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Catholic Social Services
Victoria



Catholic Social
Services Australia

INDIGENOUS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT: Moments for healing this country

Thursdays 25th May, 29th June and 27th July: 4.00pm - 5.00pm

Catholic Social Services Victoria & Catholic Social Services Australia invite you to join them in a Webinar Series on the Indigenous Voice to Parliament: Moments for healing this country.

The Series is an opportunity to better understand the Uluru Statement From the Heart, the process that had led to a referendum in 2023 and what a Voice to Parliament might entail. With the referendum approaching, it is important to understand why and what we are being asked to vote on and what implications this may have for Australia, and reconciliation more broadly, moving forward.

Speakers:

25 May Prof Melissa Castan
29 June Fr Frank Brennan, SJ
27 July A Panel of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples - names to be confirmed

Cost: \$12.00 per session or \$30.00 for all 3 Sessions. CSSV and CSSA members free of charge

Venue: Via Zoom - link to be provided

Enquiries: Kate Stilwell e: office@css.org.au

CONTACT EVENT ORGANISER



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Indigenous Voice to Parliament: Moments for healing this country

Published on May 11th, 2023

A Catholic Social Services Webinar Series

[Register Here](#)

Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV), in conjunction with Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA), is pleased to invite you to join us for a series of webinars to learn more about the upcoming referendum on Constitutional Recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the Voice to Parliament. We will be exploring questions like:

- What is the history of the referendum?
- Should First Nations Peoples have a Voice? And why now?
- How has the Catholic Church engaged with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples over time?
- How might Catholic Social Teaching be applied to the questions that lie before us in 2023?

Learn from legal, historical and theological experts, and hear from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders about their experiences, hopes and concerns for the Voice referendum in 2023.

Learn more about The Voice and how your vote at the referendum matters

This three part webinar series will include:

25 May: Part 1 – *What is The Voice to Parliament all about?*



Hear from Professor Melissa Castan, Director of the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law, Monash University.

Melissa will be exploring the history of the referendum and the processes that have led to this point. She will discuss why the Uluru Statement from the Heart included a call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice and why there is a call for this Voice to be enshrined in the Constitution.

29 June: Part 2 – *The Church, Catholic Social Teaching and engagement with First Nations Peoples*

Hear from Fr Frank Brennan SJ, Australian Jesuit priest, human rights lawyer and academic

Fr Frank will speak from his extensive experience on how the Church has engaged with First Nations Peoples over time and what particular work is required now. He will unpack how Catholic Social Teaching might be applied to the questions before us in 2023 regarding the Voice referendum, and reconciliation more broadly. He will also share about how First Nations spirituality has contributed to the Church thus far and how it might enrich all Australians, Church liturgy and ways of being in the world. Fr Frank will also discuss how the Voice (if successful) may enhance this further.