



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!**

**No 10, November 2013: “The Joy of Spontaneous Goodness”**

For further information contact:

*Anne Lanyon*

Coordinator for Centre of Peace, Ecology and Justice

167 Albert Rd, Strathfield, NSW, 2135

(Locked Bag 2002)

P: 02 9352 8021 F: 02 9746 8033

E-Mail: [pej.cmi@columban.org.au](mailto:pej.cmi@columban.org.au)

### **Growing a Culture of Peace Monthly Bulletin**

#### **# 10 “The Joy of Spontaneous Goodness”**

**November 3rd, 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time. Luke 19: 1-10**

**Reflection: “So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully.” Luke 19: 7**

The story of Zaccheus is one of joy. Jesus so attracted Zaccheus that he climbed a tree to see him better, a spontaneous childlike action. Something about Zaccheus so attracted Jesus that he changed his mind about passing through Jericho and decided to stay with him, a reciprocal response. The spirit of spontaneous goodness further encouraged Zaccheus to burst out with the admission of his failings, that in turn led to the joyful proclamation by Jesus that God’s love and forgiveness is boundless. People are responding joyfully to this kind of attitude from Pope Francis when, for example, he washed the feet of prisoners including a woman and a Muslim. Have you ever experienced the joy of this type of open spontaneity? Have you seen how it spreads and overcomes the boundaries of stereotyping and judgement about who is right and who is wrong, who is in and who is out?

#### **Fact File:**

**The Together for Humanity project** is about Jews, Christians and Muslims bringing students, teachers and those in the community into contact with people from diverse backgrounds in an open, supportive and enjoyable setting to break down barriers.

**Learn More:** <http://www.togetherforhumanity.org.au/>

**Take Action:** As a way of spreading peace at Christmas invite Together for Humanity to your school, parish or community group.



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