

## Current Members

Bishop Brian Heenan (Ex-officio)

Brian Larsson (Chairperson) Mackay  
Therese McCabe (Project Officer) Rockhampton

Sr Margaret Schofield rsm Bundaberg

Col and Mary-Ann List Monto  
Brian Kehoe Capricorn  
Sr Margaret Rowley rsj Coast

Margaret Airoidi Mackay  
Bob and Caryll Schofield  
Noreen Larsson

Adele Giles Rockhampton  
Nerrida Holland  
Margaret Perkins  
Frank Reiman

Colette Curtis (retiring 2011) Emerald



Catholic Diocese of  
Rockhampton

DIOCESAN  
COMMISSION :  
JUSTICE AND  
SUSTAINABILITY

**The Project Officer works with the DCJS members to achieve their aims.**

**Find the Project Officer in the Diocesan Pastoral Services Office at 170 William St on Thursdays and Fridays.**

**Diocesan Commission: Justice and Sustainability**

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With Monto locals and friends from other organizations at Cania Gorge on the "Landscapes of the Diocese" field trip. April 2009



## Goals of the Diocesan Commission: Justice and Sustainability

To articulate and promote  
social justice and sustainability,  
with their essential spiritualities

To encourage participation in  
and to promote and celebrate  
endeavours within the Diocese  
based on principles of  
sustainability and social justice

To take opportunities to engage ecumenically  
with regard to sustainability and social justice



### Social Justice:

Catholic Social Teaching (also known as Catholic Social Doctrine) sums up the teachings of the Church on social justice issues. It promotes a vision of a just society that is grounded in the Bible and in the wisdom gathered from experience by the Christian community as it responded to social justice issues through history. These teachings are often expressed in formal teaching documents of the Church such as Papal Encyclicals, and in the pastoral letters of local Bishops.

The Australian Catholic Social Justice Council (ACSJC) set up by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in 1987 is the national social justice and peace agency of the Catholic Church in Australia.

<http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au>



### Sustainability:

Every Queensland student in 2010 learned that Sustainability means **ENOUGH FOR ALL FOREVER.**

2005—15 is the International Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. All of society is challenged to “meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” (UNWCED 1987) As Christians, we are moral stewards of God’s Creation and our home, Planet Earth.

*Serious ecological problems call for an effective change of mentality leading to the adoption of new lifestyles, “in which the quest for truth, beauty, goodness and communion with others for the sake of the common good are the factors that determine consumer choices, savings and investments”.* #486. [Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church](#) Chapter 10 [Safeguarding the Environment](#)

There are everyday skills and practices for people to live sustainably. **ASSISI** (A Strategic Systems-based Integrated Sustainability Initiative) is the program available for church groups to meet the challenge. \*\*

In May 2002, the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference approved the formation of Catholic Earthcare Australia, responding to Pope John Paul II's call to "stimulate and sustain the ecological conversion" throughout the Catholic church in Australia and beyond.

\*\*<http://www.catholicearthcare.org.au>

DCJS members maintain strong connections with both these national Catholic agencies—Social Justice and Earthcare. DCJS also maintains links with Queensland Social Justice networks, Caritas and other state and national organizations and groups within the churches.

### The Diocesan Commission : Justice and Sustainability

(DCJS) merged the Diocesan Social Justice Committee and the Diocesan Commission for Environmental Awareness. These have functioned for approximately 20 and 10 years respectively as active groups within Diocesan Pastoral Services and have transitioned to DCJS during 2010.

The Diocesan Assembly “Fanning the Flame” in 2009 recognized the importance of acknowledging the different needs, spiritualities and teachings for the people within the Rockhampton Diocese. The DCJS promotes Catholic Social Teaching, Social Justice, Ecological Conversion and Sustainability, Ecumenism and Stewardship - all are clearly recommended in the Diocesan Pastoral Plan.

### DCJS Publications and Formation

Social Justice Sunday statement ACSJC	Sept annually
Seasons of Social Justice Diary ACSJC	Sent as gift to every parish annually
“Let the Many Coastlands be Glad” reflection kit based on Qld Bishops’ Pastoral Letter	published 2004
Dream of the Earth: personal or group work-book for reflection with DVD	published 2007
Biennial conferences : River of Life (2005), Ecology at the Heart of Faith (2007), Ecological Conversion: a biblical imperative (2009)	
Landscapes of the Diocese: pictorial and written reflection from field trips by DCEA.	published 2009
Annual Queensland Social Justice Gathering hosted by Rockhampton diocese every June	
Ecumenical presentations and discussions: Peace , Climate Change, Refugees, Earth Charter, Reconciliation and tree planting	
Resources, in-services and training for retreats and workshops: e.g. From Violence to Wholeness (Peace-making), <b>ASSISI</b> , Principles of Catholic Social Teaching and VISITING SPEAKERS .	
Prayer and liturgy resources to celebrate key dates on the liturgical (and approved international and national) calendars	

### Diocesan Commission: Justice and Sustainability

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