



COLUMBAN MISSION INSTITUTE



Centre for Peace Ecology and Justice
Making connections between
Peace, Ecology and Justice from
the Gospel perspective

Growing a Culture of Peace monthly bulletin for parishes and schools!
From the Columban Mission Institute Centre for Peace Ecology and Justice!

#9, October 2015: "Life and Hope".

For further information contact:

Anne Lanyon

Coordinator Centre of Peace, Ecology and Justice

Level 8, 23 Berry Street, North Sydney NSW 2060

Postal Address: P O Box 968, North Sydney NSW 2059

P: 02 9352 8021 F: 02 8920 1526

E-Mail: pej.cmi@columban.org.au

Growing a Culture of Peace Monthly Bulletin

9 "Life and Hope".

October 4th, 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Mark 10: 2-16

Reflection: "Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Underpinning this scripture passage is the core belief that in God all life is interconnected, interdependent and regenerative. As the human part of creation we are connected and dependent in families. Our human condition leads us into rivalry and conflict which separate and divide us. This is part of life that calls us to reconciliation. Within families, the little children are the ones who are the most connected to their parents, and the most dependent. They trust. They see things simply and love unconditionally. They too are prone to human rivalry and conflict, but they quickly forgive and forget. They just want to be happy. How sad it is then when families are forced to flee for safety from fighting in places like Syria and Iraq. The trusting children are those who suffer. In Australia we find it hard to imagine the suffering. Let us be in solidarity with asylum seeking families, work for justice and peace and a flourishing future for little children.

Fact File: Of the 12 million Syrians forced to flee war, half are children. They suffer physically and psychologically. Their education is affected. They lack shelter and safety. www.unicef.org

Learn More: : See these images to try to put yourselves in their shoes.
<http://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2015/08/syrias-children/402583/>

Take Action: Write to Prime Minister Turnbull, Minister for Immigration Dutton or your local member to ask them to rebuild a culture of support in Australia for asylum seekers and refugees through education and truth-telling, to release all children from detention and to increase aid to the UNHCR to assist those in refugee camps around Syria and Iraq.



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