

Workplace, Church and School Bulletin notices leading to Easter Sunday 2020

Weekend of February 29 & March 1

Pope Francis said that “every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act.”

Cocoa is a key ingredient of chocolate and many children in West Africa are enslaved to pick the cocoa beans. They will never taste the delicious chocolate their slavery helps produce. Buy only slavery-free chocolate to ensure no enslaved children were involved in the production.

To buy slavery-free Easter chocolate look for any of these three certification symbols (below) on the wrappers: FAIRTRADE, Rainforest Alliance and UTZ.

It's delicious and you can buy it at ALDI, Haigh's, and other leading supermarkets and shops.

Good news: Late in 2018 the Federal Government passed the Modern Slavery Act, which will ask big companies to report on their efforts to introduce slavery-free goods and services. Change is coming so join the slavery-free movement.



<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/slavery-free-easter/>
for information and resources.

Weekend of March 7 & 8

When speaking about modern slavery Pope Francis said that, faced with the tragic reality of modern slavery, “no one can wash their hands of it, without being in some way, an accomplice to this crime against humanity”.

Good News: This year all Catholic dioceses in Victoria and Tasmania made a commitment to work towards making their offices and schools slavery-free.

Action: Catholic Education Melbourne, ACRATH and the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne have produced a kit to help begin to make your school, hospital, workplace or family home slavery-free. It has lots of valuable information about chocolate and also tea and coffee. Find it at:

<https://resourcecem.com/slavery-free-resources/>



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Weekend of March 14 & 15

We cannot ignore the fact that there is as much slavery in the world today, as there was before, or perhaps more – Pope Francis.

Can't find slavery-free Easter eggs in your supermarket?

Ten years ago there was almost no slavery-free chocolate in our supermarkets in Australia. Now, because of public pressure and consumer demands, most supermarkets will sell some. Thank you for contributing to the demand for slavery-free chocolate, but we have a long way to go.

Good news: There is now slavery-free chocolate available in so many places. It tastes delicious and is no more expensive than other chocolate. Try ALDI, Haighs, and leading supermarkets. Catholic schools are leading the way in this slavery-free campaign. Follow their lead.

Action: If you are putting together a fundraising chocolate raffle for your school or workplace, make sure it only contains chocolate that is certified slavery-free. Consider giving the profits of your raffle to CARITAS, which works to ensure people are not forced into slavery and forced labour.



www.acrath.org.au
People are NOT for sale

<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/slavery-free-easter/>
_for information and resources.

Weekend of March 21 & 22

Pope Francis said "every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act."

It is estimated that more than 40 million people are trapped in slavery globally – 1 in 4 of these are children. Use your buying power to make a difference and buy only slavery-free chocolate.

Good News: St Vincent's Health Australia is working towards slavery-free procurement of the goods and services used across their 32 sites.

Action: Follow the lead of St Vincent's and buy only slavery-free chocolate this Easter. It is delicious. It will feature one of these three logos.

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People are NOT for sale

Weekend of March 28 & 29

Pope Francis said that, faced with the tragic reality of modern slavery, “no one can wash their hands of it, without being in some way, an accomplice to this crime against humanity”.

Thinking of buying Easter eggs? Use your money justly – please.

What Easter eggs will you enjoy this Easter? There is now a wide range of slavery-free chocolate and Easter eggs available, including a budget-priced range of UTZ certified products in ALDI, and a wide selection at Haighs.

Good news: Fairtrade Australia and New Zealand has a comprehensive list of slavery-free certified chocolates. Find it at:

<http://fairtrade.com.au/Fairtrade-Products/Chocolate-cocoa>

Action: Tell three people about the importance of buying only slavery-free chocolate this Easter and beyond. Try some and tell them how good it tastes. Join this global fight against modern slavery.



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Weekend of April 4 & 5

We cannot ignore the fact that there is as much slavery in the world today, as there was before, or perhaps more – said Pope Francis last month.

Australians will purchase over \$200 million in chocolate this Easter. This figure comes from a 2018 report by IBISWorld which said Australia’s chocolate spend had risen by \$26 million over the past five years (up to 2018).

Good news: Catholic agencies and institutions and many large companies are leading the way in Australia in developing slavery-free supply chains, including in the production of chocolate. Don’t leave it up to the big companies.

Action: Please buy and eat only slavery-free Easter eggs and chocolate this Easter. Look for one of these three symbols on the chocolate wrapper and make a difference. Convert to slavery-free.



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Easter weekend of April 11 & 12

Pope Francis said that “every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act.”



Doesn't slavery-free chocolate taste sweeter than other chocolate?

If you purchased slavery-free chocolate for family and friends, show them the certification label and tell them why you chose to buy it. Tell them **no** enslaved child on the other side of the world was used in the production of the chocolate you bought.

Happy Easter. And keep spreading the word.



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