



## Bishops Commission for Relations with Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders

Most Rev. Christopher Prowse Chairman  
Most Rev. Brian Heenan  
Most Rev. Christopher Saunders

Dear Parish Priest / Pastoral Associate

Each year the Catholic Church in Australia celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, usually on the first Sunday of July. On this day, 3 July 2011, we pray with and for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sisters and brothers. We are invited, also, to reflect on our own attitudes and actions.

At this time the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council, with members from every state and territory, provide resources each year that aim to assist parishes and communities in celebrating and honouring our Aboriginal peoples. I invite you to make full use of these resources.

As well, the Bishops Commission for Relations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders has written a letter to all Australians, inviting them to develop friendships with our first Australians. Besides being included in this mailing, this letter is available on the web page of the Bishops Commission for Relations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, at [www.catholic.org.au](http://www.catholic.org.au). I urge you to make this resource known and available to the people with whom you minister.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop Christopher Prowse  
Chairman  
Bishop Commission for Relations with Aborigines and Torres Strait Islander  
18 May, 2011