

CSSA 2026 Parliamentary Advocacy Summit and 70th Anniversary Gala Dinner Program

Day One – Wednesday, 12 August 2026

Event 1: Catholic Social Services Australia: Mission Formation, Governance and Celebration

Member only event

9.00am	Welcome, Prayer, Acknowledgement of Country	Haydon Hall St Christopher's Pastoral Centre 55 Franklin St Manuka
9.15am	Session 1: The Role of Lay Leadership in the Australian Catholic Church Today - Loving God, Loving your Neighbour Martin Teulan <i>Executive Director of the Association of Ministerial Public Juridic Persons (AMPJP)</i>	Haydon Hall St Christopher's Pastoral Centre 55 Franklin St Manuka
10:30am	Morning Tea	
10:45am	Session 2: Is Mission more important than Governance? Kathleen Donnellon <i>Author of 'Deep Governance Matters: The World of Community Service and Mission'</i>	Haydon Hall St Christopher's Pastoral Centre 55 Franklin St Manuka

12:00-12.15pm	Walk to St Christopher's Cathedral	
12:15-12.45pm	Mass	
12:45-1.45pm	Lunch	
1:45-3.00pm	Session 3: CSSA Member Presentation From Mission to Impact: Using practice governance to ensure our services make a difference Melissa McSeveny <i>Evidence, Impact, and Research Manager</i> <i>CatholicCare Sydney</i>	Haydon Hall St Christopher's Pastoral Centre 55 Franklin St Manuka
3:00pm	Close	
4:30-4:50pm	Arrival at Parliament House and security screening <i>*Note: Guest photo ID required</i>	Australian Parliament House
Event 2: Pre-Dinner Reception in Speaker's Courtyard		
5:00-6:00pm	Pre-Dinner Reception with the Hon Milton Dick MP <i>Speaker of the House of Representatives</i> Presentation of the ACBC Social Justice Statement: <i>'Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division'</i>	Speaker's Courtyard, Australian Parliament House

Event 3: CSSA 70th Anniversary Gala Dinner and McCosker Oration		
6:00pm	Gala Dinner Canapes, Music and Networking	Mural Hall, Australian Parliament House
6:30pm	Opening of Gala Dinner	Mural Hall, Australian Parliament House
7:00-7:10pm	Introductory Address by The Hon Ged Kearney MP <i>Assistant Minister for Social Services, Assistant Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence</i>	Mural Hall, Australian Parliament House
7.45-8:15pm	McCosker Orator: The Hon Malcolm Turnbull AC Australia's 29th Prime Minister	Mural Hall, Australian Parliament House
8:35-8:45pm	Presentation of CSSA's Lifetime Contribution Award	Mural Hall, Australian Parliament House
9:00-10:00pm	Post-Dinner Networking	Mural Hall, Australian Parliament House
Day Two – Thursday, 13 August 2026 Catholic Social Services Australia: Building for The Common Good <i>Member only event</i>		
7:15am	Arrival at Parliament House and security screening <i>*Guest photo ID required</i>	Australian Parliament House

Event 4: CSSA Parliamentary Advocacy Summit Breakfast		
7:30am	Breakfast Opening and Acknowledgement of Country	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
7.45am	Welcome Address H.E The Hon. Keith Pitt <i>Australian Ambassador to the Holy See (Vatican)</i>	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
7.50-8.10am	Guest Speaker Address <i>'Building for the Common Good through a Trust Agenda'</i> The Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP <i>Assistant Minister for Productivity, Competition, Charities and Treasury</i>	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
8.45am	Breakfast concludes	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
8:50am	Group photo in Atrium	APH Atrium
Event 5: Official Summit Opening and Morning Parliamentary Sessions		
9:30am	Official Summit Opening	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
9:40-9.55am	<i>'Building for the Common Good: 'Unity in troubled times''</i> The Hon Peter Khalil MP	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House

	<i>Assistant Minister for Defence and Former Special Envoy for Social Cohesion</i>	
9.55-10.10am	Morning Tea	Barker Room, Australian Parliament House
10.10-10.30am	Building for the Common Good: <i>'Unity in troubled times'</i> The Hon. Julian Hill MP <i>Assistant Minister for Citizenship, Customs and Multicultural Affairs</i>	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
10.35-10.50am	Building for the Common Good: <i>'Unity in troubled times'</i> <i>The Opposition's perspective</i> Senator Dave Sharma (NSW) <i>Shadow Assistant Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs</i>	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
10.55-11.55am	Building for the Common Good: <i>'Leading in turbulent times'</i> Panel Discussion: Ms Allegra Spender MP <i>Federal Member for Wentworth</i> Sen. Jacinta Nampijinpa Price (NT) <i>Senator for the Northern Territory</i> Sen. David Shoobridge (NSW) <i>Senator for New South Wales</i>	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House

	Ms Dai Li MP <i>Federal Member for Fowler</i>	
12.00-12:20pm	<i>Building for the Common Good: ‘Delivering Social Services in a Cost-of-Living Crisis’</i> Ms Louise-Miller Frost MP <i>Chair, Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs</i>	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
12.20-12.35pm	<i>Building for the Common Good: ‘Delivering Social Services in a Cost-of-Living Crisis’</i> <i>The Opposition’s priorities</i> Ms Melissa McIntosh MP <i>Shadow Minister for Families and Social Services, Women, and the NDIS</i>	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
12.35-1:05pm	Lunch	Barker Room, Australian Parliament House
Event 6: Faith in the Public Square Panel Session		
1:10-1:40pm	<i>Faith in the Public Square: ‘Guiding Principles for Collective Action’</i> Panel Discussion: Sen. The Hon Matthew Canavan <i>Leader of the National Party, Shadow Minister for Trade, Investment and Tourism</i> The Hon Barnaby Joyce MP	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House

	<i>Federal Member for New England</i> Sen. Deborah O'Neill <i>Senator for New South Wales</i>	
1.45-1.55pm	<i>Social Cohesion through Human Dignity: 'a human rights lens'</i> Ms Zaneta Mascarenhas MP <i>Federal Member for Swan, Chair of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights</i>	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
Event 7: Keynote Speakers and Afternoon Parliamentary Sessions - Continued		
1:55-2.20pm	<i>'A Pathway to Social Cohesion through Social Inclusion'</i> CSSA Member Presentation: Mr Fabio Forgione Operations Manager, House of Welcome (St Francis Social Services)	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
2.20-3.00pm	<i>'Mapping Social Cohesion 2025 Report'</i> Ms Anthea Hancocks CEO, Scanlon Foundation Research Institute	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
3:00-3:25pm	Afternoon Tea	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House

3.30-3.50pm	Building for the Common Good: <i>'Supporting Families'</i> The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP <i>Minister for Social Services</i> <i>(includes 5 min Q&A session)</i>	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House
3:55-4:00pm	Closing Remarks and Thanks Summit Ends	Tangney Alcove, Australian Parliament House