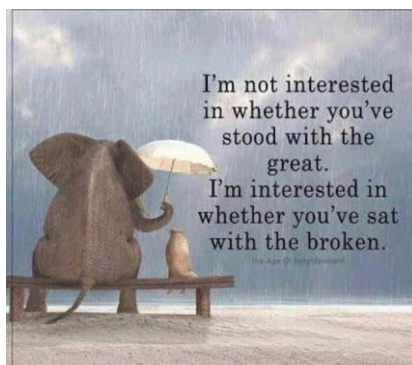


Pax Christi Australia (NSW)

February 3, 2020

Report



December 13, 2019 Letter to Pope Francis.

His Holiness, Pope Francis
Saint Martha House
00120 Città del Vaticano, Vatican City

Holy Father

I write to you from the Pacific Climate Watch. This group consists of representatives from 22 religious congregations in Australia whose personnel work in, or have worked in, the Asia Pacific region. This group was formed out of our concern about the impact of climate change in Oceania. We were formed in order to hear the cries of the people of the region for assistance and to amplify the voices of our drowning neighbours and to alert all, particularly our governments, to the tragedy that is on their doorsteps.

We were very excited when the Synod of the Amazon was called. We appreciate the calls that it made. Many of our members followed the proceedings with great interest as your priorities for the church in general, and the Amazon region in particular, were highlighted. We are so appreciative for the posture of listening to the First Peoples of the region and listening to them first.

Following the Synod of the Amazon, we are very interested in the call by His Excellency, Archbishop Peter Loy Chong of Suva for an Oceania Synod. Given the success of the Amazon Synod, and the publicity it attracted, we hope that a Synod in our region will also eventuate. Our concerns have been increased by the apparent inability or unwillingness of our governments to listen to the cries of the peoples of the region. Such a Synod would highlight the issues the people face. We wish to stand with Archbishop Chong and strongly support his call.

Our group in Australia holds public forums, makes contact with politicians in the national parliament and in their electoral offices to gain their support, and to enlighten them of the issues. We have also hosted forums in Sydney with Pacific Island leaders such as former President of Kiribati, Anote Tong, and more recent meetings with former Prime Minister of Tuvalu, Enele Sopoaga.

As Pacific Island nations face the effects of climate change through rising waters, we in Australia are also facing these effects through severe and long droughts and catastrophic bushfires. We are aware that we are all in this together and that we need to respond effectively to the challenges you have set before us, as well as those of the UN Secretary General.

We are particularly grateful to Your Holiness for your leadership in moving our church to listen to the poor and respond to them in friendship. I hope that our group does that effectively with the peoples from the Pacific, as well as others. Your constant message of just peace through *Laudato si'*, your annual peace messages for the **World Day of Peace**, and the most recent for the 53rd World Day of Peace <**Peace as a Journey of Hope: Dialogue, Reconciliation and Ecological Conversion**> speaks to us powerfully. They are inspirational and challenging. Thank you.

Regarding an Oceania Synod, I would very much appreciate hearing from you about the possibility of this happening in the future.

May I offer you every best wish for Christmas. May the Lord offer you strength and peace. The vulnerability of the Christ Child reminds us of the vulnerability of many around us who call out for love, friendship and effective response to their needs.

Sincerely yours in CJ
(Father) Claude Mostowik msc
Chair

December 14, 2019 Rally at Randwick in Opposition to further Privatisation of Buses

The rally was address by Michael Daley, Chris Mines, and union members about the possible consequences of further privatisation for transport users. After the rally the crowd went across the road to where the first new light rail was to depart from Randwick. The hope was to send a message to the Premier and Transport Minister but they had come and gone before we could give then our message.



January 16, 2020 Meeting with religious, peace and union groups to prepare for the Palm Sunday Rally and March for Peace April 5, 2020. The group worked on a number of poster designs and slogans. People to be contacted as possible speakers:

Craig Foster

Vincent Long van Nguyen (Bishop of Parramatta)

Union speaker: Michele O'Neil, or Sally McManus, or Vanessa Seagrove

Refugee speaker: Betelhem (who was on Nauru)

Peace speaker: Gem Romuld for ideas or speak herself

Onshore refugee issues: Sarah Dale (RACS)

It was agreed to meet at Belmore (2.00pm) and march to Victoria park

January 22, 2020 Letter to Migrante Australia on the occasion of the their 10th Anniversary and their 4th National Assembly in Sydney.

The National Chairperson

Migrante Australia

migrantensw@gmail.com

On behalf of Pax Christi Australia and our local branch Pax Christi Australia (NSW), I send greetings and congratulations to the National Assembly of Migrante Australia on the occasion of its 10th Anniversary.

You, along with your colleagues in the others parts of the in foreign countries world, especially the Philippines, have shown great determination and courage in promoting the welfare, safety and human rights of Filipino and Filipina Overseas Foreign Workers. We are especially aware of the ill-treatment that has been and continues to be afforded to Overseas Foreign Workers in the Middle East and even parts of Asia as we remember the execution of Flor Contemplacion in Singapore. It has been inspiring to witness the dedication of a few people who care for so many and courageously call the government of the Philippines and other governments to account for human rights breaches and neglect.

Best wishes for your National Assembly and may the spirit with which you have been part of the justice and peace scene continue for another 10 years and beyond.

With peace and God's blessing upon you all

(Father) Claude Mostowik msc

National President and Convenor for NSW

January 23, 2020 Meeting with Joanna Concepcion, international President of Migrante International at Marrickville



Lina Cabrero, Joanna Concepcion and Jane Brock

January 25, 2020 No War on Iran Rally, Sydney Town Hall Square. Present also were Pax Christi members Br. Gary Wellsmore, Peter Griffin and Gill Burrows. Small but active crowd due to short notice. Disappointing participation by church members. These rallies are criticised by

good people because they seem bring to them people from unions, Trotskyites, Socialist Alliance and Communist sympathisers. But these are there!!!! They show up!!!

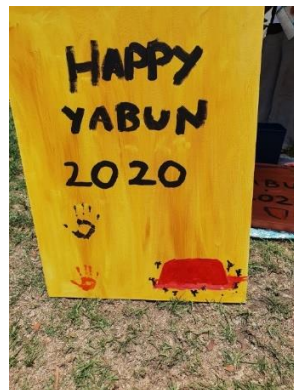


Gary Wellsmore and Peter Griffin



Richard Broinowski, former

January 26, 2020 Invasion Day (Australia Day) Victoria Park. Small crowd but good spirit. The day was very hot and people were coming later in the day.



January 26, 2020 Solidarity Night with Migrante Assembly participants at AMWU (Australian Metal Workers' Union) Granville.



Sr Patricia Fox, pebble in President Duterte's shoe

January 28, 2020 Meeting at MSC Justice and Peace Centre with Sr Patricia Fox, Fr Domingo (Meng) Barawid, Rev Berlin (Uniting Church Minister, new President of Migrante Australia, and Mr 'Boyan' Mallory.



Sr Patricia Fox and Fr Domingo Barawid

Rev Berlin and Fr Domingo Barawid

January 30, 2020 Meeting with religious, peace and union groups to prepare for the Palm Sunday Rally and March for Peace April 5, 2020.

January 30, 2020 Meeting with Australian Anti-Bases Campaign Coalition (AABCC) and Independent Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN)

February 1, 2020 National Symposium Rainbow Catholics and other Catholic agencies:
Acceptance Melbourne, Acceptance Sydney, Acceptance Canberra, Affirming Clergy and Religious Taskforce, Australian Catholics for Equality, Inclusive Parishes & Schools Working Group, Supportive Catholics' Parents & Families Network