

## Workplace, Church and School Bulletin Notices leading to Easter Sunday 4 April 2021

### Weekend of February 20 & 21

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

Not all chocolate is sweet. Not if a child has been forced to pick the cocoa beans – a key ingredient of chocolate. About 80% of cocoa comes from West Africa and it is estimated that almost 2 million children are in child labour in these areas.

They may never go to school or taste the chocolate they help produce.

Make a change in Easter 2021 and buy only slavery-free chocolate to ensure no child labour or forced labour was used in the production.

Slavery-free chocolate will feature one of these 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.



For information on Slavery-free Easter chocolate and resources, go to:  
<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/slavery-free-easter/>

### Weekend of February 27 & 28

***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”.***

The good news is that there is plenty of support if you decide to buy only slavery free chocolate this Easter and beyond. Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) and ACRATH have produced a kit to help 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 6 & 7**

***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.

Slavery-free chocolate is delicious and is no more expensive than other chocolate. Try ALDI, Haighs, and leading supermarkets.

Please remember that if you are putting together a fundraising chocolate raffle for your school, parish 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.

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## **Weekend of March 13 & 14**

***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 at Easter. It is delicious. It will feature one of these logos.



For information on Slavery-free Easter chocolate and resources, go to:  
<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/slavery-free-easter/>

## **Weekend of March 20 & 21**

***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.

Australians will purchase over \$200 million in chocolate this Easter. A 2018 report by IBISWorld found that Australia’s chocolate spend had risen by \$26 million over the previous five years (up to 2018).

But some of this chocolate is tainted by slavery and comes at the cost of a child’s health, education and sometimes his or her freedom. Much of our chocolate is made using cocoa beans harvested by children, often in the West African region. Many of these children are forced into labour. We can help change this.

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## **Weekend of March 27 & 28**

***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.***

A 2020 Macquarie University report, Not so sweet: chocolate, slavery and complicit corporations, found that, “More than two million children under the age of 15 years old work in the cocoa industry in Ivory Coast and Ghana. Many are the children of farm labourers, but others are also sold to farms as bonded labourers from neighbouring Burkina Faso and Mali”.

Use your buying power to change this injustice and buy only slavery-free chocolate that features one of the following logos:



For information on Slavery-free Easter chocolate and resources, go to:  
<https://acrath.org.au/take-action/slavery-free-easter/>

## **Easter weekend of April 3 & 4**

***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** 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.

For information on Slavery-free Easter chocolate and resources, go to:  
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