

Justice Action Group Charter

2025-2026



**St Mary of the Cross
Catholic Parish**

Mordialloc and Aspendale | Bunurong Country

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE TO LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, MAKE DISCIPLES

Our story (10 years young)

St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish, Mordialloc and Aspendale

established a Justice Action Group (JAG) in 2015, when a group of parishioners expressed their concern for and desire to do something about issues of Social Justice at both a local and global level.

The group meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 7.30-9pm at St Louis' church in Aspendale. New members and new ideas are always welcome. Look out for our notice in the Parish Bulletin for meeting details.

JAG has a Steering Group of 3:

Judith Lamb
Berna Wake
John Bainbridge

Our Parish Priest Fr Andrew Jekot and Assistant Priest Fr Huy Nguyen are members of the JAG Team and provide strong support.

JAG offers its members and parishioners the opportunity to develop greater awareness and education about issues of social justice in these 7 key areas:

- Treatment of Refugees & People Seeking Asylum
- Protection of the Environment
- Domestic & Family Violence
- Understanding & Respect for First Nations People
- People experiencing Homelessness
- Human Trafficking
- Inter-Faith Initiatives

Vision, mission, principles

Vision:

To follow Jesus' example to hear and respond to the cries of the oppressed and act against systemic injustices, inequality and suffering for every human being in the world today.

To respect and protect the planet we inhabit.

Our vision reflects the inspirational text from Micah 'Let Justice Flow like Water'.

Mission:

To become better informed and raise awareness of social injustices. We endeavour to respond with practical actions and to network with other groups working on our 6 key areas.

Principles:

JAG works from the principles of See, Judge and Act.

First, reviewing the concrete situation; secondly, forming a judgement on it in the light of these same principles; thirdly, deciding what the circumstances can and should be done to implement these principles.

If you would like to know about JAG, the best thing is to come to our monthly meeting. We would love to make you welcome.

Let Justice Flow Like Water Amos 8:24

We acknowledge the original owners of the land - the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation. A people who have lived in and loved this land for generations.

We pay respect to their elders and leaders, past, present and emerging, as we live, learn and grow together.

2025-2026 Projects

Treatment of People Seeking Asylum & Refugees

Activity: Community Refugee Integration Settlement Program (CRISP)

Plans: Support family - housing, schooling, employment, community, fund-raising

Activity: National Refugee Week June 15-21, 2025

Plans: Liturgies; awareness raising

Activity: Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP) Support

Plans: Fund-raising; Grocery drives

Activity: Refugee families volunteer companions



Protection of the Environment

Activity: Active member of Caritas Earthcare Program

Plans: Refer separate Earthcare Planner for full details



Activity: Laudato Si - Care for our Common Home May 19-26, 2025, and Season of Creation Sept 1 - October 4, 2025

Plans: Liturgies; Patrick Jurd 'talks'

Domestic and Family Violence

Activity: Domestic and family Violence awareness and education

Plans: Follow up training post DFV Forum (March 2025). Specifics TBC but may include 'Men's Behaviour Change workshop', 'By-stander & Careful Conversations training'; Liturgy plan (Sale Diocese)

Activity: Retain and build on agency connections established via the DFV Forum

Plans: Communicate presentation/workshop/training opportunities, printed materials from these agencies to assist and educate



Activity: Support 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence Nov 25 - Dec 10, 2025

2025-2026 Projects

Understanding the issues for First Nations People

Activity: Education opportunities via the Derrimut Weeler Gathering Place Mordialloc

Plans: Publicise and support events

Activity: Reconciliation Week May 16-29, 2025

Plans: Liturgies; awareness raising

Activity: NAIDOC Week (National Aboriginies and Islanders Day Observance Committee) Week July 6-13, 2025

Plans: Liturgies; awareness raising



People experiencing Homelessness

Activity: Winter appeals

Plans: Scarves, beanies, socks, blankets donation drive; support for Peninsula Churches 'Winter Shelter'



Activity: Support John Paul College Companion Van throughout the year'

Activity: Engage and support SHAC (Seaford Housing Action Coalition), Kingston Council AccessCare

Human Trafficking

Activity: Support Australian Catholic Religious against Human Trafficking (ACRATH)

Plans: Support Run Melbourne 13 July 2025; Promote responsible chocolate purchase (Easter)

Activity: Raise awareness of ACRATH's mission

Plans: Judy Lamb parish presentation late June 2025



Inter-Faith Initiatives

Activity: Member of Kingston Inter-Faith Team and World day of Prayer Mordialloc-Parkdale

Plans: Support World Day of Prayer, Way of the Cross (Good Friday), other opportunities TBC