

**Growing a Culture of Peace monthly bulletin for parishes and schools!****Growing a Culture of Peace Monthly Bulletin****# 5 “What does it mean to be human in these times?”****June 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, Luke 7: 11-17****Reflection:** “When the Lord saw her, he was moved with pity for her and said to her, “Do not weep.”

Jesus shows us what it means to be human. When he saw the widow whose son had died, he felt pity for her. He demonstrated his concern for “the other” by restoring the son to life. How blessed we are to know Jesus as a role model for our lives. In these times when Australia’s political leaders are hard-hearted about refugees locked up out of sight on Manus Island and Nauru, good people are living out their faith by continuing to speak out against this injustice. In these times when Australia’s political leaders are not doing nearly enough to protect Australia’s precious natural environment, good people are living out their faith by speaking out and acting for the protection of God’s creation. They are restoring the meaning of life for all, not just for oneself.

**Fact File: The words of Nour, one of the Syrian refugees taken to the Vatican by Pope Francis:** “*He was smiling and he blessed my son. He caressed him. He was a very kind man. He was a very ... real human being.*” *When the pope passed to the back of the plane to take questions from journalists, Nour listened. “Someone, I remember, asked him, we were Muslim families, why did he save us? And he answered that he saved us because we were human beings and we were suffering and we must be saved.”* [www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/25/what-happened-pope-francis-syrian-refugees-rescued-lesbos-vatican-rome](http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/25/what-happened-pope-francis-syrian-refugees-rescued-lesbos-vatican-rome)

**Learn More:** NetAct is a network of representatives from Catholic Welfare, Education and Justice agencies in New South Wales. The group has put together a kit of 11 issues of concern in Australia. It invites people to consider values to guide them in making choices: human dignity, human rights, the common good, ecological responsibility, a fair deal for all, and preference for those “made” poor.

**Take Action:** Read and Share “**Voting for our Values, a Fair Deal for All**” before the Elections on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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

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