

Provincial Committee for
Justice, Peace &
Integrity of Creation

Report for 2020-21



Membership

- Province Committee members are Jim Carty (convenor), Kevin Bates, Paul Mahony, Ron Nissen, Kevin Stewart.
- The Committee has continued to meet with members of the Marist Family.
- Marist Family members have included: Ruth Davis SM, Sr Mary Farrell SM, Andrew Dumas MLA, Paul Murphy FMS, Margaret Tisch SMSM, Margaret Wood MLA.

Meetings

- With the exception of the first, all meetings were held by Zoom because of COVID-19.
- 2020: Mar 07, Jun 13, Sep 26
2021: Mar 24, Jul 10, Sep 18

Agenda

- Regular items have included:
 - Reports on JPIC activity from committee members
 - International JPIC Blog
 - Reports on Pacific Climate Watch and its focus on Climate Change and the impact of rising sea levels
 - Updates on Wilai Foundation and other organisations
 - Recommended article and web pieces, esp on *Laudato Si* themes.
- Minutes have been kept of all meetings.

Province website

- A total of 134 items were posted on the JPIC page (2020: 65, 2021:69).
- The majority were Monday International Blog items from Rome prepared by Ben McKenna (*see below*).
- These were re-posted on Ron's Facebook page according to our adoption of a 'Social Media Package' strategy of website, Blog and Facebook.

International JPIC Blog

- Launched by our Committee in early 2020, this continues to be managed by Ben McKenna with a weekly item published, usually on a Monday.
- Several Committee members have supplied items.
- The European Marist Blog site regularly carries items from the Blog.
- Ron assists with technical support.

International webinars

- Members have participated in a number of international webinars on JPIC themes hosted by Marist Family groups and other *Laudato Si* inspired organisations.

Wilai Foundation

- Jim remains active as a co-Founder and Board member and has provided regular reports on Wilai and the plight of stateless children.
- Plans are advanced to bring Wilai to Australia for education in Geelong, Vic, though more bridges have yet to be crossed.
- A fundraising *Walk for Wilai* was planned; ten-day/200 km 'camino' from Portland, Vic, ending at the MacKillop shrine at Penola, S.A.
- This was cancelled twice because of COVID and rescheduled for March-April 2022, with Jim and Ron as participants.

Bridge Program

In early 2020 this program was closed following ACU's suspension of activities on the Thai-Myanmar border through COVID.

Finances

Separate financial reporting has been provided by Jim for the Province Business Manager.