

## Growing a Culture of Peace monthly bulletin for parishes and schools!

From the Columban Mission Institute Centre for Peace Ecology and Justice!

### No 7, August 2012: "God and the stuff of life"

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### Growing a Culture of Peace Monthly Bulletin

#### #6 "God and the stuff of life."

#### August 5<sup>th</sup>: 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

**Reflection: John 6: 25-35** In our materialistic, competitive culture, it's a challenge to find time to pull back and reflect on what is the stuff of life? However, there may be no more important thing we can do for ourselves and our families. In John's Gospel, we see repeatedly that Jesus' was on about LIFE - for all people and all species. He is our role model for how to live the good life. Jesus is the bread, the stuff of life. The pressure to keep up with Nippers and footy and dancing and school activities and work and buying things is a never-ending spiral in which we get caught, in the belief that we are doing it all for a better life. That can become our God and we can lose touch with what is the purpose of it all. Taking time to come together at Eucharist is a fantastic gift we can give ourselves and our families for keeping the focus on the real stuff of life and our priorities in right order.

**Fact File:** The New Zealand bishops published a document called "**The Consistent Ethic of Life**" *"The future of humanity itself has become dependent on the wise choices made by the human family to ensure the flourishing in abundance of life, love and diversity. There must be continuing reflection on the value of life so that wise choices can be made."*

**Learn More:** <http://www.catholic.org.nz/news/ix-view-article.cfm?ctype=BSART&loadref=51&id=94>

**Take Action:** As a family or a group, read "The Consistent Ethic of Life". Discuss it and decide what you can do as a response.