

## WORKSHOPS DAY ONE: Tuesday 26th September

DIOCESE  
OF  
BALLARAT  
CATHOLIC  
EDUCATION  
LIMITED



CATHOLIC EDUCATION BALLARAT

### ***Prison Ministry - Fr. Andrew Hayes***

Andrew Hayes has been our priest chaplain at Hopkins Correctional Centre for nine years. (Marcello Colasante and John Monaghan are chaplains at other prisons.) Andrew will share his insights into his prison ministry. Gaudium et Spes has a good framework - joys, hopes, grief and anguish. Andrew will attempt to answer the frequently asked question regarding the offenders in his care, "I couldn't do it. How can you possibly face them every week?" While there are privacy limits on what he can share about individuals, he will be happy to take questions. Andrew will also wonder about the connection between literacy levels and incarceration.

During this workshop there may be the possibility of child sexual abuse and other violent crime being discussed.

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### ***Caritas Australia - Gwen Michener Community Engagement Animator***

Caritas have been committed to tackling poverty and inequality in Australia and overseas since 1964.

Caritas works alongside communities to improve access to clean water and sanitation, improve food security, increase awareness of diseases, and reduce the impact of droughts and floods. Caritas Australia also assists communities to develop sustainable livelihoods and supports people living with disabilities.

When a crisis hits, Caritas works together with local communities and churches to bring aid and relief to people whose lives have been devastated by natural disaster or conflict. Today we serve in 20 countries, working through 71 partnerships to bring hope, support and compassion to the world's most vulnerable people.

Gwen will provide examples of how this is put in place in many places around the world.

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### ***CatholicCare Victoria - Nick Collins Group Director Client Services CatholicCare Victoria***

CatholicCare Victoria empowers communities, to build strength and resilience, and work to help everyone reach their potential. CatholicCare supports those who find themselves on the fringes of society, and helps to bring them in. Walking in the footsteps of Jesus who came to bring life to the full for all humanity, CatholicCares is a vision of thriving, inclusive communities where people, as created in the image of God, experience their unique dignity in a compassionate and just society. It seeks to reflect God's love for each person by enabling transformational personal and social impact in partnership with individuals, families, and communities. CatholicCare brings excellence in care, compassion, and hope.

During this workshop Nick will outline key strategies and programs that CatholicCare provides to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in the Victorian community.

### ***Brigidine Asylum Seeker Program 'Strength and Kindness'. Sr. Brigid Arthur CSB AO***

The Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP) was established in 2001. It is a Melbourne-based initiative of the Brigidine Sisters whose motto is Strength and Kindness. The Brigidine Sisters have been engaged in education and social justice in Victoria since 1886.

The co-founders of the project are Sr Brigid Arthur and Sr Catherine Kelly. Catherine passed away after a short illness in March 2015.

In 2018, BASP was incorporated into Kildare Ministries as one of its "Community Works." BASP was established to work for a humane, just, and inclusive approach for people seeking asylum in Australia. The main work of the Brigidine Sisters for over a century in Australia has been education but this has broadened to include work for more vulnerable people in society.

In this workshop Sr. Brigid will outline the practical work that the BASP does to assist asylum seekers.

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### ***Catholic Social Services Victoria - Josh Lourensz Executive Director CSSV***

Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) is the peak body for Catholic social services across the state. Underpinned by Catholic Social Teaching, we work with our 40+ member organisations, to assist the Catholic bishops and broader Catholic community across Victoria, to fulfil the gospel imperatives to stand with and serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised, and to work for a just, equitable and compassionate society.

In this workshop Josh Lourensz will share concrete examples of the work of Catholic Social Services, including advocacy to government and other policy makers.

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### ***Social Justice Heroes - Bernadette Luckman & Kim Hawkes***

Most people don't just wake up one day and decide that they're going to go out and change the world. There's usually a long journey to reach that point. As we participate in the **board game** '*Social Justice Hero's Journey*' with colleagues, we will gain knowledge, share experiences, reflect and suggest actions that will test our minds and hearts, and open our eyes to the world in new ways. Did we also mention that board games are a lot of fun?