

## NEWS

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### **WORKING DOCUMENT NEXT STEP ON PLENARY COUNCIL JOURNEY**

Work has commenced on the preparation of the *instrumentum laboris*, or 'working document', for the Plenary Council, which draws on the voices of the more than 220,000 people who contributed to the Listening and Dialogue stage and the responses during the Listening and Discernment stage, including [the thematic papers released at Pentecost](#). Read the [Plenary Council media release](#).

The *instrumentum laboris* is described as the next step in the years-long process and will help shape the agenda for the first assembly of the Council, now scheduled for October 2021.

### **CONCERNED CATHOLICS URGE BISHOPS TO RELEASE *INSTRUMENTUM LABORIS***

Concerned Catholics Canberra Goulburn urges bishops to release *instrumentum laboris* for consultation with the broader Catholic community before it is finalised and sent to Rome at the end of the year. Read the [CCCG media release](#).

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY – AUGUST 30**

The Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2020-21, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*, has just been released ahead of the Church's Social Justice Sunday, to be celebrated on August 30, 2020. Read the [ACBC media release](#). In addition to the written Statement, an audio recording of the Statement has been created, as well as a prayer card, which can be accessed on the [Office for Social Justice website](#). Please share the statement.

Given the challenges we are all facing due to COVID-19, the issue of mental health is very much front and centre for many people. The Statement challenges everyone – individuals, schools, parishes, communities, policymakers, governments – to take an interest in the issue of mental ill-health.

### **VALE CATHERINE DEAN RSJ**

The Sisters of St Joseph in the Victoria/Tasmania region are saddened by the sudden death of one of their leadership team members, Sr Cathy Dean. Cathy died on Thursday, 23 July at St Vincent's Hospital. She was in her 66<sup>th</sup> year of life and her 33<sup>rd</sup> year of religious life. Cathy's understanding of servant leadership clearly shone through all she did, including her pastoral care in parishes, in aged care, for special needs adults and her ministry in Peru amongst a small community in the Andes. Her generosity, her vibrant personality and her contemplative way of being will be greatly missed. May Cathy rest in peace.

### **SUPPORT ACRATH FUND RAISING APPEAL**

Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) relies on the generosity of donors to work against human trafficking and slavery. Your financial support is greatly appreciated either [online](#), by cheques payable to ACRATH Public Fund (send to 54 Beaconsfield Parade, Albert Park, VIC 3206) or if you wish to make a donation by direct deposit please send an email to [treasurer@acrath.org.au](mailto:treasurer@acrath.org.au).

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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### JUSTICE RESEARCH OFFICER FOR CRA

CRA is seeking a part-time Justice Research Officer to undertake evidence-based research, produce publications and assist the CRA Justice Committee and the CRA Secretariat in advocating for the marginalised and more vulnerable in our society. Please circulate to your networks, in particular, principals of congregational schools who may be able to identify recent school or university graduates. Read the [advertisement and position description](#) here. Applications close 27 August. For further enquiries, email Carmel Warnock: [cpc@catholicreligious.org.au](mailto:cpc@catholicreligious.org.au).

### CEO AT MCAULEY MINISTRIES (ISMAPNG)

McAuley Ministries Limited in Lewisham (Sydney) is seeking a full-time Chief Executive Officer. McAuley Ministries is made up of diverse ministries of the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea (ISMAPNG). Click on the [job advertisement](#) for more information. Applications close 10 August 2020. Email [humanresources@ismapng.org.au](mailto:humanresources@ismapng.org.au) for the application details.

## WEBINARS

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### ECDC WEBINAR: STATE OF PLAY

The End Child Detention Coalition (ECDC) webinar, [State of Play](#), advocates for the release of children from migration detention. ECDC is supported by 26 member organisations from across Australia and CRA is one of its members. The hour long session is chaired by Hatay Akbari, a young man who migrated to Australia from Afghanistan and was a child in detention in Indonesia. The two expert panellists are:

- Professor David Isaacs, a senior doctor at Westmead who runs the Health Assessment for Refugee Kids (HARK) clinic and who has worked extensively in Nauru; and
- Alison Battisson who is a Human Rights Lawyer and Director Principal of Human Rights for All.

### HOPEFUL RESEARCH DIALOGUES – YOUTH AND THE CHURCH

What hopes do young people have for the future of the Church, for themselves and for children? Hear the views of young people and academics. Free Zoom lunchtime lectures will be held by ACU; download the [Hopeful Research flyer](#). RSVP: [Sheridan.Kerr@acu.edu.au](mailto:Sheridan.Kerr@acu.edu.au) for a Zoom link to be sent to you.

## RESOURCES

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### HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA

Explore key topics in the history of the Catholic community in Australia on the [Australian Catholic Historical Society's upgraded website](#).

### POPE FRANCIS SAYS COVID-19 PANDEMIC IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MISSION AND SERVICE TO OTHERS

The Pope said that despite the suffering and challenges posed by COVID-19, the church's "missionary journey" continues. Read the [article here](#).