

## NEWS

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### **CRA CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

CRA has released a [2023 Calendar of Events](#), a working document to help us all plan our diaries for the coming year.

### **CRA MEDIA RELEASE - YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE**

CRA's latest media release supports the NSW Government's decision to increase the age for support of young people in care to 21 years. The [media release](#) can be found on the CRA website.

### **EMPOWERED VILLAGERS IN TIMOR-LESTE BRING CLEAN WATER TO THEIR COMMUNITIES**

A collaboration between Jesuit Mission and Jesuit Social Services is empowering rural communities in Timor-Leste in the provision of safe and clean water. Read the [media release](#) and view Jesuit Mission's recent [webinar](#).

### **COLUMBAN MESSAGE ON COP27 and COP15**

The St Columbans Mission Society shares a message on the occasions of COP27 and COP15. Read the press release [here](#) and the full statement [here](#).

### **MERCY PARTNERS PILGRIMAGE 2023**

Mercy Partners is now accepting expressions of interest to join in the Mercy Partners [Pilgrimage 2023](#) to Ireland and Italy, for leaders (directors, executives and key staff) of Mercy Partners Ministries.

### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHOOSES NEXT NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia has elected its next National President, Mr Mark Gaetani, to head the charity after the incumbent Ms Claire Victory steps down in March 2023. Read the [media release](#).

### **PRAYER FOR THE CONTINENTAL STAGE OF THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY**

Prayer petitions for the Continental Stage of the Synod of Bishops 2021-2024 are available for [download](#) and further information can be accessed at the ACBC Synod [webpage](#).

## EVENTS/WEBINARS

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### **2023 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - SAVE THE DATE**

The next Assembly will be held from Monday 31 July to Thursday 3 August 2023 at the Novotel Parramatta.

## CRA ONLINE GATHERING OF TEMPORARY PROFESSED

This inter-congregational online gathering for temporary professed and newly finally professed members (less than 5 years), women and men, is a valuable opportunity to share the experience of living religious life in today's world, and to learn from companions on this journey. [Download the flyer](#).

Title: Human and Spiritual: Conversations around the vow of celibacy for Religious life in 2022 and beyond  
Date & Time: Saturday 26 November 2022, 2.00 – 4.00 pm NSW | 1.00 pm QLD | 11.00 am WA  
Mode: Online – a Zoom link will be distributed closer to the day  
Registration: [Register free at Trybooking](#) by Thursday 24 November 2022  
Enquiries: Taylor Coutinho: [secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au](mailto:secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au) or phone 02 9557 2695

## 2022 UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CONFERENCE – WHERE TO FROM HERE?

Edmund Rice Centre for Justice & Community Education invites us to a webinar to hear from a number of Pacific Islander COP27 delegates who have returned from Egypt. What are the key outcomes from COP27? What was Australia's role during COP27? Where to from here for climate advocacy and climate justice?

Title: After COP27: Where to from here for the Pacific?  
Dates: Thursday 24 November, 6.00 pm AEDT  
Registration: [Register free](#) at this link

## OUR OCEAN HOME – ONLINE

In preparation for the 2023 Federation of Catholic Bishops' Conferences of Oceania (FCBCO) General Assembly, the event, *Our Ocean Home*, will be held, together with Australian Catholic University (ACU) and the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. It will feature a synodal process of storytelling, reflection, practical theology and dialogue.

Title: Our Ocean Home  
Dates: 28 - 30 November 2022. For programme details, visit the [ACU website](#)  
Mode: Online  
Registration: [Register free](#) at this link

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

Catholic Mission and CRA invite you to [save the date](#) for the sixth biennial national Mission Conference.

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 the meantime, visit the [2023 MOHMOV Conference website](#)

## RESOURCES

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### THE DIGNITY OF DIFFERENCE

"The test of faith is whether I can make space for difference," the faith leader Rabbi Jonathan Sacks once wrote. "Can I recognise God's image in someone who is not in my image, whose language, faith, ideals, are different from mine?" Patty Fawcner SGS explores this challenge in [The Good Oil](#) (November 2022).

## AVOIDING ANTI-JUDAISM AT ADVENT

“Some of what is still sung today perpetuates old, anti-Judaic stereotypes”, write the authors of this [Advent Reflection](#) in discussing the Advent hymn “O come O come, Emmanuel”. [Revised lyrics](#), with better theology, are proposed by a scholar in Jewish-Christian relations, accessible at the Boston College website.

## ETHICAL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

For ideas about ethical Christmas shopping, there are many options such as [Vinnies Op-Shops](#), [Uplift Fair Trade](#) and [Columban Christmas Packs](#).

## THE LIGHTER SIDE 🤔

