

# Religious Leadership in 2024: Widening the Circle of the Heart

2024 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

26 August to 28 August 2024  
Brisbane



# Religious Leadership in 2024: Widening the Circle of the Heart

The chosen theme for the Assembly reflects the summons reverberating at the heart of the universal Church, for all to 'walk together' in God's grace, responsive to the dignity of every human being and to all creation.

We are called to ponder the practice of synodality in religious leadership: within hearts, within communities, in service in our Church and to our wider society.

## Assembly Registration

Assembly registration includes a Welcome Buffet Dinner on Monday evening and lunch, morning and afternoon tea on Tuesday and Wednesday: \$690 p/person.

Assembly Dinner on Wednesday includes pre-dinner drinks, two-course set menu accompanied by premium wine, beer and soft drinks: \$110 p/person.

## Accommodation

Single room with ensuite bathroom, including breakfast: \$210 p/night.

OR

Twin share room with ensuite bathroom, including breakfast: \$230 p/night

## Event Details

### Date

Monday, 26 August to Wednesday, 28 August 2024

### Venue

Royal on the Park Hotel and Suites  
152 Alice St,  
Brisbane QLD 4000  
Ph: (07) 3221 3411

### Enquiries

Gillian Lee, CRA  
Ph: 02 9557 2695  
Email:  
[secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au](mailto:secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au)

### RSVP

Registrations close 28 July 2024

Register here: <https://events.humanitix.com/2024-cra-national-assembly>



# Presenters who will enliven the conversation



## Mary Coloe PBVM (Session 1)

Mary is a Presentation Sister (Victoria) and Professor Emerita within the University of Divinity. Her ministry has been in education, primary, secondary and tertiary, mainly in Australia, but also in Berkeley, Boston and Jerusalem. She has published many academic works on the Gospel of John, which was her doctoral study, and also books for the lay person “in the pews.” She served seven years on an International Dialogue for the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity. Mary retired from Yarra Theological Union at the end of 2022 but continues to be involved with teaching overseas students, and various other Gospel reflections.



## Dr. Maryanne Loughry RSM AM (Sessions 2 and 3)

Maryanne is a Sister of Mercy, a psychologist and part-time professor at the School of Social Work, Boston College, USA. She has worked with refugees with the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) commencing in refugee camps in South East Asia in 1988. She was the Pedro Arrupe Tutor at Campion Hall, University of Oxford, from 1996-2003. Maryanne is a member of the UISG Migration Committee. Her research interests include Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergencies, the effects of detention on children’s well-being and climate displacement in the Pacific. In 2010 she was awarded the Order of Australia for service to displaced persons.



## Rev. Dr. Ormond Rush (Sessions 4 and 5)

Orm is a priest of the Diocese of Townsville, and currently Associate Professor and Reader at Australian Catholic University, Brisbane campus. He is a peritus (theological advisor) for the two sessions of the Synod on Synodality in Rome. On 17 February 2024, Pope Francis appointed Orm as an official Consultor to the Vatican's General Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops. His publications include *The Eyes of Faith: The Sense of the Faithful and the Church’s Reception of Revelation* (2009), as well as *The Vision of Vatican II: Its Fundamental Principles* (2019).

## Facilitator



## Annette Arnold RSJ

Annette is a Sister of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart. In her years after congregational leadership roles, Annette is enjoying greater flexibility in life and the gifts this brings. Her ministry is multifaceted including spiritual direction and professional supervision as well as facilitating staff professional development. She also accompanies her local St Vincent de Paul Family Support Centre. Annette is a member of the National Committee of ACRATH and has recently taken up the position of Talitha Kum Oceania Regional Coordinator.

# Programme

## MONDAY 26 AUGUST

- 4.30pm Assembly registration  
6.30pm Welcome dinner – *all welcome*

## TUESDAY 27 AUGUST

- 7.30am Mass
- 9.00am President's Welcome | Welcome to Country Peter Jones OSA
- 9.20am Assembly Introduction Annette Arnold RSJ
- 9.30am Session 1: To Widen the Circle of the Heart: How Can We Sing the Lord's Song in a Strange Land? Mary Coloe PBVM
- 11.00am Morning Tea
- 11.30am Session 2: Be Still, My Beating Heart Pt 1 Maryanne Loughry AM
- 1.00pm Lunch
- 2.00pm Session 3: Be Still, My Beating Heart Pt 2 Maryanne Loughry AM
- 3.30pm Afternoon Tea
- 4.00pm Reflection on Day 1 Annette Arnold RSJ
- 4.30pm Close
- Participants to make own arrangements for dinner

## WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST

- 9.00am Welcome back | Prayer | Welcome to Country Peter Jones OSA
- 9.30am Session 4: The Theology, Style & Heart of a Church Relating Synodally: Pt 1 Orm Rush
- 11.00am Morning Tea
- 11.30am Session 5: The Theology, Style & Heart of a Church Relating Synodally: Pt 2 Orm Rush
- 1.00pm Lunch
- 1.45pm Female Leaders' Meeting Monica Cavanagh RSJ
- 1.45pm Male Leaders' Meeting Ben Ho SSS
- 3.00pm Afternoon Tea
- 3.30pm CRA Business Meeting
- 5.00pm Assembly Mass at St. Stephen's Cathedral
- 6.30pm Pre-dinner drinks
- 7.00pm Assembly Dinner