



2nd Floor, Favier House
1 Ballumbir St
Braddon,
ACT 2601

director@acmro.catholic.org.au

**Media Release
June 10 2005**

World Refugee Day – Monday 20th June 2005

World Refugee Day is a chance for all Australians to take time out to salute the courage of refugees both in Australia and around the world, the Catholic Church's refugee body said today.

Father John Murphy, of the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office, said that World Refugee Day, to be held on Monday, June 20, is promoted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

"It is a salute to the indomitable spirit and courage of the world's refugees, not just in enduring the dangers and violence of the crises that made them refugees, but also in the courage they show in rebuilding their lives and contributing to society in difficult or unfamiliar circumstances," he said.

The Catholic Church, and all the Churches of the National Council of Churches in Australia, will follow up World Refugee Day with the annual celebration of Refugee and Migrant Sunday, to be held on August 28.

This will be a national day of prayer for refugees. Catholic churches will focus on the theme set by the late Pope John Paul II of "Intercultural Integration".

More information about World Refugee Day can be found on the website of the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office on www.acmro.catholic.org.au

For further information contact Fr John Murphy – 0418 224 524