

NEWS

CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS HAVE ELECTED A NEW PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Peter Jones OSA, Provincial of the Augustinians of the Province of Australasia was elected as the new President of Catholic Religious Australia (CRA) at the 2022 National Assembly, held in Melbourne from 29 August to 1 September, along with a new Executive and new Council. Read the [CRA media release](#) here.

CRA SUPPORTS ACTION AGAINST DOMESTIC AND FAMILY ABUSE

CRA calls on all leaders of faith-based communities to raise their voices against domestic and family abuse. Legislative action from the NSW Government and the call from the Australian Catholic Bishops for Church communities to confront this serious social injustice is welcomed and supported by CRA. Read the [CRA media statement](#) and the [submission](#) to Government.

THREE AUSTRALIANS NAMED TO KEY SYNOD OF BISHOPS GROUP

The journey of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia is seen as a key reason three Australians are part of a group of about 20 people preparing a key document for the global Synod on Synodality. [Read more here](#).

BISHOPS SUPPORT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WITH GUIDE ON GENDER, IDENTITY

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has released a guide on gender and identity to support Catholic schools in responding to the individual social and pastoral needs of students. Read the [ACBC media release](#) here and access the new guide, *Created and Loved* here: <https://bit.ly/CreatedandLoved>.

THRESHOLDS OF TRANSFORMATION

Emmaus Productions Australia, in collaboration with Community Works USA, announces the forthcoming launch of *Thresholds of Transformation* - a multi-disciplined process, aimed at contributing to an evolving new world order of integral ecology as articulated in *Laudato Si'*. *Thresholds of Transformation* is currently being piloted by 18 groups of religious women in Australia, New Zealand, Africa and North America. Following the review of the Pilot Study, *Thresholds of Transformation* will be launched in February 2023. Details of the resource are in the [brochure](#) provided here and on the dedicated [website](#).

SUPPORT PAYMENTS TO INCREASE BUT MANY STILL LIVING BELOW POVERTY LINE

More than 4.7 million Australians will see an increase in support payments from 20 September following a 4 percent increase in the consumer price index in the six months to June. However, CSSA says people will continue to struggle when the fuel excise tax cut ends later this month. Read the [CSSA media release](#).

EVENTS/WEBINARS

CRA – TED DUNN ONLINE COLLABORATION

Registrations are open for CRA's online collaboration with Ted Dunn in September 2022, over two sessions. The first session will explore the Graced Crossroads in our lives; the second will deepen our understanding of the Transformative Visioning process. Participants in the second session are required to have participated in the first session. [Details can be found here.](#)

Title: CRA's Ted Dunn Online Collaboration
Dates & Times: The two sessions will each take place from 9.00 am – 12.00 noon AEST on 17 and 30 September 2022
Registration: Individual cost: \$180.00 (see link for group prices). [Register at Trybooking.](#)

CRA ONLINE SEMINAR – WOMEN RELIGIOUS, WOMEN DEACONS

CRA will host a conversation with scholar Phyllis Zagano, exploring what ordaining women as Deacons would mean for Catholic Religious Sisters. Dr Zagano was one of twelve scholars appointed by Pope Francis to the Commission to Study the Diaconate of Women in 2016.

Title: Women Religious, Women Deacons
Date & Time: Thursday 15 September 2022, 10.00 – 11.30 am NSW | 8.00 am WA | 9.30 am SA
Duration: 1.5 hrs, including discussion time
Registration \$20 p/p. For [flyer](#) and registration details go to the [CRA webpage](#)

CRA NATIONAL JUSTICE SEMINAR – IN PERSON, IN MELBOURNE

Registrations are open for the 2022 CRA National Justice Seminar Day which will engage our members in conversation about contemporary justice issues and support their proposed actions. Speakers include Cathy McGowan AO, Geraldine Atkinson, Brigid Arthur CSB AO, and a student panel on climate change moderated by Romina Martiniello. For speaker information, [download the flyer](#) at the CRA website.

Title: Now is the time!
Date & Time: Wednesday, 19 October 2022, 9.30 am to 3.30 pm
Venue: Treacy Centre, 126 The Avenue, Parkville VIC 3052
Registration: \$150 per person, including lunch. RSVP by Monday 10 October 2022
Register at [Trybooking](#). Enquiries: 02 9557 2695 or email secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au

2023 CONFERENCE: MISSION - ONE HEART MANY VOICES - SAVE THE DATE

Please [save the date](#) for the sixth biennial national mission conference sponsored by Catholic Mission and Catholic Religious Australia.

Title: *Mission: One Heart Many Voices* (MOHMOV)
Dates: Wednesday 3 May to Friday 5 May 2023
Venue: SMC Conference & Function Centre, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney AND online
Registration: Details to follow in due course.
In the meantime, visit the [2023 MOHMOV Conference website](#) or email mohmvconferenceteam@catholicmission.org.au

CRA NATIONAL DAY OF SORROW AND PROMISE - SAVE THE DATE

Please 'save the date' for the National Day of Sorrow and Promise which will be held on Sunday 23 October 2022. Details will follow in due course.

WOMEN AS AGENTS OF HOPE - ONLINE

Women and the Australian Church (WATAC) is hosting a rich discussion focused on Doctor of the Church, St Hildegard of Bingen, via Zoom. Read the [WATAC media release](#) here.

Title: Women as Agents of Hope
Date: Wednesday September 14, 2022
Time: 7pm NSW/VIC/QLD/TAS/ACT | 6.30pm SA/NT | 5pm WA
Registration: [Register here](#) for free

RIVER CRUISE WITH JOAN CHITTISTER OSB

Joan Chittister OSB will lecture on mystics such as Meister Eckhart in Cologne, St. Hildegard of Bingen, Marguerite Porete, and the Beguines of Belgium and Western Europe in a cruise through the Rhine River.

Title: The Rhine and the Mystics River Cruise with Joan Chittister OSB
Date: 18 to 26 October 2023
Brochure: Details of the cruise, costs and the itinerary are in [brochure](#).

HEART OF LIFE EVENT – IN-PERSON

This is a Myers Briggs reflection day, led by Peter Malone MSC, where participants can complete the Personality Type Indicator form on the day to discover their type and explore, pray and reflect.

Title: Understanding Your Personality: Gifts Differing
Date & Time: Saturday 1 October 2022, 10am-3.30pm
Venue: Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation
Registration: \$60. Register by 24 September via [Heart of Life website](#)

RESOURCES

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY RESOURCES – September 11

Safeguarding Sunday is marked on the second Sunday in September – September 11. The theme for this year's resources draws on the theme for National Child Protection Week, "Safe and Supported". See the [Bishops' Conference website](#) or [CRA Resources webpage](#) for resources including prayers of intercession, PowerPoints, social media content.

THE SEASON OF CREATION – FREE RESOURCES

Emmaus Productions offer two music videos as free resources for the Season of Creation – from 1 September to 4 October, on the [Emmaus website](#).