

NEWS

CRA CALLS FOR STRENGTHENED PROTECTIONS FOR SEA COUNTRY

In a submission to a Senate Inquiry into proposed legislative amendments, CRA expressed concern that the current legislative framework fails to adequately safeguard First Nations Peoples' cultural heritage in marine areas. Read CRA's [submission](#) and [media release](#). See also CRA's justice publication [Just Now](#).

LCWR REFLECTION BOOKS

A note for those who are awaiting their order of LCWR reflection books: These books come from the USA and generally take up to a couple of months to arrive. Thank you for your patience.

CONVENT ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN BONNER, ACT

Mary Queen of Peace Sisters in Canberra have just [celebrated](#) ten years in their Bonner Convent, ACT.

CHA RESPONDS TO AGED CARE TASKFORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

[Catholic Health Australia](#) (CHA) has urged the government to swiftly implement the recommendations of the Aged Care Taskforce to create a more sustainable aged care sector for older Australians.

CATHOLIC MISSION NEWS

In Nigeria, where tensions among individuals often escalate into ethnic and religious conflicts, [Catholic Mission](#) is supporting the training of leaders dedicated to peacebuilding in local communities.

BROKEN HILL CHILDREN'S CONTACT SERVICE DELIVERS FOR SEPARATED FAMILIES

Children from separated families are renewing bonds with the parent they don't live with at the Broken Hill Children's Contact Service (CCS). Continue reading CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes' [media release](#).

CURIOUS GRACE LAUNCHED AT ST CANICE'S

Curious Grace, a drop-in centre to support mental health and wellbeing, was [launched](#) on 3 March at St Canice Catholic Parish, Rushcutters Bay, reports Sydney Archdiocese Justice & Peace Office.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CONGRESS

The [Australian Catholic Communications Congress](#) is scheduled for August 28-30, in Sydney. If you know someone (in parishes, agencies, charities, schools, welfare bodies, local organisations) who may benefit from gaining practical media skills, you may wish to pass on this information about the Congress.

EVENTS/WEBINARS

2024 CRA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY – DATE CLAIMER

Registrations and accommodation bookings will open shortly:

Dates: Monday 26 August to Wednesday 28 August 2024

Venue: Royal on the Park, 152 Alice St, Brisbane

Please note that we are separately looking at an additional extra half-day as an optional opportunity to have other speakers present. We will let you know when this becomes clearer.

ANNUAL GATHERING OF LEADERS AND BISHOPS – DATE CLAIMER

Please mark your diaries for the annual gathering of Leaders and Bishops to discuss matters of importance. It is a key opportunity to pray, talk and spend time together. Monica Cavanagh RSJ will soon be meeting with Bishop Mark Edwards to determine an agenda.

Date: Saturday, 4 May 2024, 9.00 am – 12.30 pm (TBC)

Venue: Mary Mackillop Place, North Sydney

CRA-VIC GENERAL MEETING

Please refer to [this flyer](#) and below for details of the next CRA-Vic Meeting for Leaders and members of Leadership Teams.

Event: Vic General Meeting

Date & time: Tuesday 26 March 2024; 9.30 am for 9.45 am start

Venue: Campion Centre of Ignatian Spirituality, 99 Studley Park Rd, Kew

Registration: \$20 (includes lunch), see [booking form](#)
RSVP Jill Harding jillburma@gmail.com by 20 March

CRA STEWARDSHIP ONLINE SEMINAR

With a focus on charitable trusts, Josephine Heesh, partner at Carroll & O’Dea Lawyers, will explain the role of trustees, their duties, and responsibilities. Jaimie Rayn, Partner and director of VJ Ryan and Co Chartered Accountants and Business Consultants, will discuss best practice accounting for trusts.

Event: The role of trustees, their duties and responsibilities

Presenters: Josephine Heesh & Jaimie Rayn, followed by Case Studies and Q&A

Date: Tuesday 9 April 2024

Time: 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

Mode: Zoom

Audience: Leaders, Leadership Team members and Finance Personnel

Registration: \$40 per person. [Register at the CRA Events webpage](#) by Sunday 7 April 2024.

Enquiries: Gillian Lee, CRA | P: 02 9557 2695 | E: secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au

CRA HEALTH AND WELLBEING SEMINAR

The CRA Health and Wellbeing Committee have engaged diabetes educators and a dietician to present a one-day seminar in April. Topics include: Unravelling the Intricacies of Diabetes Pathology; Navigating the

Plate for Diabetes Wellness; Understanding the Impact of Language in Diabetes care; Lived Experience of Diabetes; and Options in Managing Diabetes. Further details are at the [CRA Resources](#) webpage.

Title: Understanding diabetes
Presenters: Wendy Bryant and Penny Morris, Clinical Nurse Educators, Lara Mathers Dietician and Gabrielle Riches; interspersed with table talk and Q&A
Date & Time: Wednesday 17 April 2024, 9.30 am to 3.30 pm
Venue: Peter Cosgrove Centre, ACU, 8 Napier Street, North Sydney
Registration: \$160 Member, \$180 non-Member. [Register online](#) Registrations close 5 April
Enquiries: Gillian Lee | P: 02 9557 2695 | E: secretariat@catholicreligious.org.au

CRA ONLINE SEMINAR SERIES - MARY PAT GARVIN RSM

The CRA Initial Formation Committee have invited Mary Pat Garvin RSM to prepare an online seminar series for 2024 for formators and formation team members.

Title: Words of wisdom, Words of grace
Dates: **Tuesday 18 June 2024** - Optional introductory session; then 4 monthly sessions:
Tuesday 25 June - Home Is Where We Start From: Family Dynamics I
Wednesday 17 July - Home Is Where We Start From: Family Dynamics II
Tuesday 13 August – Intergenerational Living: From Generation to Generation
Tuesday 17 September – Strengthening Skills for Accompaniment
Time: 9.30 am QLD, NSW, VIC, TAS | 9.00 am SA | 7.30 am WA
Mode: Online via Zoom | 2.5 hours for each Seminar
Audience: Formators and those involved in formation of Religious (not those being formed)
Registration: Fee \$300 per person for the series. [Register at Humanitix](#) by midnight 16 June
Enquiries: Stephen Middleton | P: 0401 050 595 | E: cpc@catholicreligious.org.au

FAITH ECOLOGY NETWORK – WORKSHOP

The Faith Ecology Network invites us to its first workshop in a series titled [Ten Ways to Care for Biodiversity](#). To celebrate World Water Day, March 22, Environmental Educator Sue Martin will share her experience with her local Landcare group which is accompanying platypus living in our urban waterways.

Title: Become an Eco Citizen & Be An Active Voice
Date & Time: Friday 22 March 2024, 1.00 – 2.00 pm ADST
Mode: Online workshop
Information: Register at [Trybooking](#) to receive the Zoom link

SYDNEY PALM SUNDAY MARCH AND RALLY

The focus of this year's rally is on 'peace, not war' and permanent visas for all refugees.

Title: Sydney Palm Sunday March and Rally
Date: 24 March 2024, 2.00 pm
Venue: Belmore Park (opposite Central Railway Station)
Information: Download the [flyer](#)

AMPJP WEBINAR

This webinar hopes to inform school authorities on the latest developments in the provision of service fees which are acceptable to regulators. Authorities can evaluate whether your authority is operating at a best practice level in this area, and if not, what options might be available to you. It is hosted by the AMPJP Committee for Religious Institute and MPJP School Authorities Australia – CORMSAA.

Title: School Service Fees - getting it right
Date & time: Tuesday 26 March 2024, 4.30 pm AEDT | SA 4.00 pm | NT 3.30 pm | Qld 3.00 pm | WA 1.30 pm
Target audience: Trustees, Chairs and Board members of Religious Institute and MPJP School Authorities, System CEOs and Finance Committees, Principals, Finance Managers
Enquiries: For more information or to register [click here](#)

CATALYST FOR RENEWAL – BISHOPS FORUM

In this conversation, Archbishop Mark Coleridge reflects upon his four decades as a priest and a Bishop, noting that “Jesus often surprises, but he never disappoints”. Download the [flyer](#) for further details.

Title: My journey in the synodal Church
Date: Sunday 5 May 2024, 1.30 – 3.00 pm
Venue: The Crypt at St Patrick’s Church, Grosvenor St, The Rocks (Sydney)
Registration: All welcome – No booking required – Entry by donation
Enquiries: catalyst-for-renewal@outlook.com W: catalystforrenewal.org.au

RAINFOREST RETREAT

This time of learning and renewal is designed to immerse participants in the mystery of the living God, who dwells at the heart of creation and to bring forth imaginative responses (personal, organisational and communal) to the ecological challenges of our time and our place. [Download the flyer.](#)

Title: Rainforest Retreat
Dates: 10 – 12 May 2024
Venue: Seville Mercy Centre
Registration: \$900 (+ GST) Inclusive of accommodation, meals, program, tours and excursions

HARVEST JOURNEYS: PILGRIMAGE – A TIME TO RENEW YOUR SPIRIT



Ever wanted to walk the Camino, but would prefer to do it with a small community of like-minded pilgrims? **El Camino Walk** – Come along the sacred trail in Spain which pilgrims have walked for over a millennium. Accomplish 120 kms of walking with bus backup for heavy luggage, pilgrim support and comfortable accommodation. Arrive with joy at the Shrine of St James the Apostle in Santiago de Compostela. Obtain the Compostela certificate, a symbolic recognition that you are a bona fide pilgrim!

Title: El Camino Walk
Dates: Commencing 1 October 2024
Information: [Click here for details.](#) For more Harvest Journeys visit www.harvestjourneys.com

JOB VACANCIES

ACN DIRECTOR OF FUNDRAISING

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has launched a campaign to find a Director of Fundraising. Further details can be found at [this link](#) (courtesy CathNews). Apply before 31 March 2024.

RESOURCES

COLUMBAN INTERFAITH E-BULLETIN

In the [Columban Interfaith E-Bulletin](#), a writer reflects on the landmark contribution of *Nostra Aetate* to interreligious dialogue. As Muslims celebrate their holy month of Ramadan, it is an opportune time for Catholics to reflect on their interfaith relationships.

YEAR OF PRAYER

“The key ingredient to prayer is time... This means giving away one of our prized possessions” writes Peter Carroll FMS in the [Newsletter](#) of the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat.

IGNATIAN RETREATS

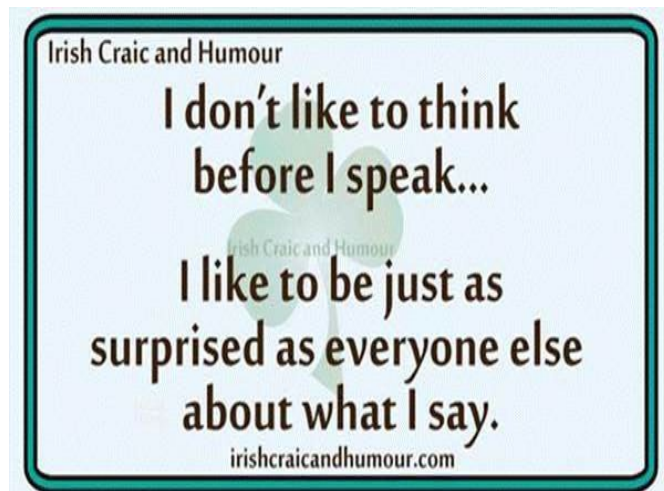
Explore Ignatian Silent Directed Retreats over various lengths and ‘Quiet Time in the Bush’ via the [website](#) of Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Australia.

A REFLECTION FOR SAINT PATRICK’S DAY



Enjoy this youtube clip (Emmaus Music): [“I arise today”](#) (the Deer’s Cry).

THE LIGHTER SIDE



Realising midbite that you're eating what you were supposed to give up for lent



Sign spotted on rear window of a car:
ADULTS ON BOARD. WE WANT TO LIVE TOO.

