, Burmese and newly arrived in Logan (Sr Rosa Vazzano FdCC) - Sr Rosa operates from St Paul's Parish in Woodridge

- difficulty connecting with young people, language barrier
- persistent in encouraging them to participate in diocesan youth activities.

Ukrainian Byzantine (Fr William Lawrence, in place of Fr Stefan Sapun)



- The Ukrainian Catholic Church parish is ageing.
- There is a small group of young people, about 7 attend Sunday Mass.
- Australians with Ukrainian heritage come to the Ukrainian Mass in English, young people don't.
- Fr Lawrence teaches icon painting to young people and is trying to build a library for the youth (because many Ukrainians who arrived from Poland in the 50s and 60s were taken from Ukraine and lack knowledge of their history).

Maronite (Fr Fadi Salame)

- building the future youth by working with families eg. through family gatherings, lunches, birthdays
- about 25 - 30 young people on their way to getting married
- monthly Youth Mass attended by approximately 100 young people
- recently started a group of approximately 20-30 teens/children.

Indonesian (Fr Martinus Situmorang OFM Cap)

- very recently started as Chaplain, still getting to know the community's youth group and will give priority to youth group as advised by Archbishop Mark

Chinese (Br Jack Ho, a seminarian on placement at Regents Park, assists Chaplain Fr Albert Chan MSC)

- What does it mean to be Chinese? Community is multicultural and multilingual, currently made up of Chinese from Papua New Guinea (English-speakers), Hongkong (Cantonese), Taiwan (Mandarin), Chinese from Malaysia, Singapore and mainland China (some are not Christian).
- Community does not have a big youth group but young people are active in the community, eg. Mass and various events.
- Youth has language issues; essentially 3 separate groups on their separate ways. Their situation is different because there is no common language - not even English.

Vietnamese (Fr Joseph Vu SVD)

- Sunday school of 320 children
- Group from 6yrs to high school started recently.
- About 30-40 youth ages 18-35 meet every two weeks.

Latin American (Fr Nacho Rodriguez CS)

- Youth group currently looking for a

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A LIST OF YOUTH INITIATIVES IN CATHOLIC ETHNIC AND MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES
Archdiocese of Brisbane



- Ethnic Communities
- Movements
- Parish Based

- Religious Order
- Retreat Ministry
- Social Justice
- Tertiary

ETHNO-SPECIFIC/MULTICULTURAL

- Chinese Catholic Community Brisbane Youth
- Community of the Risen Lord Youth Group [Syro Malabar, Indian]
- Divine Mercy [Samaon]
- Divine Mercy [Samaon]
- Encounter Youth [Latin American]
- Friends in Faith [Italo-Australian]
- Indonesian Catholic Family Youth
- Jesus Youth Queensland [Syro-Malabar Indian]
- Maronite Young Adults
- Melkite Community
- Our Lady of Fatima Youth Group, Acacia Ridge [Multicultural]
- St Bakhita Youth Group [South Sudanese]
- Vietnamese Eucharistic Youth Movement
- Youth for Christ - Central [Filipino, Multicultural]
- Youth for Christ - North, Zillmere [Filipino, Multicultural]
- Youth for Christ - South, Tweed Heads [Filipino, Multicultural]

PARISH-BASED/MULTICULTURAL/INTERCULTURAL

- Polish Community Young Adults, Bowen Hills
- St Paul's Woodridge Youth, Woodridge
- St Stephen's Cathedral Young Adults Ministry, Brisbane

... and many others on their way to becoming intercultural. List taken from [Catholic Collective Directory](#).

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- leader to reactivate youth group; big challenge is how to reinforce ministry for the youth (busy schedule, jobs, studies)
- Latin American community is very active and vibrant with a strong presence of active international students
- various activities with children (children's liturgy)
- important for youth to be connected with youth (same age group)

Samoan (Fr Epati Tamati)

- Community has several youth groups
- difficult to work with youth groups because of culture
- Parents are usually present in youth group events, most of the time they get in the way; "We've always done things this way".
- Brisbane Samoan Youth groups are active in organising social justice activities.

The discussion that followed acknowledged the present realities, issues and challenges unique to each community. Some dot points:

- Language issue; different situation per community
- Desire of parents to pass on faith to children sometimes conflicts with young people's desire to develop their own faith expression VS 'just inheriting' their parents' faith and culture.
- Youth need to work with the parents, eg. attend cultural gatherings to keep connected with heritage, language and culture.
- Equally important, youth need more freedom; need to find a home in their comfortable place and in a language that 'speaks to them'.
- Faith and culture are both important.

The session also tackled youth ministry basics, that is – a youth group must be authentic, centred on Jesus Christ and revolves on 8 focus areas: prayer & worship, evangelisation, catechesis, pastoral care, community life, justice and service, leadership development and advocacy], statistics and trends.

Melissa also gave the Chaplains some points on what youth Ministry should endeavour to have – authentic relationships, online presence, visual, doing something that makes a difference, and hands on learning. Communication with parents of young people should be through various means, eg. newsletter, Facebook, mail, email, personal phone call and interaction after Mass.

Melissa also encouraged the Chaplains to engage their youth with archdiocesan activities and events that will be held across Australian dioceses during the [Year of Youth](#) (3 December 2017 - 25 November 2018) and [World Youth Day Panama](#) (22-27 January 2019).

Percy Pamo Lawrence

Conference on refugee trauma recovery set in 2019

The **2nd Australia and New Zealand Refugee Trauma Recovery in Resettlement Conference** will be held on **27-29 March 2019** at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre.

The conference theme, *Healing in Exile – Current and Future Challenges*, will explore the most innovative and successful ways to support people from refugee backgrounds as they recover from trauma and resettle in their new context.

International keynote speakers will address global perspectives and prominent national identities will tackle some of the most pressing challenges here in Australia. The conference is being organised by QPASTT, the Queensland agency of the



Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT). Subscribe to mailing list at

www.refugeetraumaconf.org.au for conference information updates.

Business scholarships and placements

Brisbane City Council is offering more than 50 business scholarship and mentoring placements for Brisbane residents from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds committed to developing their business and entrepreneurial skills.

Applicants can select from a number of courses aimed at existing or aspiring business owners:

Certificate IV in Small Business Management (BSB42515) with TAFE Queensland

Certificate IV in New Small Business (BSB42615) with TAFE Queensland

Certificate IV in Business with Site Institute

Diploma of Leadership and Management with Site Institute

Master of Information Technology or Master of Business Administration (Health Services Management) with Federation University Australia

Diploma of Beauty Therapy with the Brisbane School of Hairdressing and Beauty

Non-certificate Multicultural Round Table Mentoring.

Applications are open until 5pm, Monday 30 April 2018. [Apply now](#). For more information [visit Council's website](#), [email the Lord Mayor's International Relations and Multicultural unit](#) or phone 07 3178 1661.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend – relationship enrichment for married couples

3 to 5 August 2018
Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston QLD (on Brisbane's bayside)

bookings/details contact:
Maria and David Murphy, ph (07) 3342 1456,
dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au In
formation
website: www.wwme.org.au
Watch video
<https://youtu.be/-EXg5wPahFc>

Cultural Diversity and Churches

A [workshop](#) for church leaders will present practical insights that inform ministry in culturally diverse churches and communities.

Cultural Diversity and Churches: Church Leader Workshop will be held on **21 March 2018** at the Australian Catholic University, Strathfield campus in Sydney.

The workshop costs \$50 which includes morning tea, lunch and handouts.

Program includes: Keynote address and workshop by Dr Edwards, NCLS

research findings presentation, plus discussion of implications for your ministry in culturally diverse churches or communities.

RSVP by Wednesday 14th March for catering purposes. More on <http://news.ncls.org.au/news/cultural-diversity-research-event#church>



Information for older Australians from CALD

PCAN Newsletter

The Federation of Ethnic Communities Council of Australia (FECCA) produces a bi-monthly newsletter called PCAN (Positive CALD Ageing Network).

Recognising that a significant proportion of aged-care employees are from multicultural backgrounds, the quarterly PCAN newsletter is produced by FECCA towards building the capacity of the aged-care sector to provide appropriate care and support to older Australians from CALD backgrounds and .

Positive CALD Ageing Network

A Newsletter produced by the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia

The newsletter can be found on the FECCA website or via this link <http://fecca.org.au/news-events/pcan-news/>

Topics in recent past issues include information on Dementia, tackling elder abuse within CALD communities, culturally inclusive social support groups, South Sudanese funeral rites,

cross-cultural care program for aged care staff, ageism and many more. FECCA also publishes its national magazine [Australian Mosaic](#) three times a year. The magazine features a wide range of contemporary issues associated with multiculturalism, social justice, community harmony, and cultural and faith pluralism in Australia.

Health Translations Directory

<http://www.healthtranslations.vic.gov.au/>.

The Health Translations Directory enables health practitioners and those working with culturally and linguistically diverse communities to easily find translated health information. The directory also provides direct links to reliable translated health resources produced in Australia.

Aged Care Diversity Framework Survey

Providers and consumers and carers from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) background are invited to have their say on aged care services. The link below will take you to a multi-language survey on aged care. Survey deadline extended to 15 March.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DRWNLBC>



image from FECCA website

RCOA sums up recent refugee conference

The [Refugee Alternatives Conference](#) organised by the [Refugee Council of Australia](#) (RCOA) was held on 13 and 14 February at the University of Melbourne in Parkville, Victoria. The Conference gathered together 450 participants. RCOA gives a summary of the event:

The Refugee Alternative 2018 brought together the ideas, knowledge and expertise of hundreds of people nationwide to create a conference of collaboration and cooperation in order to tackle the upcoming year with a power in numbers and unity. Over two days of conversation, predominant themes emerged. Here are our key take-aways:

- Refugee self-representation was a key theme as the conference 'walked the talk' with 58% of the speakers having a refugee background.

- The importance of education for refugees emerged throughout the conference, in support of self-representation.
- The importance of connections between international, regional and domestic was emphasised, with specific attention paid to the power of involving the local government in the refugee movement.
- The role that the civil community and independent volunteers have in facilitating a robust movement with or without strong government initiative.
- The conference itself depended on an army of volunteers invested in building the refugee campaign - showing the power of volunteer commitment.
- Australia's role in the region was another important topic of discussion leading to a collective conclusion that

Australia must be a positive role model in the Asia-Pacific region; encouraging states within our region to seek durable solution for refugees.

- Some attention was directed to Canada, as Amir - a 4-year detainee of Manus Island shared his experience with the Canadian sponsorship program, turning Australia's shame into Canada's gain.
- The outcome of the conference was developing a Program of Action, a shared vision for global refugee protection, showcasing the vital importance of partnership.

There are plans to hold the Refugee Alternatives Conference 2019 in Brisbane. A full report of the 2018 Conference will be published on the [Conference website](#) soon. Visit [Refugee Alternatives website](#) on <https://refugeealternatives.org.au/>.



Global Compact on Refugees Timeline (<https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/>)

Church acts on global compacts

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Pope Francis has already introduced the global compacts initiative in two of his recent papal Messages — for the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees [*Welcoming, Protecting, Promoting and Integrating Migrants and Refugees*] and for the 51st World Day of Peace [*Migrants and Refugees: Men and Women in Search of Peace*].

In his messages, Pope Francis explains that the global compacts “will provide a framework for policy proposals and practical measures” and equip nations and the international community in addressing the pressing

challenges of forced migration and dislocation around the world.

Pope Francis urges the global church to stand with him, the UNHCR and the international community in becoming responsible global citizens and work towards providing authentic ‘welcoming, protection, promotion and integration’ of refugees and migrants.

Brief background

In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly composed of 193 member states all agreed that the protection and support of refugees and migrants are indeed a shared international responsibility. This requires strategic and thorough planning and collaboration among states.

So, on September 19, the UN General Assembly adopted the *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants*.

With this political declaration, the UNHCR is now tasked to develop a global compact for refugees and migrants in consultation with governments and stakeholders.

As the UNHCR goes through the whole drafting, consulting and negotiating process, this global compact should be ready by the end of 2018.

The **global compact on refugees** aims to ‘ease pressure on host countries, enhance refugee self-reliance, expand access to

third-country solutions, and support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity’.

The **global compact on migrants** aims to ‘improve the governance on migration, address the challenges associated with today’s migration, and to strengthen the contribution of migrants and migration to sustainable development.’

An easy-to-read guide to the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants — *A New Way to Support Refugees and People Who Have Left* is available on the UNHCR website via the search field <http://www.unhcr.org/>.

All highlighted text in this article have active links to pertinent information.

More information is available on the following websites:

Background and Roadmap

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-au/events/conferences/58d135517/global-compact-on-refugees-roadmap.html>

UN Global Compacts on Refugees

<https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/refugees-compact>

Refugee Alternatives Conference

<https://refugeealternatives.org.au/and-now/>

Percy Pamo Lawrence

MAJOR DATES 2018

14 January

104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees

21 March

United Nations’ International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

21 March

Harmony Day (in Australia)

20 June

United Nations’ World Refugee Day

19 June to 25 June

Refugee Week Australia

20 to 26 August

National Migrant and Refugee Week

26 August

National Migrant and Refugee Day

26 August

Archdiocesan Multicultural Mass
(Archdiocese of Brisbane)

18 December

International Migrant’s Day