



Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Newsletter

ACM Sydney

September
2014

Bishop Ted Collins laid to rest

The requiem Mass of Bishop Ted Collins was held on August 19th in Darwin. It was an uplifting commemoration of his life and in particular recognised his real commitment to Aboriginal people.

Fr. Tim Brennan gave the homily which can be downloaded [here](#).

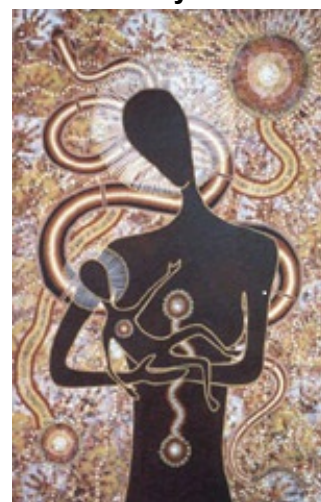
Perhaps the most moving part of the funeral was the Lirrga dance by members of the Wadeye community as well as the singing and dance of the Tiwi communities as they sang in the Gospel and at other times such as the Lamb of God and the Aboriginal Our Father. It was wonderful to see such seamless integration of both Aboriginal and Catholic cultural practices.

Below are some of the photos sent to us by the Darwin Diocese Youth Ministry. All photos are credited to Mark Crocombe.



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Monthly Mass



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Reconciliation Church, La Perouse.

Please join us for our monthly Mass held the **first** Sunday of every month at 11.00 am. All are welcome.

Next Mass is on **September 7th 2014**.

Reconciliation Church
 11 Yarra Road
 La Perouse 2036
 For details please call 02 9311 0918.

St Mary's Church, Erskineville

The monthly Mass is on the **third** Sunday of every month at 11.00.

Next Mass is on **September 21st 2014**

St Mary's
 21 Sw anson Street



Deacon Boniface Perdjert reads the Gospel reading



Beyond Blue anti-discrimination campaign

Have you seen the campaign that Beyond Blue have been running recently? This is in response to the data that shows 27% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experience racism.

Erskineville

For details please call 02 9698 4265

Image by Richard Campbell, used by ACM with permission.

Stay in touch between newsletters

If you are interested in what happens between newsletters make sure you follow us on twitter (@acmsydney) or our blog www.acmsydney.wordpress.com. In both these places we post information, comment on items of interest and circulate information on important issues.

Our mailing list

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Many thanks for your support!

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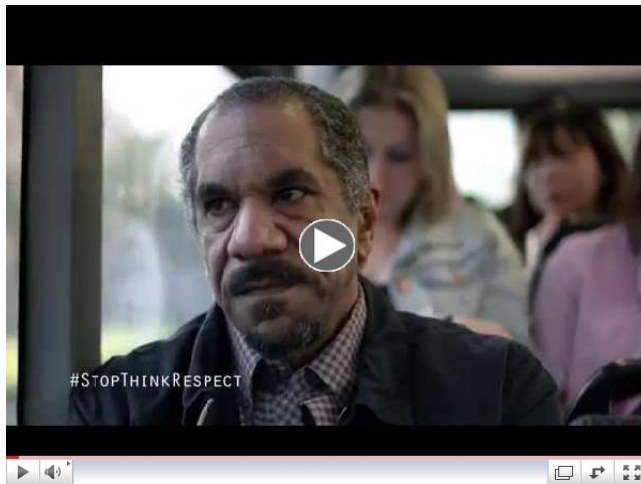
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'The Invisible Discriminator' - Stop. Think. Respect.

The research report behind the adverts that we see on the TV and other places is interesting. One of the key findings is:

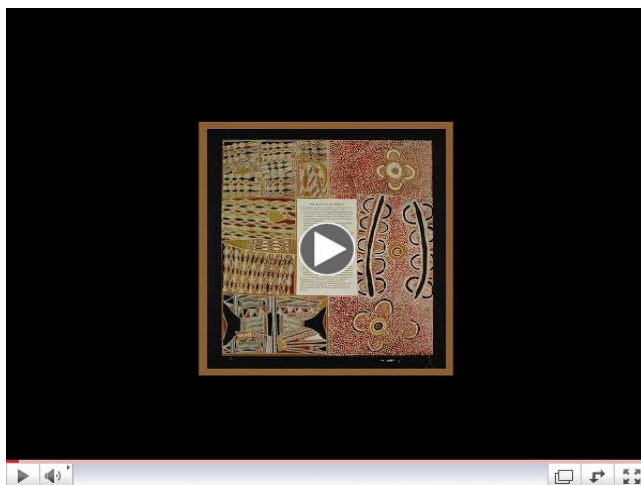
- Discrimination against Indigenous Australians is considered one of the most prevalent forms of discrimination in Australia.
- Witnessing acts of discrimination is widespread, with more than half of non-Indigenous Australians claiming that they have witnessed acts of discrimination towards Indigenous Australians.

The report can be accessed at Beyond Blue - [click here](#). Further information about the effects of discrimination can be found [here](#).

The calls for Treaty continue

This video, published by concerned Australians, highlights that many Aboriginal people are still calling for properly negotiated treaties with the Australian Government.

Watch the video here.



Treaties

Strong Cultural identity helps students succeed at School

Research currently being undertaken by Lynette Riley at Sydney University makes clear the link between a strong cultural identity and those Aboriginal students who have achieved success in NAPLAN tests as highlighted in a recent article in New Matilda:

"Lynette's research shows that every Aboriginal student who performed well in NAPLAN also had a strong sense of their cultural identity; a strong pride in their Aboriginality.

It raises questions about how denial of Aboriginality can affect a child's success at school.

And it answered a question Ms Riley was confronted with when she first began the research.

"I actually had a colleague ask whether the reason these kids are doing so well in school was perhaps because they were more assimilated," Ms Riley told New Matilda.

"It wasn't specifically a question I looked at, but I did suss it out. I wanted to see what the kids thought, but all of them said that it wasn't that they were assimilating into the school, it was that schools were being accommodating to them and were helping them to understand their Aboriginality.

"These kids had a strength in their identity".

To read the full article [click here](#).

Bishop Greg Thompson delivers Morpeth Lecture

he Anglican Bishop of Newcastle, the Right Reverend Greg Thompson, recently gave the Morpeth lecture where he reflected on the relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. Bishop Greg was the Bishop of the Northern Territory for seven years as well as having several years experience in community organisations.



2014 Morpeth Lecture with Bishop Greg Thompson,
University of Newcastle, Australia

The transcript is also available [here](#).

Of interest...



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Don't forget the ACM has a blog where we post items of interest, news and commentary in between newsletters. You can subscribe to the blog so you are sent an email when we post. It's at www.acmsydney.wordpress.com

Disclaimer: The views and opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the ACM Sydney, or the Archdiocese of Sydney.

Sincerely,

ACM Sydney
 Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

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