

"Let us be the vehicle for the kingdom of God. Let us work for the reign of justice, liberation, harmony and dignity of all. As Australia Day draws closer, we cannot but acknowledge the hurt and pain inflicted on our indigenous peoples. May we learn to walk in each other's shoe and reset our priorities in such a way that

we can bring about a better future, full of possibilities and blessings for humanity and all God's creation. "

Bishop Vincent Long, January 2024



"Whenever it is celebrated, Australia Day should evoke memories that make us thankful and memories that make us ashamed. Its celebration should also encourage us to reform what has been bent."

Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ, January 2024

Full Article: <u>https://jesuit.org.au/finding-meaning-</u> <u>australia-day-holidays/</u>

Conversation with Pastor Ray Minniecon, Aboriginal Christian Leader. A Video produced by Common Grace (21 January 2024)

Watch (14 mins) : <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xzm1kwOgSh8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xzm1kwOgSh8</a>

Insight shared – two Indigenous Australian women among Australian of the Year nominees.

Listen to Janine Mohamed, Indigenous health leader and Victoria's 2024 Australian Of The Year Nominee

Watch (5 mins): https://australianoftheyear.org.au/recipients/janine-mohamed

Listen to *Mechelle Turvey,* Advocate for victims of crime, and Western Australia's 2024 *Australian Of The Year* Nominee

Watch (5 mins): <a href="https://australianoftheyear.org.au/recipients/mechelle-turvey">https://australianoftheyear.org.au/recipients/mechelle-turvey</a>

"They are a living cry of hope. They know what it is to listen to (the) Earth, to see (the) Earth, to touch (the) Earth. They remind us that we human beings have a shared responsibility to care for our common home."

– Pope Francis, Indigenous Peoples Forum, Rome February 2019. "... Love of nature can only be authentic in solidarity with indigenous peoples who do not distinguish themselves from the plants, animals, rivers and mountains which inspire their languages, practices, and spirit. So loving one must include the other."

- Fatima Measham, Invitation & Call 2022



"...we are challenged to listen and respond to the cry of all life pleading, "Am I not your neighbour?""

 Invitation and Call, Congregational Forum 2022