

NEWS

ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP - THE PATRON SAINT FOR AUSTRALIAN CATENIANS

The Australian National Council of the Catenian Association and the Sisters of St Joseph announce 28 July that St Mary of The Cross MacKillop will become the Catenians' Patron Saint for Australia on 8 August 2020, the Solemnity of the Saint. Read the [media release](#) and download the photos, '[signing of the agreement](#)' and '[presentation of the image](#)'.

DISTRICT OF MELANESIA JOINS AUSTRALIAN MARIST PROVINCE

On 20 July an online celebration was held to mark the occasion of the District of Melanesia formally joining the Marist Province of Australia. [Read the story here.](#)

CATHOLIC BISHOPS URGED TO APPOINT A WOMAN AS CO-CHAIR OF PLENARY SUMMIT

The Australian Catholic Coalition on Church Reform has declared that Catholic bishops must appoint a woman as co-chairperson of the church Plenary Council if they wish the summit meeting to be taken seriously. [Read the article.](#)

PNG PRIME MINISTER OUTLINES COVID-19 SITUATION

Read the [press release from the Prime Minister](#) of Papua New Guinea (PNG) on the current COVID-19 situation in the country. This will be of interest to religious institute leaders with responsibilities in PNG.

ABC BRINGS INTO FOCUS TRAGEDY OF BOYSTOWN ONCE AGAIN

The ABC published a story on 26 July entitled [Justice Denied](#), about developers turning Boystown – a previous Lasallian boys home where child abuse occurred on a large scale – into a housing estate. In response to the article, read the [letter from David Hawke FSC](#), Provincial of the De La Salle Brothers.

TENSIONS RAISED AS HAGIA SOPHIA DECLARED MOSQUE

The Turkish president ordered the [conversion of the iconic Hagia Sophia back into a mosque](#), from 24 July on, reviving tensions between Muslims and Christians. Read the [joint statement](#) from the ACBC President, Archbishop Mark Coleridge, and Archbishop Makarios, Archbishop of Australia and Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church, regarding Hagia Sophia.

FUND TO SUPPORT LGBTQIA+ REFUGEES AND PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM

Pride Foundation Australia and the Sidney Myer Fund announced a \$20,000 grant to focus on supporting LGBTQIA+ refugees and people seeking asylum. For more information, read the [media release](#).

MEDIA REPORTING RE CATHOLIC CHURCH – BALANCED?

Read Monica Doumit's article in the *Catholic Weekly*, [Coverage varies on abuse – but why?](#)

CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE APPOINTS NEW CHAIR DESIGNATE

The oldest PJP in Australia, Catholic Healthcare, appoints a new Chair Designate for its Board. Read the [media release](#). In 1994, Catholic Healthcare was founded by 6 religious institutes as the start of a movement in working collaboratively and in different ways. This is another example of religious institutes being ahead of the time in responding to a need. Founding members are:

- The Sisters of Charity
- The Sisters of St Joseph, NSW Province
- The St John of God Brothers
- The Little Company of Mary
- The St John of God Sisters
- The Sisters of Mercy, Singleton

ACCESS TO CRA MEMBER LISTS

The national reach of CRA with its ability to share information inter-congregationally across states or the whole country is one benefit of CRA membership. It might include announcing special prayer days or resources, sending out job opportunities, property for sale advertisements, event and retreat information, or setting up a Zoom meeting for particular members, as CRA has done before. CRA cannot provide lists of members to other members due to privacy requirements and its responsibility for member data, stated in the [CRA Privacy Policy](#).

IMPORTANT DATES

FOR THE HIBAKUSHA – 6 and 9 AUGUST

The 75th anniversary of the nuclear attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki will be commemorated 6 and 9 August, [for the hibakusha](#) - dedicated to the survivors. Click the link for a list of events and activities.

UN WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS – JULY 30

Event: ACRATH ten-minute Prayer for the World Day Against the Trafficking in Persons.
Date & Time: Jul 30, 2020 12:00 PM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney
Zoom Meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83965877041> (Meeting ID: 839 6587 7041)

EVENTS/COURSES

POSTPONEMENT OF CANON LAW FOR LEADERSHIP YEAR 3, 2020

The course has been rescheduled from 28 September to 1 October to **19 to 22 April 2021**. [Read the letter](#).

CRA NATIONAL SEMINAR: HEALTH & WELL-BEING – deadline to register is 31 July!

Topic/Date/City: Adapting in a Changing World, on Wednesday, 9 September in Sydney.
Registration: \$150 p/p Download the [flyer and registration form](#) or go to the [CRA website](#).

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

DARWIN INSTITUTE SEEKS CATHOLIC DEAN

Nungalinya Theological Institute in Darwin is seeking a Catholic Dean. The Institute is an ecumenical Catholic, Anglican and Uniting Church Initiative. Read the [position description](#) and the [student handbook](#).